Proper 32A

Spiritual Communion

Sunday, November 8, 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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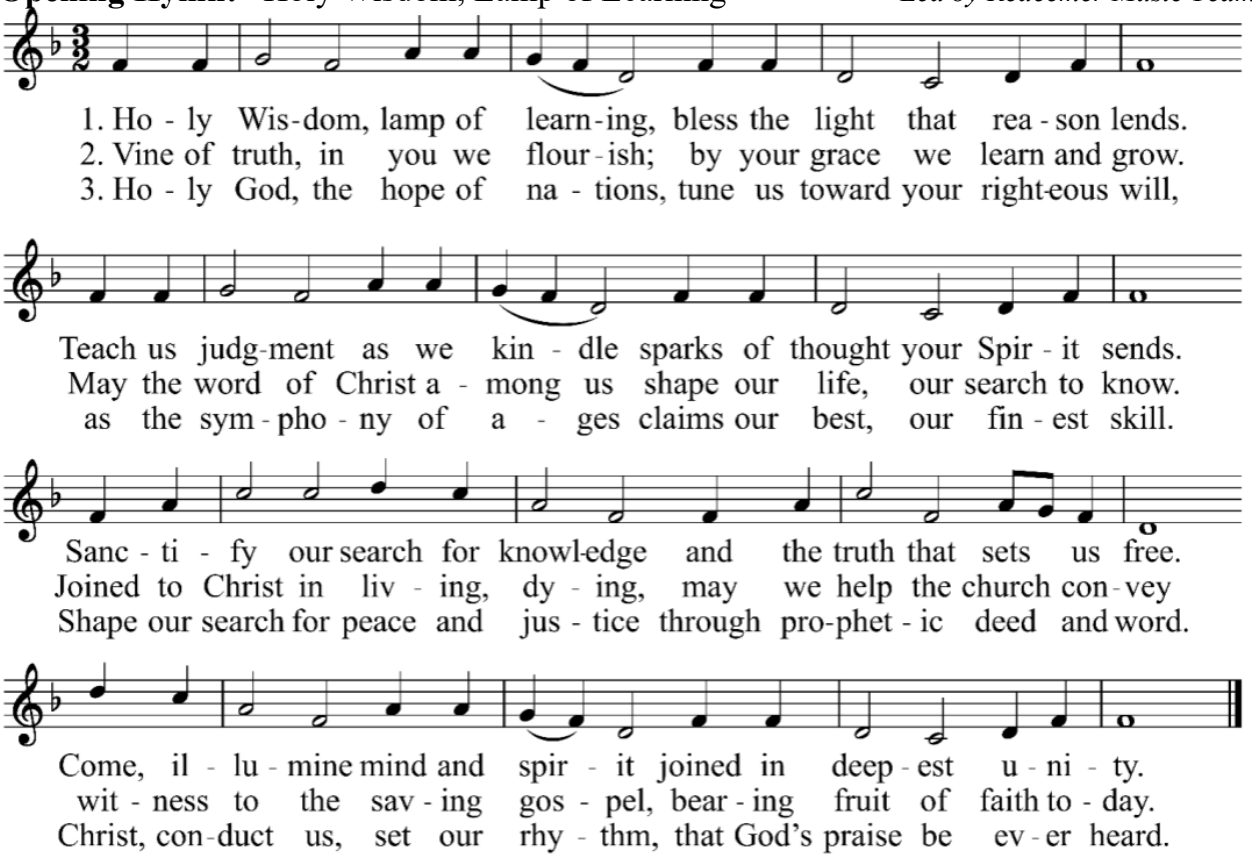
Presider: Liska Stefko

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: "Holy Wisdom, Lamp of Learning" *Led by Redeemer Music Team*



Words: Ruth Duck (1947-2024). Music: BEACH SPRING. *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; Rosalee Elser (1925-2007). Words © 1996 The Pilgrim Press. Music harm. © 1980 Community of Christ.

