



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY (PROPER 3)

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 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>.

[theredeemer.ca](http://theredeemer.ca)

[instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO](https://www.instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO)

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**President:** Paige Souter


**Welcome**

**Land Acknowledgement**




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.


**Verse 1**



1. To bring glad tid - ings to the low-ly, to heal the bro-ken heart,




You have a - noint - ed me. To pro - claim lib-er-ty to




cap-tives, re - lease to pris-on - ers, You have a - noint - ed me.

**Refrain %**




Your Spir - it, O God, is up - on me,




You have a - noint - ed me.


**Verse 2**



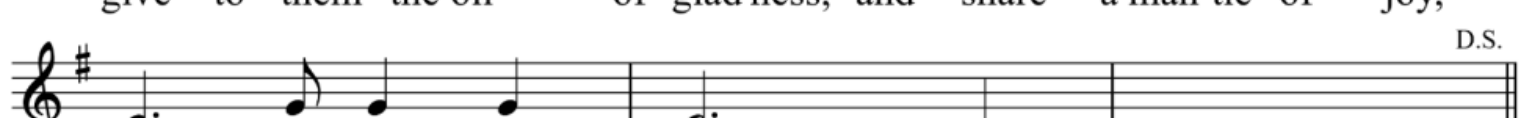
2. To an - nounce a year of fa - vour, to



com - fort those who mourn, You have a - noint - ed me. To



give to them the oil of glad-ness, and share a man-tle of joy,



You have a - noint - ed me. D.S.

## ✠ The Gathering of the Community

Paige Souter

*Priest:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God  
and fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

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

*Priest:* When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and the princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
the work of Christmas begins:

*All:* **To find the lost,  
to heal the broken,  
to feed the hungry,  
to release the prisoner,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among people,  
to make music in the heart.**

## The Collect of the Day

Paige Souter

*Priest:* God of all mercy,  
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,  
release to the captives,  
and freedom to the oppressed:  
anoint us with your Holy Spirit,  
so that all people may be free to praise you  
in Christ our Lord.

*People:* **Amen.**

## ✠ Proclamation of the Word

### First Reading:

Murray Bryant

*Reader:* A Reading from the Book of Nehemiah.

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine

and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

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

Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10

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

*A moment of silence is observed*

**Psalm 19** (George Black)

Redeemer Music Team

Refrain

The com - mand - ment of God is clear and gives light to the eyes.

The musical score is for a piano accompaniment of the refrain. It consists of two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The piece ends with a double bar line.

The heavens declare your glory, O God,  
and the firmament shows your handiwork.  
One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another. **Refrain**

Although they have no words or language,  
and their voices are not heard,  
their sound has gone out into all lands,  
and their message to the ends of the world. **Refrain**

In the deep you have set a pavilion for the sun;  
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber,  
and rejoices like a champion to run its course.  
It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again;  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat. **Refrain**

The law of God is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of our God is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.  
The statutes of our God are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of God is clear and gives light to the eyes. **Refrain**

The fear of God is clean and endures for ever;  
the judgments of our God are true and righteous altogether.  
More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.  
By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward. **Refrain**

How can I tell how often I offend?  
cleans me from my secret faults.  
Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offence.  
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,  
O God, my strength and my redeemer. **Refrain**

## Second Reading:

Murray Bryant

*Reader:* A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

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

1 Corinthians 12.12-31a

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*A moment of silence is observed*

## Gospel Acclamation

*Redeemer Music Team*

## 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.

Then, Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

*Priest:* The Gospel of Christ.

Luke 4.14-21

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

*A moment of silence is observed.*

**Homily:** Bill Ryan

*A moment of silence is observed.*

## Statement of Faith

Paige Souter

*Priest:* We believe

*All:* **in the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob,  
who journeys with us through life,  
and leads us to new beginnings.**

**We believe in the God of Moses,  
who frees us from oppression  
and guides us through desert, wilderness, and sin  
to the Promised Land.**

**We believe in the God of the prophets,  
who asks for justice in our land,  
and cares for the poor.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,  
who brought the Gospel to us,  
who celebrated God's unconditional love for everyone.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who forms and molds us into God's image,  
who sends us out to serve God and people,  
who leads us to everlasting life. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

Sylvia Keesmaat

*Leader:* You sent your son to bring good news to the poor, sight to the blind, freedom to the captives, and salvation to your people. Equip us by your spirit and use us, unworthy as we are, to do our part to bring in your kingdom. In our own community we give thanks for the many volunteers and staff who facilitate our shared ministry, and we ask that we might hear your voice as we envision our future ministries.

*Please add your prayers here either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* Father, by your spirit

*All:* **Bring in your kingdom**

*Leader:* God our sovereign, we pray for reconciliation among nations, races, and faiths. Come to us in pity and power to help all who suffer in war, and in the collapse of good government. We remember for good all those who work for peace; for all who work to alleviate the suffering of the hungry, the homeless and the dispossessed. Uphold all refugees and migrants in your loving embrace and inspire the world to give them respite and shelter.

