

# Good Friday

For All Ages

Friday, April 3, 2026 at 9:30 AM

## Church of the Redeemer

162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4

office@theredeemer.ca • Tel: (416) 922 4948 • www.theredeemer.ca



# WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER!

## Who We Are

We are followers of Jesus: children, young adults, families, and seniors who come from a variety of backgrounds. We are long-time members and newcomers; people of deep faith and those still searching; people shaped by many traditions—and sometimes seeking a deeper sense of faith and community. We are not limited by ability, age, economic status, ethnicity, gender identity, personal history or sexual orientation.

## Where We Stand

Dwelling on the traditional lands of the Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Mississauga of the Credit First Nation, Church of the Redeemer stands at the crossroads, physical and virtual—of neighbourhoods and nations, of government, education, arts, culture, and commerce—in the heart of Toronto.

From this place we seek to live into our identity as the body of Christ: living our faith, offering hope, and sharing love for God's world.

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)

## Land Acknowledgement

*During Holy Week, we will begin the liturgy in silence. Therefore, all are encouraged to offer this prayer, acknowledging the lands on which we dwell, before the service begins.*

As we enter the story of Holy Week, we remember our relationship with our Indigenous neighbours. We acknowledge with respect that we gather today in many sacred places, places that were homes to those who have been displaced. We recognize that our church dwells on the traditional lands of the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee and the Anishinaabe Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Gracious One, as we walk with Jesus on his journey through betrayal and denial, open our eyes to the ways in which we have betrayed and denied Indigenous peoples, that, by way of the resurrection, we may be agents of restoration and renewal. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Offertory** — If you would like to make a monetary donation to support the ministry of Church of the Redeemer, we invite you to place your gift in the offering plate that sits on the offertory table at the back of the worship space. You can also donate by using the TipTap kiosk in the welcome area of the church, or by scanning the QR code to go to our online donations page. Thank you for joining us today.



## WELCOME TO THE GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

*All members of the congregation have an important part to play in the telling of the Story. Everything that you will require is printed in this leaflet. Please note all of the sections marked People, Ramp Side and Choir Side. The service will conclude without formal dismissal.*

*Those with specific parts to play this morning are:*

*Narrator 1 ..... Wesley Acheampong*  
*Narrator 2 ..... Scott MacLeod*  
*Judas/Pharisee..... Sparrow Duffy*  
*Peter ..... Anne Christy*  
*Pilate..... John Sutton*  
*Dancer ..... Järvi Raudsepp*  
*Stage Crew ..... Ann Cope and company*  
*Musical Director..... Mike Daley*  
*Video and Audio..... Morgan*

*A note of thanks to our musicians...*

Jill Daley, violin and piano  
Mike Daley, guitar and drums  
Members of the Redeemer Choir

# **A Cry for the Whole Congregation** *(An adapted service by Walter Wangerin)*

*Welcome to Jerusalem. Welcome to the Upper Room.  
Welcome to Pilate's chambers. Welcome to Golgotha.*

## **Scene 1: The Entry into Jerusalem**

*Narrator:* When Jesus drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent ahead two of his disciples, saying, "Go into the village opposite. There you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?", you shall say, "The Lord has need of it." So those who were sent away found it as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them,

*People:* **"Why are you untying the colt?"**

*Narrator:* And they said,

*Peter:* "The Lord has need of it."

*Narrator:* And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt, they set Jesus upon it. And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road.

As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and to praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, singing:

*People:* **Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Narrator:* And some of the Pharisees in the multitude cried to him,

*Pharisee:* "Teacher, rebuke your disciples! They're calling you the Christ. Tell them to shut up!"

*Narrator:* He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent the very stones themselves would cry out."

**People:** Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*Narrator:* And when he drew near and saw the city he wept over it, saying  
“Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace!  
But now they are hid from your eyes. O Jerusalem! The days shall  
come upon you, when your enemies will cast up a bank about you and  
surround you, and hem you in on every side, and dash you to the  
ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave one  
stone upon another in you; because you did not know that time of  
your visitation.”

## **Scene 2: The Preparation and the Eating of the Last Supper**

*Narrator:* Now, the feast of the unleavened bread drew near which is called  
Passover. And the Temple Priests were seeking how to put Jesus to  
death; for they feared the people.

