



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE: CANDLEMAS  
SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025, AT 9:00 A.M.

The Church of the Redeemer:

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## WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER!

We are in the heart of downtown Toronto, and we gather to celebrate on the traditional lands of the Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Anishinaabe Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Our beautiful building connects us to the rich heritage of our city while also drawing us deeper into the roots of our Anglican tradition. Just as the streetscape around us has evolved over the years, our members have changed to reflect the growing, vibrant and progressive Christian community found at the Redeemer today. We come from a variety of faith traditions (and sometimes no faith tradition at all), and we like it that way. We are students, workers, retired, homeless, not limited by sexual orientation, gender identity or personal history. We are at the very beginning of our life with Jesus, and we are deeply steeped in a life complicated by faith. We open our doors to worship God and to learn about Jesus, and how all of this might just transform our lives.

If you would like to stay up to date with our news and events, please feel free to subscribe to our eNewsletter by going to <https://theredeemer.ca/post-17524>.

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**Presider:** Steven Mackison

**Welcome**



If you would like to support the ministry of this parish with a financial gift, scan the QR code to go to our online donation page. We thank you for your generosity.

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Opening Hymn:** #111 (Sing a New Creation) “In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness”

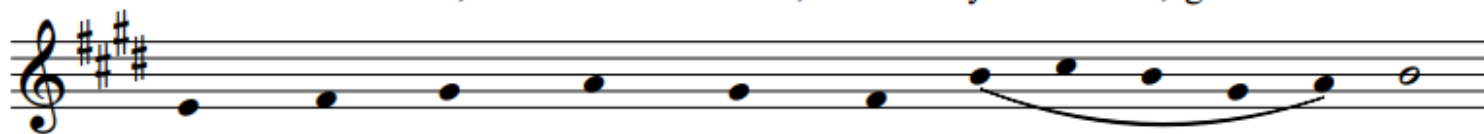
*Redeemer Music Team*



1. In a deep, un-bound-ed dark - ness long be - fore the first light shone,
2. Though our world is ev - er-chang-ing, you are cons-tant, firm, and sure,
3. Joy trans-forms our lips to boast - ing on - ly in your match-less grace,
4. God of Hag - ar, God of Sar - ah, God of no - mad A - bra - ham,



you, O God, bey - ond all mer - it, worked a won - der faith makes known:  
faith - ful to your cov - enant prom - ise. Trust - ing you, we live se - cure,  
send - ing Christ to dwell a - mong us, Word made flesh in time and space:  
God of Mir - iam, God of Mos - es, Fier - y Pil - lar, great I AM:



in your mer - cy, in your mer - cy,  
sing - ing prais - es, sing - ing prais - es  
Friend and Sav - iour, Friend and Sav - iour,  
lead us home - ward, lead us home - ward





you em-braced us as your own ev-er-more and ev-er-more.  
long as heart and breath en-dure, ev-er-more and ev-er-more.  
in whose life we glimpse your face ev-er-more and ev-er-more.  
to the love-feast of the Lamb ev-er-more and ev-er-more.

Text: Anon. Chinese; trans. Francis P. Jones 1953; adapt. Mary Louise Bringle, 2012. Text © 2012 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Melody plainsong, Mode 8 (12<sup>th</sup> cent.?). adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582.

## The Blessing of Candles

Steven Mackison

*Priest:* Jesus Christ is the Light of the World. Alleluia!

*People:* **A light no darkness can extinguish. Alleluia!**

*Priest:* Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God,  
you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts  
in the face of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Through him you give light to the world;  
in him, you kindle your light in our lives,  
by him we are guided on the paths of righteousness.  
Bless with your Holy Spirit these candles,  
that they may be to us signs of your grace in times of darkness.  
Enkindle in us the true faith that led Simeon to recognize you  
and the holy joy that led Anna to praise your name;  
this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Light and our Redeemer. **Amen.**

## The Collect of the Day

Steven Mackison

*Priest:* God of love,  
you gave your Son  
to be a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel.  
With Simeon and Anna  
and all who hail redemption's happy dawn,  
may we sing your praise and proclaim salvation  
in Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. **Amen.**

## ✠ Proclamation of the Word

### First Reading:

Christina Chang

*Reader:* A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

*Reader:* This is the word that God has made known to us.

