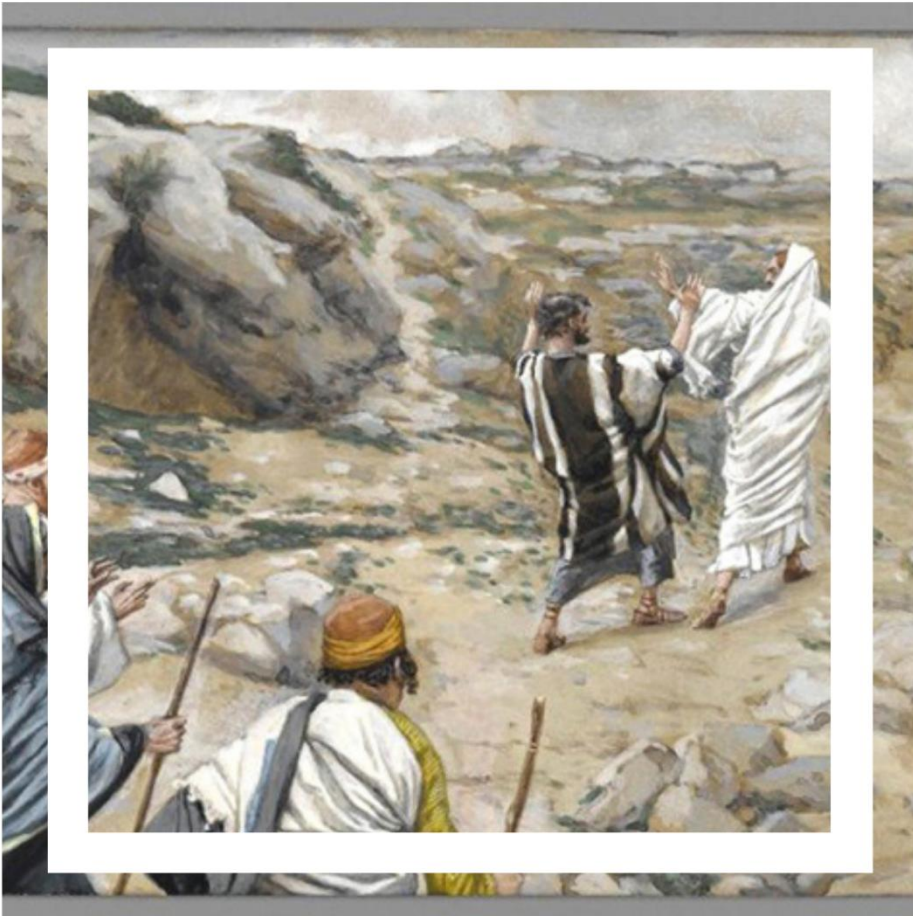


Proper 22A
Spiritual Communion
Sunday, August 30, 2026 at 9 AM
Church of the Redeemer

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: Liska Stefko

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: #698 (Gather) “Take Up Your Cross”

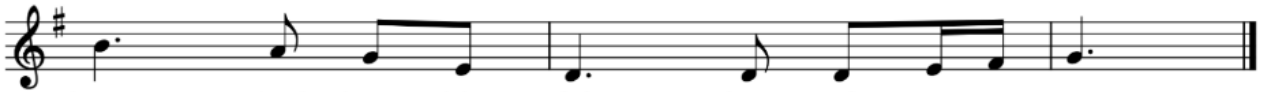
Led by Redeemer Music Team



1. Take up your cross, the Sav - iour said, If you would
2. Take up your cross, let not its weight Fill your weak
3. Take up your cross, heed not the shame, And let your
4. Take up your cross, then, in his strength, And calm - ly
5. Take up your cross, and fol - low Christ, Nor think till



my dis - ci - ple be; Take up your cross with will - ing
spir - it with a - larm; His strength shall bear your spir - it
fool - ish heart be still; The Lord for you ac - cept - ed
ev - 'ry dan - ger brave: It guides you to a bet - ter
death to lay it down; For on - ly those who bear the



heart, And hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
up, And brace your heart and nerve your arm.
death Up - on a cross, on Cal - v'ry's hill.
home And leads to vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
cross May hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest (1814-1877), alt. Tune: O WALY WALY. English; harm. by Martin West b.1929, © 1983, Hope Publishing Co.