*Please add your prayers here either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* Father, by your spirit

*All:* **Bring in your kingdom**

*Leader:* God our Maker, we pray for our work. May we each learn to use the particular gifts and talents you have given us. Help all those whose work is unfulfilling, stressful or fraught with danger. Uphold in your mercy, all who are unemployed, that they might find hope for the future, and practical and emotional support in the present. Give rest and respite to all who are weary.

*Please add your prayers here either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* Father, by your spirit  
*All:* **Bring in your kingdom**

*Leader:* Great Physician, stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness and peace to all who suffer. We pray that you will sustain all those who are lonely, oppressed and anxious; all those in pain or chronic illness; and be with those who are dying. Lift up all those who work to bring healing and bring care to those in need.

*Please add your prayers here either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* Father, by your spirit  
*All:* **Bring in your kingdom**

*Leader:* Creator of all, open our eyes to beauty, open our minds to wonder, open our hearts to you. Give us the wisdom to see you in your creation and lead us to bring healing and wholeness to the whole earth.

*Please add your prayers here either silently or aloud.*

*Leader:* Father, by your spirit  
*All:* **Bring in your kingdom**

*Leader:* Compassionate God. We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to your mercy and protection. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Paige Souter*

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

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

## Hymn: #451 (Common Praise) "King of Love, O Christ, We Crown You"

*Redeemer Music Team*



1. King of love, O Christ, we crown you  
2. King of life, you have cre - a - ted  
3. King of mer - cy, you have saved us  
4. King tri - um - phant, King vic - to - rious,



Rul - er of our thought and will, each de - mand of  
wheat in gold - en har - vest spread: make your ser - vants  
from the haunt - ing sense of loss, nail - ing in your  
take your throne our hearts with - in, lest the might of



your high chal - lenge ded - i - cat - ed to ful - fil;  
strong to serve you by the gift of dai - ly bread.  
vast com - pas - sion sin's in - dict - ment to the cross.  
fierce temp - ta - tion snare us in - to dead - ly sin.



we with you by grace co - work - ers, till, where hu - man  
 Feed us with your bod - y bro - ken, with your blood out -  
 Those who love, by your sore ang - uish, from the past you  
 By the Spir - it's rich a - noint - ing, grant us strength life's

foot has trod, peo - ples, kings, do - min - ions, rac - es,  
 poured sus - tain, that our souls di - vine - ly strength - ened  
 cleanse and free, breath - ing words of ab - so - lu - tion  
 race to run, till the power of sin be van - quished,

own the em - pire of our God.  
 may the life e - ter - nal gain.  
 throned and reign - ing from the tree.  
 till the prize of God be won.

Text and music (HERMON): Charles Venn Pilcher (1879-1961), alt. © F.E.V. Pilcher.

## The Lord's Prayer

**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

Paige Souter

**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

Paige Souter

*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

### Blessing of Bill Ryan

Departing Hymn: #631 (Common Praise) "The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy"

Redeemer Music Team



1. The king-dom of God is jus - tice and joy, for  
2. The king-dom of God is mer - cy and grace; the  
3. The king-dom of God is chal - lenge and choice: be -  
4. God's king-dom is come, the gift and the goal, in



Je - sus re - stores what sin would de - stroy. God's  
cap - tives are freed, the sin - ners find place. The  
lieve the good news, re - pent and re - joice! His  
Je - sus be - gun, in heav - en made whole. The



pow - er and glo - ry in Je - sus we know, and  
out - casts are wel - comed God's ban - quet to share, and  
love for us sin - ners brought Christ to his cross, our  
heirs of the king - dom shall an - swer his call, and



here and here - af - ter the king - dom shall grow.  
hope is a - wak - ened in place of de - spair.  
cris - is of judge - ment for gain and for loss.  
all things cry "Glo - ry!" to God All - in - All.

## The Dismissal

*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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The Collect of the Day is from Common Worship Additional Collects (2004)

Prayers of the People written by Judy Burnham.

Cover art is James Tissot (Nantes, France, 1836–1902, Chenecey–Buillon, France). Jesus Unrolls the Book in the Synagogue (Jésus dans la synagogue déroule le livre), 1886–1894. Brooklyn Museum

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## WORSHIP WITH US

### **Sunday January 26 (Third Sunday after Epiphany)**

**7:00 PM** – Rock Eucharist – Featuring the music of Katy Perry  
(in the Church and through YouTube)

**8:00 PM** – Compline (on Zoom only)

### **Sunday February 2 (Presentation of the Lord)**

**9:00 AM** – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

**10:30 AM** – Holy Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)

**8:00 PM** – Compline (on Zoom only)