*Judas:* Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number  
of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the temple priests and  
officers how he might betray him to them. And they were glad and  
engaged to give him money. So he agreed, and sought an opportunity  
to betray him to them in the absence of the multitude

*Narrator:* Then came the day of the unleavened bread, on which the  
Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John,  
saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we might eat it.”  
They said to him,

**People:** “But where, Lord? Where will you have us prepare it and  
what are we to do?”

*Narrator:* He said to them, “Behold, when you have entered the city, a man  
carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house  
which he enters, and tell the householder, ‘The teacher says to you,  
Where is the guest room, where I am to eat the Passover with my  
disciples?’”

*Narrator:* And he will show you a large upper furnished room; there make ready.” And they went and found it as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour came, he sat at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I shall not eat it until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God.” And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this and divide it amongst yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the Kingdom comes.” And he took the bread and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them saying, “This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” And likewise, the cup after supper, saying “This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.”

## **Communion**

*The communion ministers will offer the pre-consecrated bread and wine to the congregation. The bread and wine will be administered at the chancel steps. Please line up along the steps. Gluten free hosts are available, please ask the priest, if you wish to receive a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.*

**Hymn:** “One Bread, One Body” *Gather* 830

*Refrain:* One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless,  
and we, though many, throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free  
woman or man no more.

*Refrain*

Many the gifts, many the works,  
one in the Lord of all.

*Refrain*

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,  
gathered to one for all.

*Refrain*

*Narrator:* “But behold the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined; but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!”

*People:* “Who, Lord? Who is to betray you? Is it I? Is it I?”

*Narrator:* He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish will betray me. Oh, it would have been better for that man if he had not been born.” Judas, who betrayed him, said,

*Judas:* “Is it I, Master?”

*Narrator:* Jesus said to him, “You have said so.” Simon Peter was indignant.

*Peter:* “But not I! Though they shall fall away from you, I will not leave you.”

*Narrator:* “Peter, truly I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” Peter said to him,

*Peter:* “Even if I must die with you, I will never deny you!”

*People:* **And so said all the disciples, over and over again.**

### **Scene 3: The Agony of the Garden**

*Narrator:* And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place he said to them, “Pray that you may not enter temptation.”

*People:* **Lead us not into temptation but deliver us.**

*Narrator:* And he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, and knelt down and prayed, “Father, if thou are willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done.”

*People:* **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your Kingdom come, your will be done.  
Your will be done. Your will be done.**

### **Prayers of the Community**

*Prayer cards have been distributed to the community, you are invited to write your prayer intentions on the card and bring them forward to place them in the cauldron next to the praying Jesus.*

*Narrator:* And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found

them sleeping from sorrow, and he said to them, “Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation.”

**People:** **Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, even the evil within ourselves.**

*Narrator:* While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him. But Jesus said to him, “Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?” Judas said,

*Judas:* “Hail Master.”

*Narrator:* When the disciples saw what would follow, they said,

**People:** **“Lord, shall we strike with the sword?”**

*Peter:* And one of them struck the slave of the High Priest and cut off his right ear.

*Narrator:* But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched the ear and healed him.

**People:** **Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

*Narrator:* Jesus said to those who had come out against him, “When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.” Then they seized him

#### **Scene 4: The Judgement**

*Narrator:* Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him to the High Priest’s house. Peter followed at a distance; when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a maid, seeing him sit in the light, said,

**People:** **“This man also was with him.”**

*Narrator:* But he denied, saying,

*Peter:* “Woman, I do not know him.”

*Narrator:* And a little later someone else saw him and said,

**People:** **“You also are one of them.”**

*Narrator:* But Peter said,

*Peter:* “Man, I am not.”

*Narrator:* An hour later he insisted, saying,

***People:* “Certainly this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.”**

*Narrator:* But Peter said,

*Peter:* “Man, I do not know what you are saying.”