✠ The Gathering of the Community

Liska Stefko

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

Liska Stefko

Priest: O God, whose word burns like a fire within us:
grant us a bold and faithful spirit,
so that, in your strength,
we may be unafraid to speak your word

and follow where you lead;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All: **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

Elli Howard

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, “I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up.” When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” Then he said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” He said further, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” He said, “I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”

God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’: This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.”

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

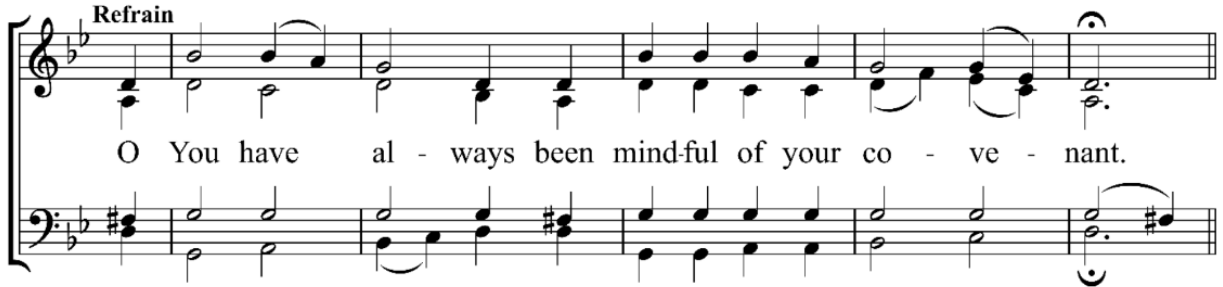
Exodus 3.1-15

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b (George Black)

Led by Redeemer Music Team



Give thanks to our God and call upon the holy Name;
make known God's deeds among the peoples.
Sing to God, sing praises to the Holy One,
and speak of all God's marvellous works. **Refrain**

Glory in the holy Name;
let the hearts of those who seek God rejoice.
Let us search for you and your strength, Ò God,
Let us continually seek your face. **Refrain**

Let us remember the marvels you have done,
your wonders and the judgements of your mouth,
O offspring of Abraham yòur servant,
O children of Jacob your chosen. **Refrain**

Israel came into Egypt,
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.
You, God, made your people exceedingly fruitful;
you made them stronger than their enemies. **Refrain**

Whose heart you turned, so that they hated your people,
and dealt unjustly with your servants.
You sent Moses your servant, and Aaron whom you had chosen.
Hallelujah! **Refrain**

Gospel Acclamation

Led by Redeemer Music Team

The Gospel

Liska Stefko

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.**

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

Matthew 16.21-28

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

Homily: Anne Evers

A moment of silence is observed.

Prayers of the People

Deb Hinton

Leader: As we draw near to you in prayer, mighty Lord, we remember that you are the great I AM. You are the great life behind all life. You are the great love behind all love. You are awesome and worthy of our praise. Direct your holy Church, both here in this place and around the world. As we rest in your greatness, may we hear afresh your call to holiness of life, and bravely, by your strength and wisdom, bring light and life to your world.

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

Leader: Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: Lord of all creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you and your creation with respect and reverence.

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

Leader: Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: Stir up your mighty power, O God, and come among us; guide the leaders of our nation, and every nation; bring near the day when wars and hatred shall cease and poverty and pain shall end.

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

Leader: Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: Remember us, in your love, O Lord. We commend to your faithful love those who are crying from the depths; help them to watch and pray through their time of darkness, in sure hope of the dawn of your healing and redemption. We pray for the sick and the friendless, the homeless and the captive, the weary and the depressed, the anxious and afraid, the lonely and bereaved. Give us health, comfort, and hope.

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

Leader: Lord, hear us.

All: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you are the way, the truth and the life: let us not stray from you who are the way, nor distrust your promises who are the truth, nor rest in anything but you who are the life, for beyond you there is nothing to be desired neither in heaven nor in earth.

