

Proper 20A
Spiritual Communion
Sunday, August 16, 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

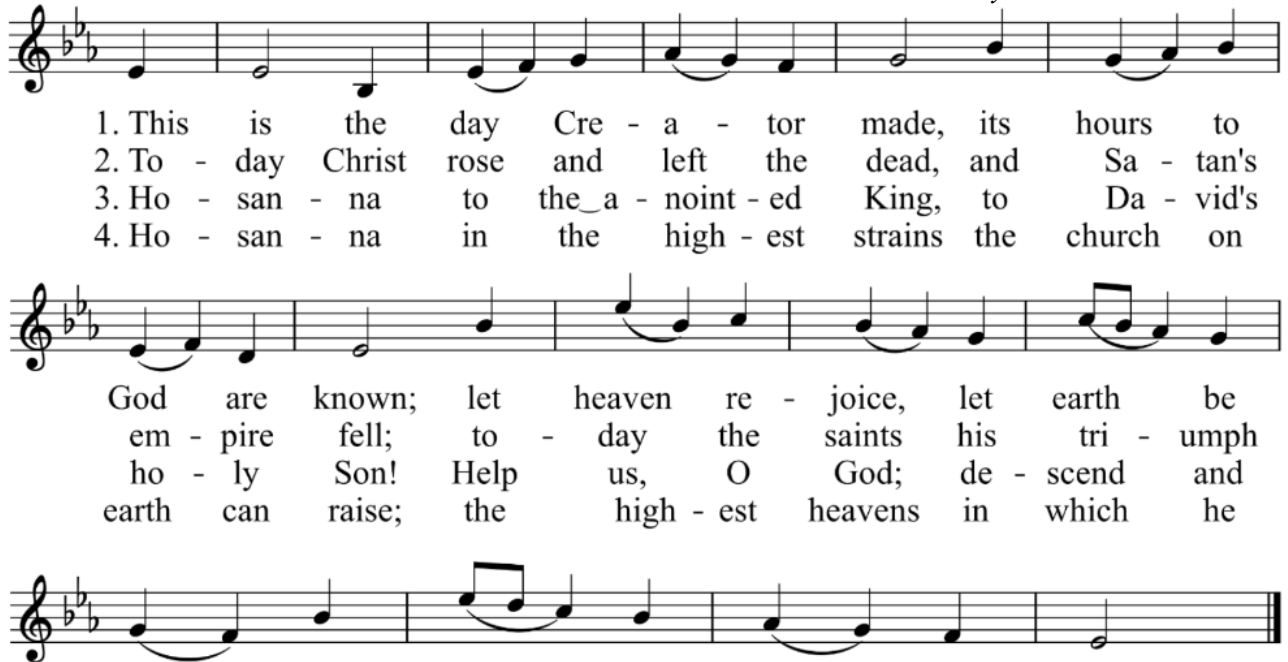
Land Acknowledgement



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: #373 (Common Praise) “This is the Day the Creator Made”

Led by Redeemer Music Team



1. This is the day Cre - a - tor made, its hours to
2. To - day Christ rose and left the dead, and Sa - tan's
3. Ho - san - na to the a - noint - ed King, to Da - vid's
4. Ho - san - na in the high - est strains the church on

God are known; let heaven re - joice, let earth be
em - pire fell; to - day the saints his tri - umph
ho - ly Son! Help us, O God; de - scend and
earth can raise; the high - est heavens in which he

glad, and praise sur - round the throne.
spread, and all his won - ders tell.
bring sal - va - tion from thy throne.
reigns shall give him no - bler praise.

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: IRISH. *Hymns and Sacred Poems*, Dublin, 1749.

✠ 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 the nations,
all are invited to your table,
for in your family no one is a stranger.

Priest: Satisfy our hunger and mercifully extend to all people
the joy of salvation and faith.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
God for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

Heather Bennett

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.” So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

Genesis 45.1-15

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 133

Led by Redeemer Music Team

The musical score for Psalm 133 is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and has a key signature change to D major (two sharps) for the final measure. Above the staff, there are markings for 'To st. 1-3' and 'Last time'. The lyrics under the first staff are: 'Mi - ren qué bue - no, qué bue - no es! es!'. The second staff begins with a triplet of eighth notes and has the lyrics: '1-3 How pleas - ant and har - mo - nious when God's peo - ple are to - geth - er:'. The third staff also begins with a triplet of eighth notes and has the lyrics: '1. fra - grant as pre - cious oil when run - ning fresh on Aar - on's beard. 2. fresh like the morn - ing dew that falls on Zi - on's ho - ly hill. 3. there is where God be - stows the bless - ing, life for ev - er - more.' The final measure of the third staff is marked 'To refrain'.

Refrain

To st. 1-3 *Last time*

¡Mi - ren qué bue - no, qué bue - no es! es!