*Narrator:* And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly. Now the men who were holding Jesus mocked him and beat him; they blindfolded him and demanded:

***People:* Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?**

*Narrator:* And they spoke many words against him, reviling him. When the day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together and led him to their council. And they said,

***People:* “If you are the Christ, tell us.”**

*Narrator:* But he said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I ask you now, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God.” And the people said,

***People:* “Are you the Son of God, then?”**

*Narrator:* And he said to them, “You say that I am.” And they said,

***People:* “Blasphemy! What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips. Blasphemy! Oh, Blasphemy!”**

## **Scene 5: Jesus Before Pilate**

*Narrator:* Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pontius Pilate. And they began to curse him, saying,

***People:* “We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ the King!”**

*Narrator:* And Pilate asked him,

*Pilate:* “Are you the King of the Judeans?”

*Narrator:* And he answered, “You have said so.”

And Pilate said to the Chief Priests and the multitudes,

*Pilate:* “I find no crime in this man.”

*Narrator:* But they were urgent, saying,

***People:* “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout Galilee even to this place.”**

*Narrator:* And when Pilate heard that he was Galilean, of Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod. Where he was vehemently accused, and treated with contempt and mocked, and arrayed in gorgeous purple, and then sent back again. Pilate said to the rulers of the people,

*Pilate:* “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him, behold I did not find him guilty of any of the charges against him. Behold nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore chastise him and release him.”

*Narrator:* But they all cried out together,

***People:* “Away with this man! Away! Away! Release to us Barabbas”.**

*Narrator:* Barabbas: a man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and for murder. Pilate addressed the crowd once more, desiring to release Jesus. But they shouted out,

***People:* “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”**

*Pilate:* “Why? What evil has he done? I’ve found no crime in him deserving death. I’ll chastise him. I’ll release him.”

*Narrator:* But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been jailed for murder. But Jesus he delivered over to their will.

## **Scene 6: Friday Morning, Crucifixion**

**Song:** “Were you there”

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble:

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

*Narrator:* But Jesus he delivered over to their will.

***Choir Side:* And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.**

***Ramp Side:* And there followed him a great multitude of women who bewailed and lamented him.**

*Narrator:* But Jesus turning to them said; “Daughters of Jerusalem do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed!’ For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it dries!”

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place which is called the skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right, and one on the left.

**Song:** “Were you there”

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble:

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

*Narrator:* And Jesus said, “Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

***Ramp Side:* Forgive us our sins.**

***Choir Side:* And they cast lots to divide his garments.**

***Ramp Side:* Forgive us our sins.**

***Choir Side:* And the people stood by, watching. But the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others, Let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God!”**

***Ramp Side:* Forgive us our sins.**

***Choir Side:* The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar.**

***Ramp Side:* There was an inscription over him: “This is the King of the Judeans”.**

***Choir Side:* Forgive us our sins. Forgive us O Lord, our sins!**

*Narrator:* One of the criminals who was hanged with him railed at him, saying  
“Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!”

*Peter:* But the other rebuked him, saying “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence, and we justly? But this man has done nothing wrong.”  
And he said, “Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

*People:* **Forgive us our sins. Deliver us from evil. For the kingdom...**

*Narrator:* And Jesus said to him,

*People:* **And the power**

*Narrator:* “Truly, Truly, I say to you ...

*People:* **And the glory are yours**

*Narrator:* “Today you will be with me in paradise.”

*People:* **Now and forever. Amen!**

*Narrator:* It was now the sixth hour - and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun’s light failed... And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom... Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit!”  
And having said this, he breathed his last.  
And all the multitudes who had assembled to see the sight, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts.

*Ramp Side:* **And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things.**

## **Scene 7: Late Friday Afternoon Burial**

*Narrator:* Now there was a man named Joseph from the town of Arimathea, a good man, one looking for the Kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud, and laid him in a rock hewn tomb, where no one had ever yet laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.

*Ramp Side:* **The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.**

*The Children are invited to come to the Narthex for the preparation of the Body.  
When the Body is laid to rest, the children are invited to return to their families.*

*Narrator:* On the Sabbath, they rested according to the commandments.

*There is no Dismissal at the end of this, or any other, liturgy in Holy Week.  
For we have not been dismissed; nor shall we be until God has finished working our redemption for us.  
You are welcome to remain in the space for a time of contemplation and prayer. Please leave as silent as possible to keep the silence of the space for prayer and reflection.*

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