

Proper 17A
Spiritual Communion
Sunday, July 26, 2026 at 9 AM
Church of the Redeemer

162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4
office@theredeemer.ca • Tel: (416) 922 4948 • www.theredeemer.ca



OUR VISION

Becoming the Body of Christ at the corner of Bloor & Avenue Road and beyond

Guided by commitment to our shared values, we seek to become the body of Christ, nurturing a lively faith, a persistent hope, and an ever-expanding love for God's world.

We seek to – open our doors and hearts, embracing all who seek a sacred space. We offer worship in many forms, touching the hearts of those yearning for spiritual connection, in-person or online.

We seek to – listen deeply, hearing the stories of Jesus and of one another with open minds and hearts. Through faithful questioning, reflection, and shared learning, we grow together in wisdom and grace.

We seek to – serve with generous hospitality, gathering at the table with our physical and spiritual hunger. We walk alongside one another with compassion in the seasons and conditions of life, sharing our needs and thanks.

We seek to – embody Jesus' teachings that all people are God's children, worthy of love, and that all of creation is interconnected. Where structures or attitudes threaten or diminish, we advocate for justice, peace, equity and ecological responsibility.

We seek to – reach out in-person and virtually to the world around us. We dare to love in word and action so that others see something of God in their midst.

OUR VALUES

Compassion: meeting every soul with tenderness and dignity

Openness: welcoming questions, embracing differences, and following the movement of the Spirit

Respect: honouring each person's unique story and gifts, and the inherent worth of all Creation

Inclusion: making room for all to enter, find a place, and participate fully

Stewardship: nurturing respect for our resources and partnerships for long-term vitality



Christ has no body now but ours, no hands, no feet on earth but ours. Ours are the eyes with which he looks compassionately on this world. Ours are the feet with which he walks to do good, Ours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.

Teresa of Avila (Adapted)

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

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

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

Presider: Susan Haig

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement



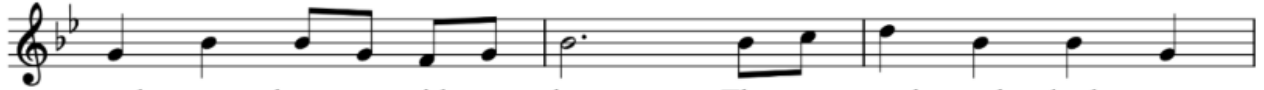
Your support of the ministries of the Church of the Redeemer allows us to be witnesses to God's love on our corner of Bloor Street and Avenue Road. Donations can be made through the QR code. Thank you for your gift and for joining in worship today.

Opening Hymn: #738 (Gather) “The Reign of God”

Led by Redeemer Music Team



1. The reign of God, like farm - er's field, Bears
2. The reign of God can - not be found In
3. The reign of God is like a pearl On
4. Though hid - den now, the reign of God May,
5. Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God From
6. The reign of God is come in Christ; The



weeds a - long with wheat; The good and bad are
far - off, for - eign land Till in fa - mil - iar
bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
yet un - no - ticed, grow; From deep with - in it
ti - ny seed will spread, Till birds of ev - 'ry
reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,



in - ter - twined Till har - vest is com - plete.
face and place We find it close at hand.
pre - cious pearl, Go out and buy that field.
ris - es up, Like yeast in swell - ing dough.
feath - er come To nest, and there be fed.
kin - dling hearts, The reign of God is here!

Text: Matthew 13.24-33, 44-49, Mark 4.26-34; Delores Duffner, OSB, b.1939, © 1995, 2003, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: MCKEE; African American; adapt. by Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949).

✠ The Gathering of the Community

Susan Haig

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

All: **And also with you.**

The Collect of the Day

Susan Haig

Priest: God of eternal wisdom,
you alone impart the gift of discernment:
grant us understanding hearts,
so that we may choose wisely
between the treasures of your promised reign
and this world's counterfeits;
through Jesus Christ, the pearl of true value
All: Amen.

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

Catherine Emerson

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Then Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah’s eyes were weak, but Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel, so he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of his love for her.

Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

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

Genesis 29.15-28

All: Thanks be to God.

A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 128

Led by Redeemer Music Team



Happy are they all who revere God,
and who follow in God's ways!
You shall eat the fruit of your labour;
happiness and prosperity shall be yours. **Refrain**

Your union shall be fruitful within your house,
your children like olive shoots round about your table.
Whoever fears God
shall thus indeed be blessed. **Refrain**

May God bless you from Zion,
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
May you live to see your children's children;
may peace be upon Israel. **Refrain**

Gospel Acclamation

Led by Redeemer Music Team

The Gospel

Susan Haig

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

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

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

Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52

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

Homily: Suzanne Rumsey

A moment of silence is observed.

Prayers of the People

Laura Boast

Leader: As we gather together in prayer, there is much on our mind, sometimes too deep for words. However, Paul reminds us today that ‘Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words’. You are invited to add your petitions and thanksgivings silently or aloud with words you may feel are inadequate, but know they are heard by God in the midst of us.

Leader: Lord in your wisdom

All: **hear our prayer.**

A silence is observed. Please add your prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: We pray for your church throughout the world. We pray especially for those throughout the world whose faith results in persecution, discrimination, or death. We pray that your church may be a beacon of light, a place of sanctuary, a body of reconciled people.

A silence is observed. Please add your prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: Lord in your wisdom

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for the world. We pray for world leaders that they may be instruments of peace, guardians of your creation, and servants to all they govern. We remember victims of famine, war or disaster. We pray for refugees and prisoners.

A silence is observed. Please add your prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: Lord in your wisdom

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for our country and this community. We remember especially all who are affected by wildfires, directly or indirectly. We give thanks for all who have offered themselves as candidates in the upcoming municipal elections throughout the province. We pray for all who lack food, shelter or community.

