Proper 30A

Spiritual Communion

Sunday, October 25, 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
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Presider: Paul MacLean

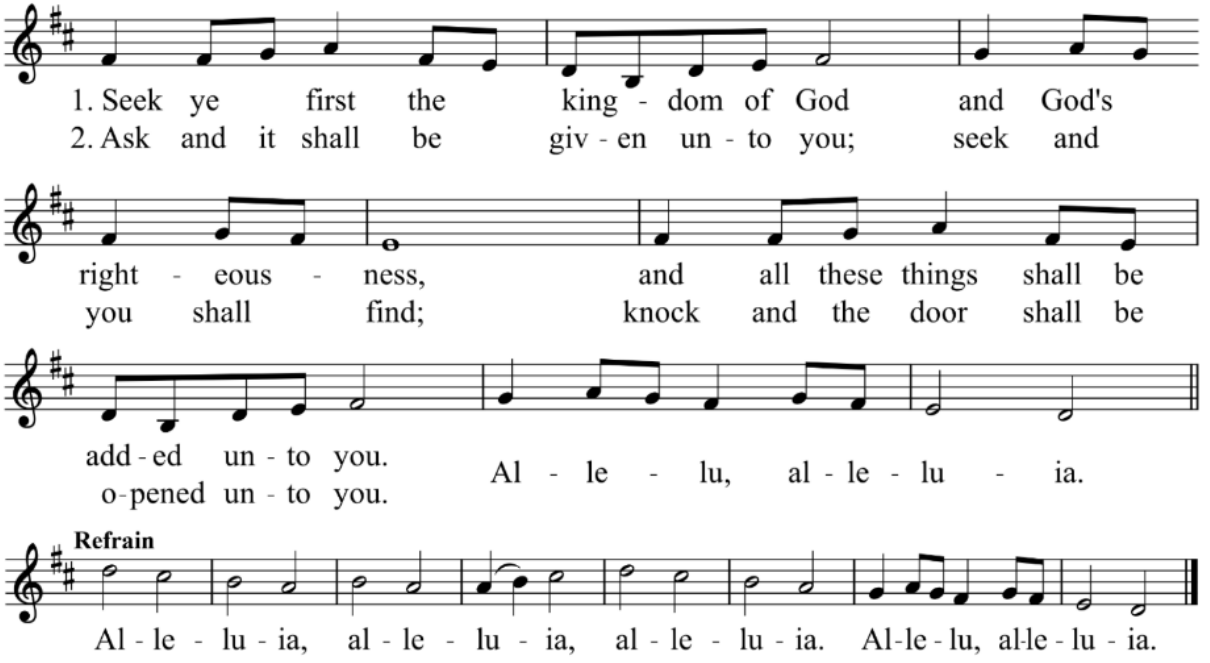
Welcome

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: #458 (Common Praise) "Seek Ye First"

Led by Redeemer Music Team



Text and Music (SEEK YE FIRST): Karen Lafferty (1948-). © 1972 *Maranatha! Music. (Administered by The Copyright Company, Nashville, TN.)*
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✠ The Gathering of the Community

Paul MacLean

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

Paul MacLean

Priest: Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All: **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: *Laura Boast*

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired, and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him, and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequaled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Deuteronomy 34.1-12

All: **Thanks be to God.** *A moment of silence is observed*

Psalm 90:1-6,13-17 *(George Black)* *Led by Redeemer Music Team*



God, You have been our refuge
from one generation to another
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God. **Refrain**

You turn us back to dust and say,
"Go back, O child of earth."
For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night. **Refrain**

You sweep us away like a dream;
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered. **Refrain**

Return, O God. how long will you tarry?
be gracious to your servants.
Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us
and the years in which we suffered adversity. **Refrain**

Show your servants your works
and your splendour to their children
May the graciousness of our God be upon us;
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork. **Refrain**

Second Reading *Laura Boast*

Reader: A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but, just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals but to please God, who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed, nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. 1 Thessalonians 2.1-8
All: **Thanks be to God.** *A moment of silence is observed*

Gospel Acclamation *Led by Redeemer Music Team*

The Gospel *Paul MacLean*

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.**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.” Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet” ’? “If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Priest: The Gospel of Christ. Matthew 22.34-46
All: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** *A moment of silence is observed.*

Homily: Anne Evers

A moment of silence is observed.