Second time to st. 1-3

1-3 How pleas - ant and har - mo - nious when God's peo - ple are to - geth - er:

To refrain

1. fra - grant as pre - cious oil when run - ning fresh on Aar - on's beard.
2. fresh like the morn - ing dew that falls on Zi - on's ho - ly hill.
3. there is where God be - stows the bless - ing, life for ev - er - more.

Text: Psalm 133; para. Pablo Sosa (1933-2020), alt. Music: Melody Pablo Sosa (1933-2020); arr. Darryl Nixon (1952-). Text and melody © Pablo Sosa. Arr. © Songs for a Gospel People, admin. Wood Lake Books.

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 left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

Matthew 15.21-28

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

Homily: Ann Jervis

A moment of silence is observed.

Prayers of the People

Murray Bryant

Leader: Bring us back to the story, Creator God.

The story where you create the world in love, and ask us to share your love with all of creation and with all other creatures.

A silence is observed. Please add your prayers silently or in the chat.

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **ground us in the story, we pray.**

Leader: Bring us back to the story, God who hears our cry.

The story where those enslaved are set free, and where the ones who did violence are forgiven. The story where the hungry are fed, the homeless find shelter, the refugees find belonging, those excluded are welcomed with open arms, those suffering are healed, and those with disabilities find themselves planning the party.

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

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **ground us in the story, we pray.**

Leader: Bring us back to the story, God of forgiveness.

The story where Joseph forgives his brothers, families are reunited, and the Canaanites are not victims of genocide but are healed because of great faith. Bring us into this story, that we might be a people of forgiveness, who decry the violence and who refuse to be enemies.

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

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Give us strength to live the story, we pray.**

Leader: Bring us back to the story, wounded one.
The story of grief over evil and violence, the story of lament in the face of injustice, the story of a weeping creation, the story of a Creator who groans along with the earth, who bears our wounds and carries our sorrow.

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

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,
All: **help us to weep with those who weep, we pray.**

Leader: Bring us into the story, God of new life.
The story of new life springing out of death, the story of singing after mourning, the story of comfort and renewal, healing and restoration, the story of all of creation made new, the story of love poured out for us all, all creatures dancing our way into the new earth.

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

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,
All: **Surround us with new life,
we pray, that we may be your resurrection
community. Amen.**

The Peace

Susan Haig

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

Offertory Hymn: #292 (Common Praise) “We Cannot Measure How You Heal”

Led by Redeemer Music Team



The image displays a musical score for a hymn, featuring six staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words aligned under multiple staves. The hymn is titled 'Offertory Hymn: #292 (Common Praise) "We Cannot Measure How You Heal"' and is led by the Redeemer Music Team.

1. We can - not mea - sure how you heal or an - swer
2. The pain that will not go a - way, the guilt that
3. So some have come who need your help and some have

ev - ery suf - ferer's prayer, yet we be - lieve your
clings from things long past, the fear of what the
come to make a - mends, as hands which shaped and

grace re - sponds where faith and doubt u - nite to
fu - ture holds, are pres - ent as if meant to
saved the world are pres - ent in the touch of

care. Your hands, though blood - ied on the cross, sur -
last. But pres - ent too is love which tends the
friends. Lord, let your Spir - it meet us here to

vive to hold and heal and warn, to car - ry all through
hurt we nev - er hope to find, the pri - vate ag - o -
mend the bod - y, mind, and soul, to dis - en - tan - gle

death to life and cra - dle chil - dren yet un - born.
nies in - side, the mem - o - ries that haunt the mind.
peace from pain and make your bro - ken peo - ple whole.

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: #509 (Common Praise) “Precious Lord, Take my Hand”

Led by Redeemer Music Team

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me
2. When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger
3. When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws
stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; through the
near; when my life is al - most gone, hear my
near, and the day is past and gone, at the
storm, through the night, lead me on to the light: take my
cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall: take my
riv - er I stand; guide my feet, hold my hand: take my
hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.
hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.
hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

TEXT: Thomas A. Dorsey (1899-1993). MUSIC: PRECIOUS LORD. Melody George Nelson Allen (1812-1877); arr. Thomas A. Dorsey (1899-1993);
Text and music © 1938 Hill & Range Songs. Copyright renewed, Unichappell Music, Inc., c/o Hal Leonard Corporation.

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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Prayers of the People from Sylvia Keesmaat.

Cover art is Ilyas Basim Khuri Bazzi Rahib: *The Canaanite Woman Asks for Healing for Her Daughter*, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57555> Original source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ilyas_Basim_Khuri_Bazzi_Rahib_-_Jesus_and_the_Canaanite_Woman_-_Walters_W59243A_-_Full_Page.jpg.

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday August 16 (Proper 20A)

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

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Wednesday August 19

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

Sunday August 23 (Proper 21A)

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: Liska Stefko

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