



Harvest Thanksgiving  
Spiritual Communion  
Sunday, October 12, 2025 at 9 AM



The Church of the Redeemer:

162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4  
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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](https://theredeemer.ca)

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**President:** Margaret Rodrigues

**Welcome**



Your support of the ministries of the Church of the Redeemer allows us to be witnesses to God's love on our corner of Bloor Street and Avenue Road. Donations can be made through the QR code, by placing your offering on the plate as it is passed, or by using the TipTap electronic donation device in the welcome area. Thank you for your gift and for joining in worship today.

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Opening Hymn:** #409 (Common Praise) "Before the Earth Had Yet Begun"

*Redeemer Music Team*

1. Be - fore the earth had yet be - gun its jour - ney  
2. In that bright dawn - ing of the world, ere o - cean  
3. Thus when Cre - a - tor God did take the clay of  
4. For us who would this God at - tend, no earth - ly

round the burn - ing sun, be - fore a seed of life had  
surged or wind un - furled, the vaults of heaven with prais - es  
earth our form to make, God willed that to our race be -  
mind can com - pre - hend e - ter - nal glo - ry; praise a -

stirred, there sound - ed God's cre - a - ting Word.  
rang; the morn - ing stars to - geth - er sang.  
long the gifts of mu - sic, word, and song.  
lone is our com - pan - ion by that throne.

## The Gathering of the Community

Margaret Rodrigues

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

*All:* **And also with you.**

## Collect of the Day

Margaret Rodrigues

*Priest:* God, whose word is engrained  
in all we eat and drink:  
free us from the greed  
that destroys the roots of life;  
teach us to eat the living bread  
in whom all hungers are satisfied  
by the life that gives of itself,  
Jesus Christ, the living Word. **Amen.**

## ✠ Proclamation of the Word

### First Reading:

Henry Krol

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

“When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.’ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: ‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

Deuteronomy 26.1-11

*A moment of silence is observed*

Refrain

The mer - cy of the Most High is ev - er - last - ing.

Be joyful in God, all you lands;  
 worship with gladness  
 and come before God's presence with a song.  
 Know this: the Most High is God,  
 who made us and claims us,  
 who leads us and shepherds us. **Refrain**

Enter the holy gates with thanksgiving;  
 go into God's temple with praise;  
 give thanks and call upon the name of God.  
 For our God is good,  
 everlasting in mercy:  
 God's faithfulness endures from age to age. **Refrain**

*A moment of silence is observed.*

### Second Reading:

*Henry Krol*

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

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Philippians 4.4-9

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*A moment of silence is observed*



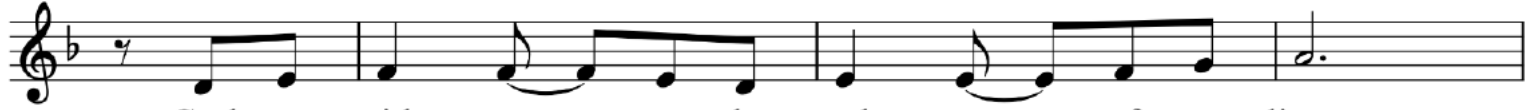
1. When the hun - gry who have noth - ing share with stran - gers;
2. When the suf - fer - ing find their com - fort in our car - ing;
3. When a spir - it of re - joic - ing fills us deep - ly;
4. When true good - ness makes each home a hal - lowed shel - ter;



when the thirst - y give us drink, ask - ing no price;  
 when their hope springs from a hope that nev - er tires;  
 when the truth rings from our lips, strong - er than lies;  
 when the war - torn of - fer peace, bless - ed and wise;



when in weak - ness we still strength - en one an - oth - er:  
 when all ha - tred melts in em - bers of our lov - ing:  
 when we hon - our Christ's ex - am - ple to live sim - ply:  
 when each stran - ger is our broth - er or our sis - ter:



God goes with us on the path - ways of our lives.



God goes with us on the path - ways of our lives.

Text and music (EL CAMINO): José Antonio Olivar and Miguel Manzano, 1971; arr. Alvin Schutmaat, 1971. Eng. tr. Mary Louise Bringle, 2005;  
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## The Gospel

Margaret Rodrigues

*Priest:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And also with you.**

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

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

When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the

wilderness, as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' ” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

*Priest:* The Gospel of Christ.

John 6.25-35

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

*A moment of silence is observed.*

**Homily:** Tom More

*Tom was born and raised in Scarborough where he lives now with his wife and two sons; Karmen, Thomas, and Caspian. Having spent 15 years in the field of urban poverty, working with vulnerable communities remains his passion. Tom also pastors a group of House Churches in Midtown, and is a long-suffering fan of all Toronto sports teams.*

*A moment of silence is observed.*

**Prayers of the People**

*Murray Bryant*

*Leader:* Let us offer our prayers to God for the life of the world  
and for all God’s people in their daily life and work.  
God, the beginning and end of all things,  
in your wisdom and care  
you watch unceasingly over all creation;  
we offer our prayers  
that in us and in all your people your will may be done.

*Leader:* Creator of all:

*All:* **hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for all through whom we receive sustenance and life;  
for farmers and agricultural workers,  
for farmers markets and roadside stands,  
for factory workers and grocery store staff;  
as you have so ordered our life that we depend upon each other,  
enable us by your grace to seek the well-being of others before our own.

*A silence is observed, please add your own prayers, silently or in the chat box.*

*Leader:* Creator of all:

*All:* **hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for governments and aid agencies,  
and those areas of the world where there is disaster, drought and starvation.  
By the grace of your Spirit,  
touch our hearts and the hearts of all who live in comfortable plenty,  
and make us wise stewards of your gifts.

