

Proper 29A - Refugee Sunday

Spiritual Communion

Sunday, October 18, 2026 at 9 AM



Church of the Redeemer

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

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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)

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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: #177 (Common Praise) "A Spendthrift Lover is the Lord"

Led by Redeemer Music Team



The image displays a musical score for a hymn. It features six staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is written in a simple, accessible style. Below each staff, the lyrics are provided in three parts: 1. A spend - thrift lov - er is the Lord who; 2. Still more is spent in blood and tears to; 3. How shall we love this heart - strong God who. The lyrics continue across the subsequent staves, with the final line being 'to warm us when we rise. that's hint - ed by the stars. the way we love and live.'

1. A spend - thrift lov - er is the Lord who
2. Still more is spent in blood and tears to
3. How shall we love this heart - strong God who

nev - er counts the cost or asks if heav - en
win the hu - man heart, to ov - er - come the
gives us ev - ery - thing, whose ways to us are

can af - ford to woo a world that's lost. Our
vio - lent fears that drive the world a - part. Be -
strange and odd; what can we give or bring? Ac -

lov - er toss - es coins of gold a - cross the mid - night
hold the bruised and thorn-crowned face of one who bears our
cep - tance of the match - less gift is gift e - nough to

skies and stokes the sun a - gainst the cold
scars and emp - ties out the wealth of grace
give. The ve - ry act will shake and shift

to warm us when we rise.
that's hint - ed by the stars.
the way we love and live.

✠ 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.**

Priest: Here in this place, there are no foreigners,

All: **for the love of God welcomes us all.**

Priest: Here in this place, there are no outsiders,

All: **for the love of God embraces us all.**

Priest: Here in this place, there are no strangers,

All: **for the love of God unites us all.**

Priest: Come, let us worship God in unity and love.

The Collect of the Day

Paul MacLean

Priest: God of all who wander in the wilderness,
you go before us as beacon and guide.
Lead us through all danger,
sustain us through all desolation,
and bring us home to the land
you have prepared for us.

All: **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

Heather Bennett

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses said to the Lord, “See, you have said to me, ‘Bring up this people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ Now if I have found favor in your sight, please show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider, too, that this nation is your people.” He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not bring us up from here.

For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”

The Lord said to Moses, “I will also do this thing that you have asked, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” Moses said, “Please show me your glory.” And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The Lord,’ and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one shall see me and live.” And the Lord continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”

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

Exodus 33.12-23

All: **Thanks be to God.**

A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 99 (George Black)

Led by Redeemer Music Team



God is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake and its people tremble.

Our God is great in Zion;
and high above all peoples.

Let them confess the Name which is great and awesome,
Our God is the Holy One. **Refrain**

"O Mighty Sovereign, lover of justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

Proclaim the greatness of our God, bow down in worship:
You, God, are the Holy One. **Refrain**

Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name,
they called upon you and you answered them.

You spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud,
they kept your testimonies and the decrees that you gave them. **Refrain**

"O God, you answered them indeed;
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds."
Proclaim God's greatness; worship upon the holy hill;
for God is the Holy One. **Refrain**

Second Reading

Heather Bennett

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

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

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

1 Thessalonians 1.1-10

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.**

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are

sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

Priest: The Gospel of Christ.

Matthew 22.15-22

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

A moment of silence is observed

Homily: Paul MacLean

A moment of silence is observed.

Prayers of the People

Elli Howard

Leader: God our refuge, we pray for those who flee their homes seeking safety in a new place; for those living in refugee camps as they wait for resettlement. May all nations and peoples be filled with compassion and grace to be places of protection and opportunity.

Please add your prayers either silently or in the chat.

Leader: Loving God,

All: **Hear and have mercy.**

Leader: God our refuge, we pray for all offering humanitarian relief and resettlement resources. May the agencies working to meet these needs be sustained, encouraged, and strengthened.

Please add your prayers either silently or in the chat.

Leader: Loving God,

All: **Hear and have mercy.**

Leader: God our refuge, we pray for an end to the causes of displacement and migration that have led to the refugee crises in our world: climate change, war, economic disparity, and repressive regimes. May we be advocates for peace, acting with courage and strength to be people of compassion and justice.

Please add your prayers either silently or in the chat.

Leader: Loving God,
All: **Hear and have mercy.**

Leader: God our refuge, we pray for the adults and children who have died after leaving their homelands. May we remember that, while their graves bear no names, they have been known, loved and cherished by you.

Please add your prayers either silently or in the chat.

Leader: Loving God,
All: **Hear and have mercy.**

Leader: God our refuge, help us to be the instruments of your love and peace in the world. May we continue to be a hospitable and compassionate community welcoming and supporting refugees and all in need.

All: **Amen.**

The Peace

Paul MacLean

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

All: **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: #505 (Common Praise) “Be Thou My Vision”

Led by Redeemer Music Team



1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor the world's emp - ty praise;
4. Mon - arch of heav - en, when vic - tory is won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art,
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, God;
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
may I reach heav - en's joys, bright heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my great shel - ter thine own may I be,
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
 rul - er of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish hymn (8th cent.); tr. Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); vers. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Vers. © courtesy of the estate of Eleanor H. Hull and Chatto & Windus Ltd.
 Music: SLANE. Melody Irish trad.; arr. Martin Shaw (1875-1958), alt. Arr. © Oxford University Press.

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, 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: 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

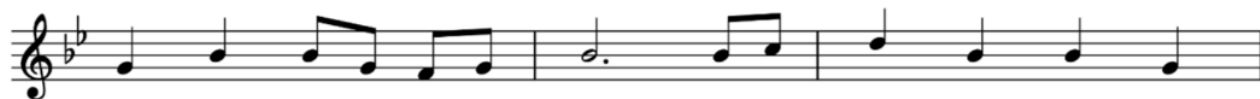
Priest: Glory to God,
All: **whose power working in us
 can do infinitely more
 than we can ask or imagine.
 Glory to God
 from generation to generation,
 in the Church and in Christ Jesus
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

Concluding Hymn: #484 (Common Praise) “In Christ There Is No East or West”

Led by Redeemer Music Team



1. In Christ there is no east or west, in
 2. In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their
 3. Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
 4. In Christ now meet both east and west, in



Christ no south or north, but one great fel - low -
 high com - mun - ion find, whose ser - vice is the
 e'er your race may be; who serves my God in
 Christ meet south and north; all faith - ful souls are



ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 truth and love is sure - ly kin to me.
 joined in one through - out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham (1852-1941), alt., © Reprinted by permission of Desmond Dunkerley.

Music: McKEE. Melody: African American spiritual; adapt. Henry Thacker Burleigh (1866-1949). Adapt. © Estate of Henry Thacker Burleigh.

Priest: Go forth with grateful hearts in the name of Christ. Alleluia!
All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

FURTHER CREDITS FOR THIS BULLETIN

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The Readings: New Revised Standard Version – Updated Edition

Prayers of the People: Adapted from Canadian Lutheran World Relief, Worship Resources for World Refugee Day.

Dismissal: Book of Alternative Services, Anglican Church of Canada

Cover Art: Jacek Malczewski, 1854-1929. The Tribute Money, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/55994>

Original source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Malczewski_Jacek_Grosz_czynszowy.jpg.

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday October 18 (Proper 29A)

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)

4:00 PM – Rock Vespers featuring the music of Dolly Parton
(in the Church and Youtube)

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Wednesday October 14

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

Sunday October 25 (Proper 30A)

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)

4:00 PM – Be Still (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)

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, Louise Grieg
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, 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
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
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