All: **Amen.**

The Peace

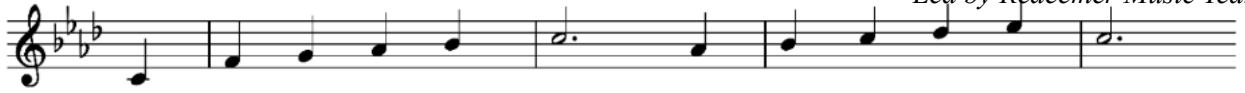
Liska Stefko

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

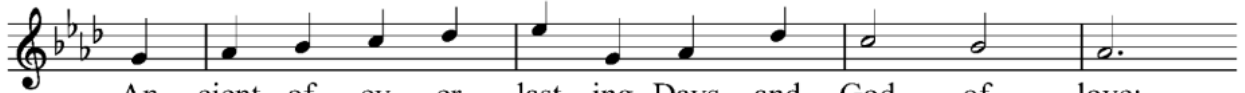
All: **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: #347 (Common Praise) “The God of Abraham Praise”

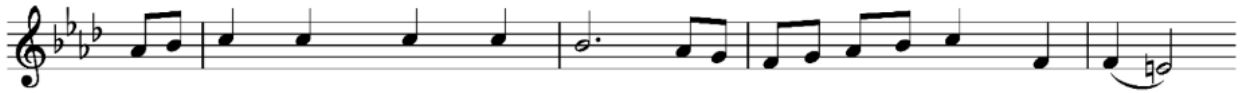
Led by Redeemer Music Team



1. The God of A-braham praise who reigns en-throned a - bove;
2. The great I AM has sworn; I on this oath de - pend.
3. The good - ly land I see with peace and plen - ty blest;
4. Tri - umph - ant hosts on high give thanks e - ter - nal - ly



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing Days, and God of love;
I shall, on eag - le wings up - borne, to heaven a - scend.
a land of sac - red li - ber - ty, and end - less rest.
and “Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly” cry, “great Trin - i - ty!”



Je - hov - ah, great I AM! by earth and heaven con-fessed;
I shall be - hold God's face; I shall God's power a - dore,
There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,
Hail A-braham's God and ours! One might-y hymn we raise;



I bow and bless the sac - red name for - ev - er blest.
and sing the won - ders of God's grace for - ev - er more.
and trees of life, for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.
all power and maj - es - ty be yours and end - less praise!

Text: The Yigdal of Daniel ben Judah (1400?); st. 1-3, para. Thomas Olivers (1725-1799), alt.; st. 4, rev. *Hymns for Today's Church*, st. 4 © 1982 Hope Publishing Co.
Music: LEONI. Melody Yigdal trad.; trsc. Meier Leon (1751-1797) and Thomas Olivers (1725-1799); harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, alt.

The Lord's Prayer

Liska Stefko

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

Liska Stefko

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

Liska Stefko

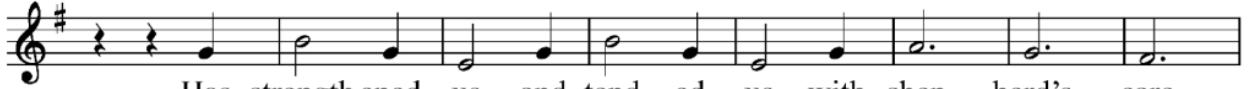
Priest: Glory to God,
All: **whose power working in us
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
Glory to God from generation to generation,
in the Church and in Christ Jesus
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Concluding Hymn: #675 (Gather) “The God Who Sends Us Forth”

Led by Redeemer Music Team



1. The God who sends us forth, u - nit - ed in our pray'r,
2. The road a - head is filled by trav - 'lers with - out end:
3. So let us bless our God, the send - er and the one,



Has strengthened us and tend - ed us with shep - herd's care.
The way - ward and the wan - der - er, the mi - grant friend.
And let us bless the ser - vant, Je - sus Christ the Son.



God's Je - sus makes us bold, his bod - y is our bread;
And we are Je - sus' flesh; his wel - come and his home
The Spir - it let us thank, whose love is bright in - deed,



His wine of life is full - ness for the road a - head.
We go from here to love and serve, to tend God's own.
Who lights a gen - tle path - way for a world in need.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939. Tune: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939 © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.

Dismissal

Liska Stefko

Priest: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

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Revised Common Lectionary Prayers (2002) alt.

Prayers of the People from Judy Burnham. Prayer over the Gifts is from Alternative RCL Collects.

Cover art is James Tissot: *Get Thee Behind Me, Satan (Rétire-toi, Satan)*, 1886–1896. Brooklyn Museum.

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday August 30 (Proper 22A)

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

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Wednesday September 2

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

Sunday September 6 (Season of Creation Abundant Waters)

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)

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

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 Zorgdrager, 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