A silence is observed. Please add your prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: Lord in your wisdom

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray for all who are sick or in need of care. We give thanks for all who minister or care for them, whether as friend, family, or professional.

A silence is observed. Please add your prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: Lord in your wisdom

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: We give thanks for the life and example of those who have died. We offer a word of comfort, a helping hand, a handwritten note or card, a casserole, whatever our gifts, to those who mourn. We pray that we can support them in their loss and bring them to wholeness.

A silence is observed. Please add your prayers silently or aloud.

Leader: Lord in your wisdom

All: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: We offer these and all our prayers to the source of all goodness, remembering the word of St Paul to the people of Rome, saying together:

All: For we are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The Peace

Susan Haig

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

All: And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: #372 (Common Praise) "Praise to the Holiest in the Height"

Led by Redeemer Music Team



1. Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the
 2. O lov - ing wis - dom of our God! When all was
 3. O gen - erous love! that flesh and blood, which did in
 4. and that the high - est gift of grace should flesh and
 5. who is the gar - den se - cret - ly, and on the
 6. Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the



depth be praise, in all the words most
 sin and shame, a sec - ond Ad - am
 Ad - am fail, should strive a - fresh a -
 blood re - fine, God's pres - ence, and his
 cross on high, should teach his fol - lowers
 depth be praise, in all the words most



won - der - ful most sure in all God's ways.
 to the fight and to the res - cue came.
 gainst the foe, should strive and should pre - vail.
 ve - ry self, and es - sence all - di - vine.
 and in - spire to suf - fer and to die.
 won - der - ful, most sure in all God's ways.

The Lord's Prayer

Susan Haig

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

Susan Haig

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: O Christ,
I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection.
I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.
Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,
come spiritually into my heart.
Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus,
and let me never be separated from you.
May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Doxology

Susan Haig

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.**

Concluding Hymn: #562 (Gather) “Halleluya! We Sing Your Praises”

Led by Redeemer Music Team

Refrain

Hal - le - lu - ya! We sing your prais - es, all our
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - ya! We sing your
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.
1. Christ the Lord to us said: I am
2. Now he sends us all out, strong in
wine, I am bread, I am wine, I am
faith, free of doubt, strong in faith, free of
bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
doubt, to pro - claim the joy - ful Gos - pel.

Text and tune: South African. © 1984, Utryck, Walton Music Corporation, agent.

Dismissal

Susan Haig

Priest: Go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

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WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday July 26 (Proper 17A)

4:00 PM – Be Still (in the Church and through YouTube)

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Wednesday July 29

12:00 PM – Mid-week Eucharist (in the Church)

Sunday August 2 (Proper 18A)

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

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

4:00 PM – Be Still (in the Church and through YouTube)

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER LEADERSHIP

Pastoral Staff

Incumbent: Steven Mackison
Associate Priest: Liska Stefko
Children, Youth & Family Minister: Lor Maroney
Honorary Assistants: Jim Boyles, Susan Haig, Ann Jervis, Renata Kok, Paul MacLean, Margaret Rodrigues, Paul G. Walker, Katy Waugh, Andrew Wesley
Theological Intern: Bianca Mathews

Program Staff

Director of Music: Dan Norman
Assistant Director of Music: Mike Daley
Musician-in-Residence: Jill Daley

Common Table Staff & Leads

Director: Tom More
Outreach Worker: Jim Willis
Volunteer & Kitchen Coordinator: Beverley Galandzy
Kitchen Coordinator: Natalie Buyniak
Counsellors: Jane Brushey-Martin, Francis Martin

Ministry Support

Administrative Assistant: Brianna Davies
Bookkeeper & IT Support: Nasir Qamar
Facilities Manager: Craig Martin
Communications: Ann Cope
AV & Sound Tech: Morgan
Duty Custodian: Lloyd Simangan

Members of Diocesan Synod

Wesley Acheampong, Chris Ambidge, Peter Bennett, Lyn Sibley, Karen Visser, Richard Van Delft (alternate)

Board of Management

Chair: Carol Scovil
Vice-Chair: Laura Boast
Advisory Board Chair: Henry Krol
Property: Susan Graham Walker
Stewardship: Ron Waldie
Finance: James Newman
HR: Wesley Acheampong
At Large: Jonathan Batty, Sheila Crummey

Advisory Board

Chair: Henry Krol
Vice-Chair: Susanne Hunter
Board of Management Chair: Carol Scovil
Creation Matters: Grant Jahnke, Andrew Scorer
ISWG: Stephen Allen
Redeemer Explorers: David Townsend, Deb Deacon
At Large: Christina Chang, Mark Ebdon, Louise Greig, Deb Hinton, Scott MacLeod, Dawn Lee, Alanna Zоргdrager, Salome Pinto

Redeemer Ministry Leads

Accessibility Advocate: Carol Scovil
Archives: Nancy Luno
Catechesis: Georgi Georgievski
Creation Matters: Grant Jahnke, Andrew Scorer
Hospitality: Tony Crosbie
Human Resources: Tim Hadwen
Indigenous Solidarity Working Group: Stephen Allen
Liturgy Animator: Ann Cope
Martha League: Richard Van Delft
Meditation Group: Lilian Junkin
Pastoral Care: Tony Crosbie
Property: Susan Graham Walker
Redeemer Explorers: David Townsend, Deb Deacon
Redeemer Pilgrims: Susan Haig
Refugee Settlement: Alison Colvin, Henry Krol
Stewardship: Ron Waldie
Trans Ministry: Margaret Rodrigues
Young Adults: Shirley Park
Zoom Moderators: Anne Lee

If you spot any errors or omissions, or to find out more about our ministry areas, please contact us: office@theredeemer.ca