✠ 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: Brighten your Church, O God, with the promise of your kingdom,
and waken our hearts to its light. Bid us hasten with faith undimmed
to greet the bridegroom's return and join the wedding feast.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: **Amen.**

✠ Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: *Henry Krol*

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Joshua.
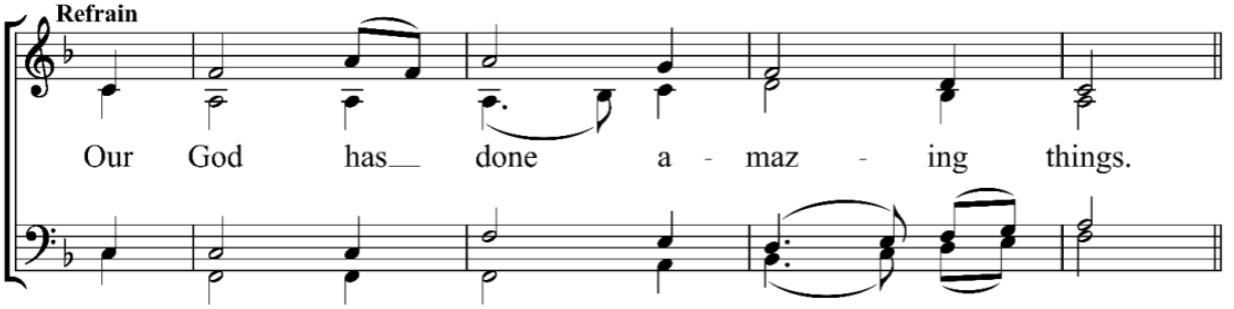
Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now, therefore, revere the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods, for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples through whom we passed, and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Joshua 24.1-3a, 14-25

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

Psalm 78.1-7 *(George Black)* *Led by Redeemer Music Team*



Hear my teaching, O my people;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times. **Refrain**

That which we have heard and known,
and what our forebears have told us, we will not hide from their children.
We will recount to generations to come your praiseworthy deeds and your power, O God,
and the wonderful works you have done. **Refrain**

You gave your decrees to Jacob and established a law for Israel,
which you commanded them to teach their children.
That the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn;
that they in their turn might tell it to their children.
So that they might put their trust in you, O God,
and not forget your deeds, but keep your commandments; **Refrain**