Malachi 3:1-4

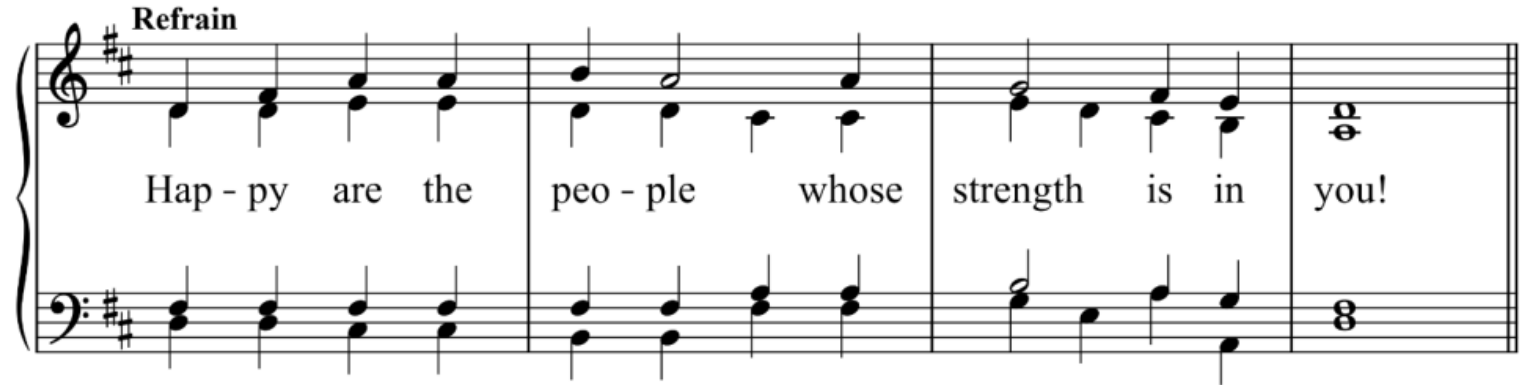
*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

*A moment of silence is observed*

**Psalm 84** (George Black)

Redeemer Music Team

**Refrain**



Hap - py are the peo - ple whose strength is in you!

How dear to me is your dwelling, O God of hosts!  
My soul has a desire and longing for your courts;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in you, O living God. **Refrain**

The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young;  
by the side of your altars, O God of hosts,  
my God who reigns over me. **Refrain**

Happy are they who dwell in your house!  
they will always be praising you.  
Happy are the people whose strength is in you!  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. **Refrain**

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs,  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.  
They will climb from strength to strength;  
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.  
O God of hosts, hear my prayer;  
hearken, O God of Jacob. **Refrain**

Behold our defender, O God;  
and look upon the face of your anointed.  
For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room,  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked. **Refrain**

You, God, are both sun and shield,  
you will give grace and glory.  
No good thing will you withhold  
from those who walk with integrity.  
O God of hosts,  
happy are they who put their trust in you! **Refrain**

*A moment of silence is observed*

## Second Reading:

Christina Chang

*Reader:* A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

*Reader:* This is the word that God has made known to us.

Hebrews 2:14-18

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*A moment of silence is observed*

**Canticle:** #18 (Sing a New Creation) “Creator, God”

*Redeemer Music Team*

1. Cre - a - tor, God, my gov - er - nor, my  
2. I've been your ser - vant; still I serve and  
3. You send me forth, each vow and prom - ise  
4. You've brought sal - va - tion clear, de - liv - erance

guide, you give me leave at last to go to  
will from birth un - til all a - ges end, and  
kept, ac - cord - ing to the pro - phets' word. My  
sure, to ev - ery na - tion, set - tled, wild, for

that great space where e - ven stars do hide their  
then in peace and love will I serve still, nor  
eyes, which searched so long, so of - ten wept, are  
Is - rael's glo - ry— hope of rich and poor— is

fire in your more bril - liant glow. 1-3 4  
cease when time it - self you rend.  
o - pened now in joy as - sured.  
God, em - bod - ied in a child.

## The Gospel

Paige Souter

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Priest:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

*Priest:* The Gospel of Christ.