Prayers of the People *Deb Hinton*

Leader: From age to age, you are God. From the very beginning you have been intimately involved with this planet. Your faithfulness keeps every molecule in place, and your boundless creativity is on display every day.

Please add your prayers either silently or in the chat.

Leader: Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
All: **From age to age, you are God.**

Leader: We live in divided times. We need your help. We need your Spirit to bridge the divides we can't, to forgive and be forgiven. Help us to make peace with the people whose treaties we have broken, to walk the land with them and in humility forge a new way forward. Help our elected officials to be worthy of our trust. Renew our affection and tenacity for the common good of all. Help us to forsake selfish and evil ways.

Please add your prayers either silently or in the chat.

Leader: Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
All: **From age to age, you are God.**

Leader: We pray for tomorrow's municipal elections in Toronto, and for safe and fair elections all around the world. Help us all to elect people of integrity, intelligence and goodwill. Help us to rightly discern the technological advances that rob us of the power and responsibility to choose, to think and to act for ourselves. Guide us in wisdom and courage toward a future rooted in human dignity and respect for all creation.

Please add your prayers either silently or in the chat.

Leader: Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
All: **From age to age, you are God.**

Leader: Help us to care for the world we live in—to treasure this land and everything in it. Thank you, God, for all that the earth has produced, and in your mercy and goodness —may our fields and wildernesses flourish again.

Leader: We pray for the troubles outside our borders. We pray for Ukraine, Sudan, Gaza, Yemen and other regions besieged by war or famine. Bring an end to oppression, and peace to all lands and all peoples.

Please add your prayers either silently or in the chat.

Leader: Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
All: **From age to age, you are God.**

Leader: We pray for the drop-in centres and shelters…The Common Table, All Saints, Sanctuary, St. Stephen's and other places of refuge in our city. Help them find good people and resources to widen their circles of care. In these quiet moments we pray for those who are ill and for everyone involved in their care. To those who are dying, we pray they find assurance and peace. To those mourning the loss of those dear to them, we pray for comfort in the knowledge they are ever in your hands.

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
All: **From age to age, you are God. Amen.**

The Peace *Paul MacLean*

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

Offertory Hymn: #410 (Gather) "Serving You"

Led by Redeemer Music Team





1. A new com - mand I give to you:
2. Hap - py are you, the faith - ful ser - vants
3. I am the vine, you are the branch - es,
4. No great - er love than this, my friend,
5. My peace I leave with all who live
6. Al - ways re - mem - ber, a - mong your - selves,



love one an - oth - er as I've loved you.
who stand a - wake at the Lord's com ing.
those who a - bide in me will bear great fruit.
to give your life for an - oth er.
in the true spir - it of my word.
the great - est one must be the ser vant.



This love you share will be a sign,
Hap - py are you, for at the ban - quet
Re - main in me, re - main in me
These words I share with all who hear
My peace I give to all who choose
Just as the Lord, a - mong his own,

D.C.



a sign that you are my friends.
sure - ly the Lord will wait on you.
and God will grant you what you need.
so that your joy may be com - plete.
to serve each oth – er in my name.
has made him - self ser - vant of all.

Text : Michel Guimont, b.1950. Tune: Michel Guimont, b.1950. 1992, GIA Publications,Inc.

The Lord's Prayer *Paul MacLean*

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 *Paul MacLean*

Priest: Dear friends, wherever you may be, I invite you in this moment to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people.

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.