*A silence is observed, please add your own prayers, silently or in the chat box.*

*Leader:* Creator of all:

*All:* **hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We pray for those who are ill,  
remembering those in hospital and care homes,  
and all who are known to us.  
We pray for all who care for them.  
Give skill and understanding to all who work for their well-being.

*A silence is observed, please add your own prayers, silently or in the chat box.*

*Leader:* Creator of all:  
**All: hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We remember those who have died,  
whom we entrust to your eternal love  
in the hope of resurrection to new life.

*A silence is observed, please add your own prayers, silently or in the chat box.*

*Leader:* Creator of all:  
**All: hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* We offer ourselves to your service,  
asking that by the Spirit at work in us  
others may receive a rich harvest of love and joy and peace.

*A silence is observed, please add your own prayers, silently or in the chat box.*

*Leader:* Creator of all:  
**All: hear our prayer.**

*Leader:* God of grace,  
as you are ever at work in your creation,  
so fulfil your wise and loving purpose in us  
and in all for whom we pray,  
that with them and in all that you have made,  
your glory may be revealed  
and the whole earth give praise to you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*Margaret Rodrigues*

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

**All: And also with you.**

# Offertory Hymn: "Christ, Be Our Light!"

Redeemer Music Team

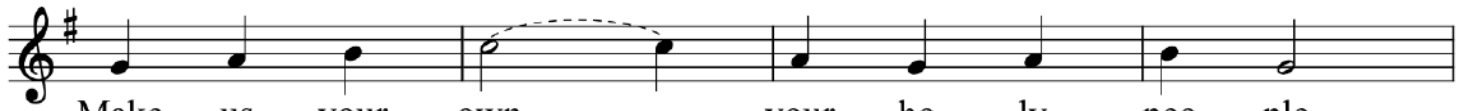
## Verses



1. Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness.  
2. Long-ing for peace our world is trou-bled.  
3. Long-ing for food, man-y are hun-gry.  
4. Long-ing for shel-ter, man-y are home-less.  
5. Man-y the gifts, man-y the peo-ple,



Long-ing for truth, we turn to you.  
Long-ing for hope, man-y de-spair.  
Long-ing for wa-ter, man-y still thirst.  
Long-ing for warmth, man-y are cold.  
man-y the hearts that yearn to be-long.

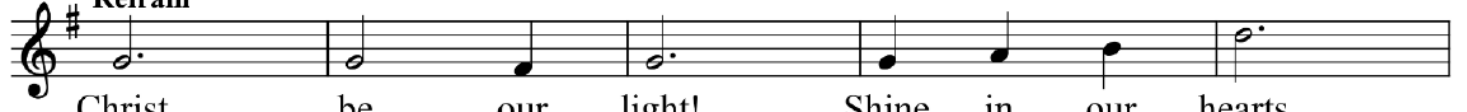


Make us your own, your ho-ly peo-ple,  
Your word a-lone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your bread, bro-ken for oth-ers,  
Make us your build-ing, shel-ter-ing oth-ers,  
Let us be ser-vants to one an-oth-er,

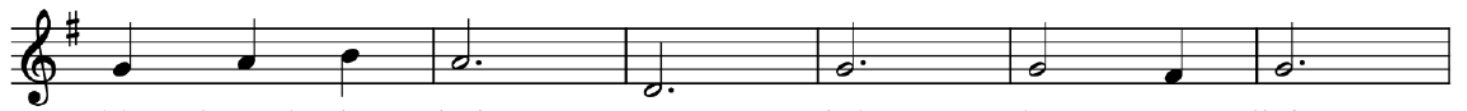


light for the world to see.  
Make us your liv-ing voice.  
shared un-til all are fed.  
walls made of liv-ing stone.  
mak-ing your king-dom come.

## Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.



Shine through the dark-ness. Christ be our light!



Shine in your Church gath-ered to-day.

## The Lord's Prayer

Margaret Rodrigues

*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

Margaret Rodrigues

*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

Margaret Rodrigues

*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

%

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven lines of music with lyrics underneath. The first line begins with a repeat sign. The second line has a fermata over the final note. The third line has a fermata over the final note. The fourth line has a fermata over the final note and is marked 'Last time'. The fifth line has a fermata over the final note. The sixth line has a fermata over the final note. The seventh line has a fermata over the final note and is marked 'To beginning at %'.

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace.

The mountains and the hills will break forth before you.

There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the

*Last time*

field will clap, will clap their hands. And all the trees of the

field will clap their hands, the trees of the field will

clap their hands. The trees of the field will clap their hands,

*To beginning at %*

while you go out with joy. You shall go

Text: Isaiah 55.12; para. Steffi Geiser Rubin (1950- ). Music: THE TREES OF THE FIELD. Melody Stuart Dauermann (1944- ); harm. Patrick Wedd (1948-2019) © Para. and melody © 1975 Lillenas Publishing Co. (Administered by The Copyright Company, Nashville, TN). All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission.

### The Dismissal

Margaret Rodrigues

*Priest:* Go forth with grateful hearts in the name of Christ. Alleluia!

*All:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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## FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

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Prayers of the People adapted from Church of England, Common Worship.  
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## WORSHIP WITH US

**Sunday October 12 (Harvest Thanksgiving)**

**8:00 PM** – Compline (on Zoom only)

**Sunday October 19 (Refugee Sunday and Proper 29C)**

**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)