Luke 2:22-40

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*A moment of silence is observed.*

**Homily:** Suzanne Rumsey

*A moment of silence is observed.*

## The Nicene Creed

Steven Mackison

*Priest:* Let us confess our faith, as we say,

*All:* **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

*Deb Hinton*

*Leader:* How lovely is your dwelling place O Lord. Where the sparrow finds a home and a swallow builds her nest, and the place where the prophets Simeon and Anna found your salvation in their encounter with Mary and Joseph's little child.

We pray for your Church, this church and others, committed to caring for the world the way you do. Help us Holy Spirit to see beyond the frantic headline to apply ourselves to doing the right thing with wisdom, humility and compassion. Give us courage to go out beyond our dwelling place into the world, to be light and salt.

*Please give voice to your prayers silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* Jesus is the light revealing your salvation O God

***All:* Which you have prepared for all people.**

*Leader:* We pray that the ceasefire in the Middle East will last. We pray that the dream of a lasting and just peace will be realized. We pray that the breach between Israelis and Palestinians is repaired and genuine hope emerges from the rubble. We also pray for a just and lasting peace for Ukraine, for Sudan, for the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda, for Haiti, and for all the other global hotspots that weigh on our minds. We pray for Indigenous people, that their longing for self-determination be achieved for the benefit of all, most especially for the sake of their children and ours.

*Please give voice to your prayers silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* Jesus is the light revealing your salvation O God

***All:* Which you have prepared for all people.**

*Leader:* We pray for those in positions of authority - for politicians, for leaders of industry, finance, technology, media and other sectors. Give them humble hearts and help them to act out of concern for the welfare of all. We pray with the coming elections that good people be elected into office.

*Please give voice to your prayers silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* Jesus is the light revealing your salvation O God

***All:* Which you have prepared for all people.**

*Leader:* We read that Jesus was in every respect like we are, especially like those with no place to lay their heads. We pray for those with no home, no certainty about their next meal or income, with no access to good medical help. Help them.  
Open our ears to hear what they need and our hearts to act responsively.  
Open our wallets aware that some of what's there is theirs.

*Please give voice to your prayers silently or aloud.*

**Leader:** Jesus is the light revealing your salvation O God

**All:** **Which you have prepared for all people.**

**Leader:** We pray for those who are ill. Give them the strength to endure and quick access to the help and healing they need. Whether in hospitals or shelters, on the street or hidden from sight, help them to feel human again, valued and truly loved. We pray for those struggling with addiction that you would help them to overcome. Give us a role to play in their recovery. Judge those who profit from exploiting them. We pray for those who are weary in their caring for others. Give them strength. May they find in those they help the light of your salvation.

*Please give voice to your prayers silently or aloud.*

**Leader:** Jesus is the light revealing your salvation O God

**All:** **Which you have prepared for all people.**

**Leader:** We pray for those suffering the loss of a loved one. Comfort those who mourn. Console and encourage them with the good news of your resurrection.

*Please give voice to your prayers silently or aloud.*

**Leader:** Jesus is the light revealing your salvation O God

**All:** **Which you have prepared for all people. AMEN**

## The Peace

**Priest:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Hymn:** #95 (Common Praise) "O Come, Divine Messiah"

*Redeemer Music Team*

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, with three verses of lyrics underneath. The second staff contains the second line of the hymn, also with three verses of lyrics underneath. The third staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the third line of the hymn, with lyrics underneath. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes.