Second Reading *Henry Krol*
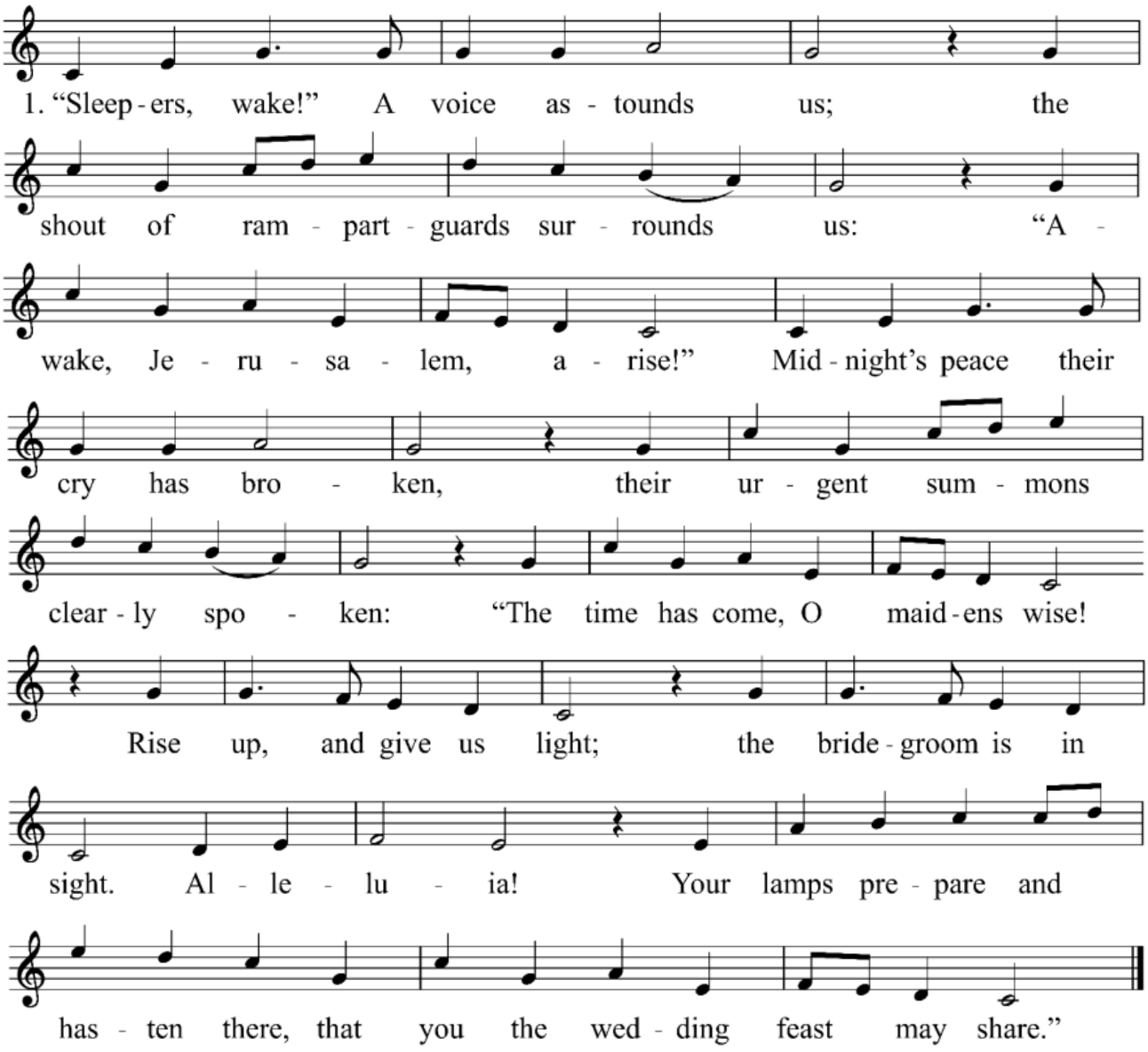
Reader: A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18

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

Sequence Hymn: #110 (Common Praise) "Sleepers! Wake!" *Led by Redeemer Music Team*



Text: Philipp Nicolai (1566-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (1944-). *Tr. © 1982 Hope Publishing Co.* Music: WACHET AUF. Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1566-1608); adapt. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

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.**

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Priest: The Gospel of Christ. Matthew 25.1-13
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 *Murray Bryant*

Leader: As we stand before you mighty Lord, may we catch the light of your piercing and loving gaze. Grant that we may faithfully mirror that light in our lives and in this world.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: Just and loving God,
All: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: O God, bring our nation and all nations to a sense of justice and equity, that poverty, oppression, and violence may vanish and all may know peace and plenty.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: Just and loving God,
All: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: God our creator, look upon our broken world with mercy. Free us from the greed that destroys the roots of life and guide us to live more gently on this our green earth.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: Just and loving God,
All: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: God of compassion, your cross reminds us that you stand alongside us as we suffer. We lift up to your loving care all those who are sick in mind, body and spirit. Enfold them in your loving embrace. Bring healing. Bring light.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.

Leader: Just and loving God,
All: **Hear our prayer.**

Leader: We commend to you, living Lord, those who have died, and all those who grieve their loss. Help us to wait in confidence for the bloom of new life which, in the darkness, we cannot always imagine.