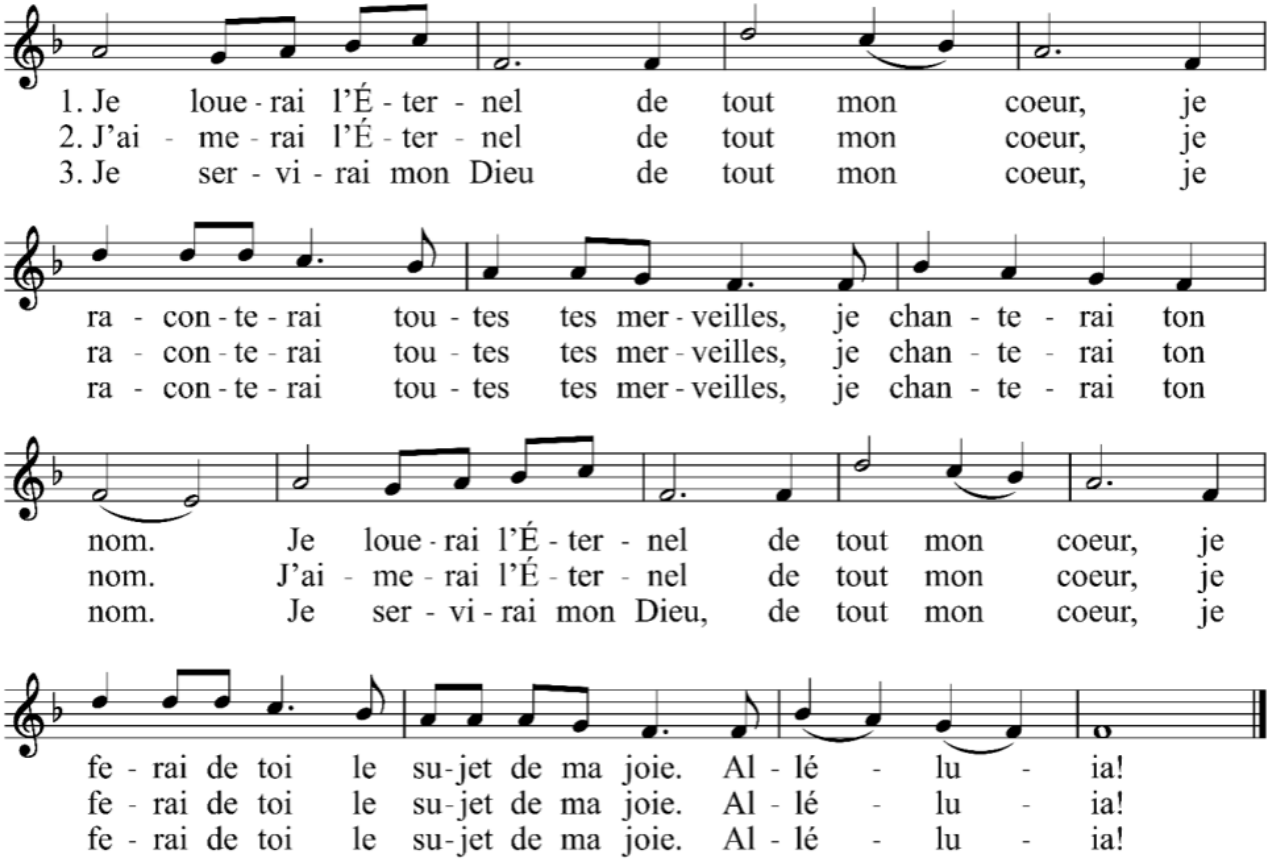
The Doxology *Paul MacLean*

*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: #340 (Common Praise) “Je louerai l’Éternel”

Led by Redeemer Music Team



Text: Claude Fraysse (1941-2012). Music: JE LOUERAI L’ÉTERNEL. Claude Fraysse (1941-2012); vocal arr. Alain Bergèse (1946-). *Text and music © 1997 Claude Fraysse.*

Dismissal *Paul MacLean*

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

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

FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

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Collect of the Day: Common Worship, Church of England

The Readings: New Revised Standard Version – Updated Edition

Prayers of the People: John and Deb Deacon

Dismissal: Book of Alternative Services, Anglican Church of Canada

Cover Art: Anonymous. Sharing Communion, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/57809 Original source: https://www.flickr.com/photos/carsten_tb/39169356530 - Carsten ten Brink.

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday October 18 (Proper 29A)

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

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Wednesday October 21

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

Sunday November 1 (All Saints & All Souls)

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

9:00 AM – Simple Gifts (in the Church)

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

7:00 PM – All Souls Service (in the Church and 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)

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

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

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

Redeemer Ministry Leads

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Archives: Nancy Luno
Catechesis: Georgi Georgievski
Creation Matters: Grant Jahnke, Louise Grieg, Susanna Jacob
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
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Redeemer Explorers: David Townsend, Deb Deacon
Redeemer Pilgrims: Susan Haig
Refugee Settlement: Alison Colvin, Henry Krol
Stewardship: Ron Waldie
Trans Ministry: Margaret Rodrigues
Zoom Moderators: Anne Lee