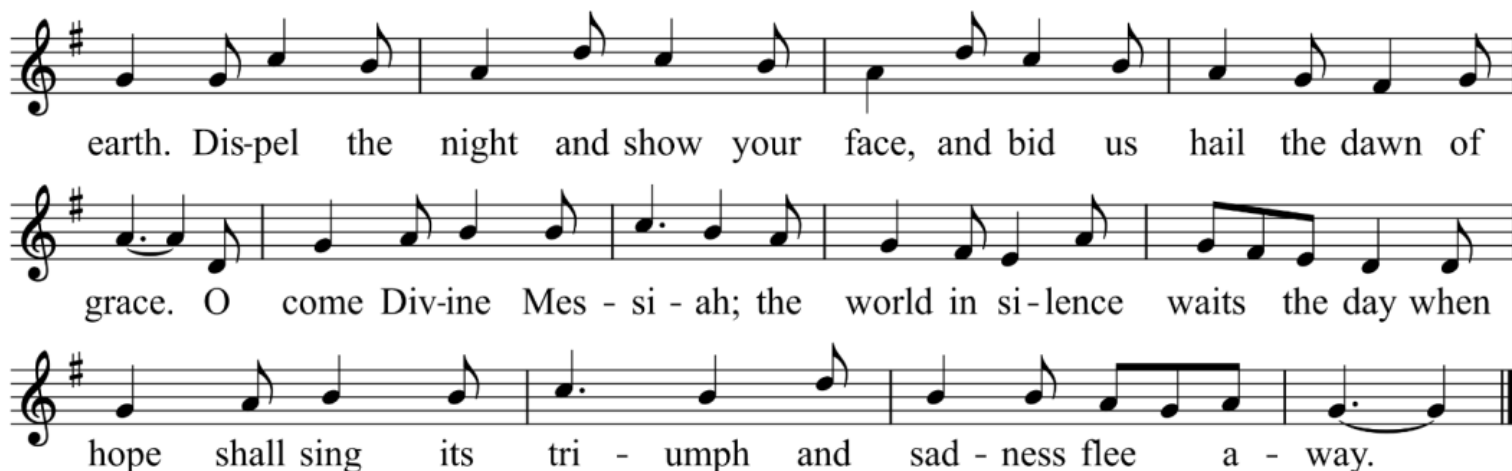
1. O come, di - vine Mes - si - ah; the world in si - lence  
2. O Christ, whom na - tions sigh for, whom priest and pro - phet  
3. You come in peace and meek - ness and low - ly will your

waits the day when hope shall sing its tri - umph and  
long fore - told, come, break the cap - tives' fet - ters, re -  
cra - dle be; all clothed in hu - man weak - ness shall

**Refrain**

sad - ness flee a - way. Dear Sa - viour, haste! Come, come to  
deem the long - lost fold.  
we your God - head see.





Text: Simon-Joseph Pellegrin (1663-1745); tr. Sister Mary of St. Philip, *Sunday School Hymn Book*, 1887, alt.  
 Music: VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE. Melody French (16<sup>th</sup> cent.); harm. Godfrey Ridout (1918-1984). © Estate of Godfrey Ridout.

## The Lord's Prayer

*Priest:* As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

*All:* **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
 your kingdom come, your will be done,  
 on earth as in heaven.  
 Give us today our daily bread.  
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
 Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
 now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Giving and Receiving of Communion

*Steven Mackison*

*Priest:* Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be,  
 to receive Christ, in communion with the saints,  
 and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now.

*For those of us participating at home, it is a strange experience to be invited to Communion  
 – not through the physical bread and wine we can touch and taste –  
 but a Spiritual Communion with the God who comes to meet us wherever we are.*

*There are no special words or prayers for this, all the Church has ever thought necessary is genuine true desire, lively faith, and  
 genuine love. Come honestly before God the way you know how.  
 You may wish to pray quietly this prayer to help you:*

*One:* Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock.  
 You wait for me and only I can let you in.  
 I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with your presence.  
 Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood,  
 that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

## The Doxology

Steven Mackison

*Priest:* Glory to God,  
*All:* whose power working in us  
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## Announcements

### Departing Hymn: #559 (Gather) "Shout for Joy"

Redeemer Music Team



1. Shout for joy loud and long, God be praised  
2. By God's word all was made, Heav'n and earth,  
3. Yet our pride makes us fall! So Christ came  
4. Now has Christ tru - ly ris'n, And his spir -  
5. Rich and poor, we will sing, Hear - ing words  
6. So we stand with our song! We will work



with a song! To our God we be - long—  
light and shade, Na - ture's won - ders dis - played,  
for us all— Not the right - eous to call—  
it is giv'n To all those un - der heav'n  
that will ring, Bread and wine we will bring  
all as one For the king - dom we long;

#### Refrain



Shout for joy, joy, joy! Shout for joy, joy, joy!



God is love, God is light, God is ev - er - last - ing!

Text: Stanzas 1-4, David Mowbray, © 1982, Hope Publishing Co.; stanzas 5-6, David Haas (1957- ), © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Tune: PERSONET HODIE, *Plae cantiones*, Griefswald, 1582; harm. by Diana Kodner (1957- ), © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.

## The Dismissal

Paige Souter

*Priest:* Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit,  
serve the world God loves. Alleluia!  
*People:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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## **FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN**

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Prayers of the People written by John and Deb Deacon.

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