Please add your prayers either silently or aloud.
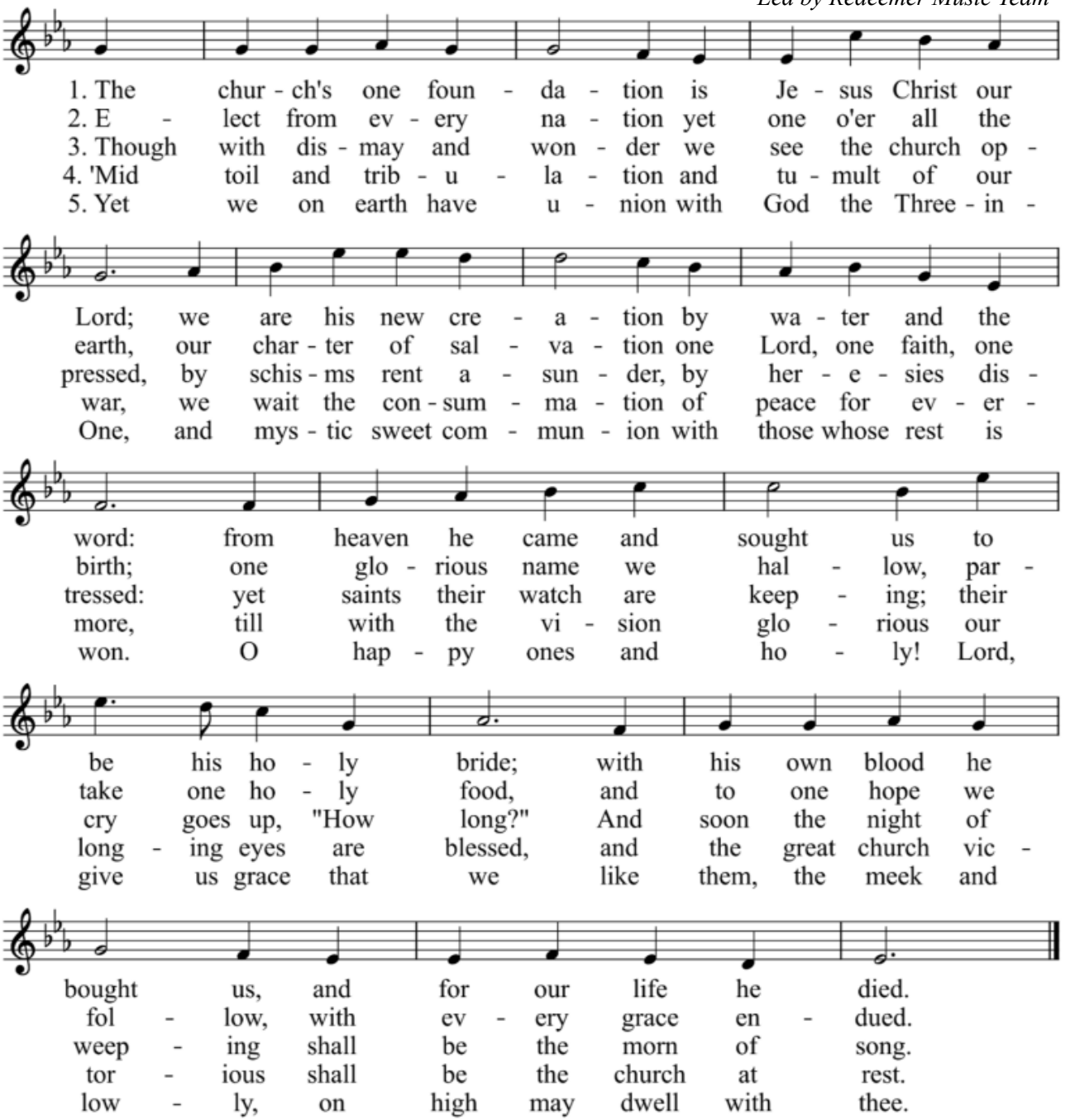
Leader: Hasten, Lord, the day when people will come from east and west, from north and south, and sit at table with you. Help us to recognize your image in ourselves and others, that we may be made whole and the world become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
All: **Amen.**

The Peace *Liska Stefko*

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

Offertory Hymn: #525 (Common Praise) “The Church’s One Foundation”

Led by Redeemer Music Team



Text: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900), alt. Music: AURELIA. Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876).

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, 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.

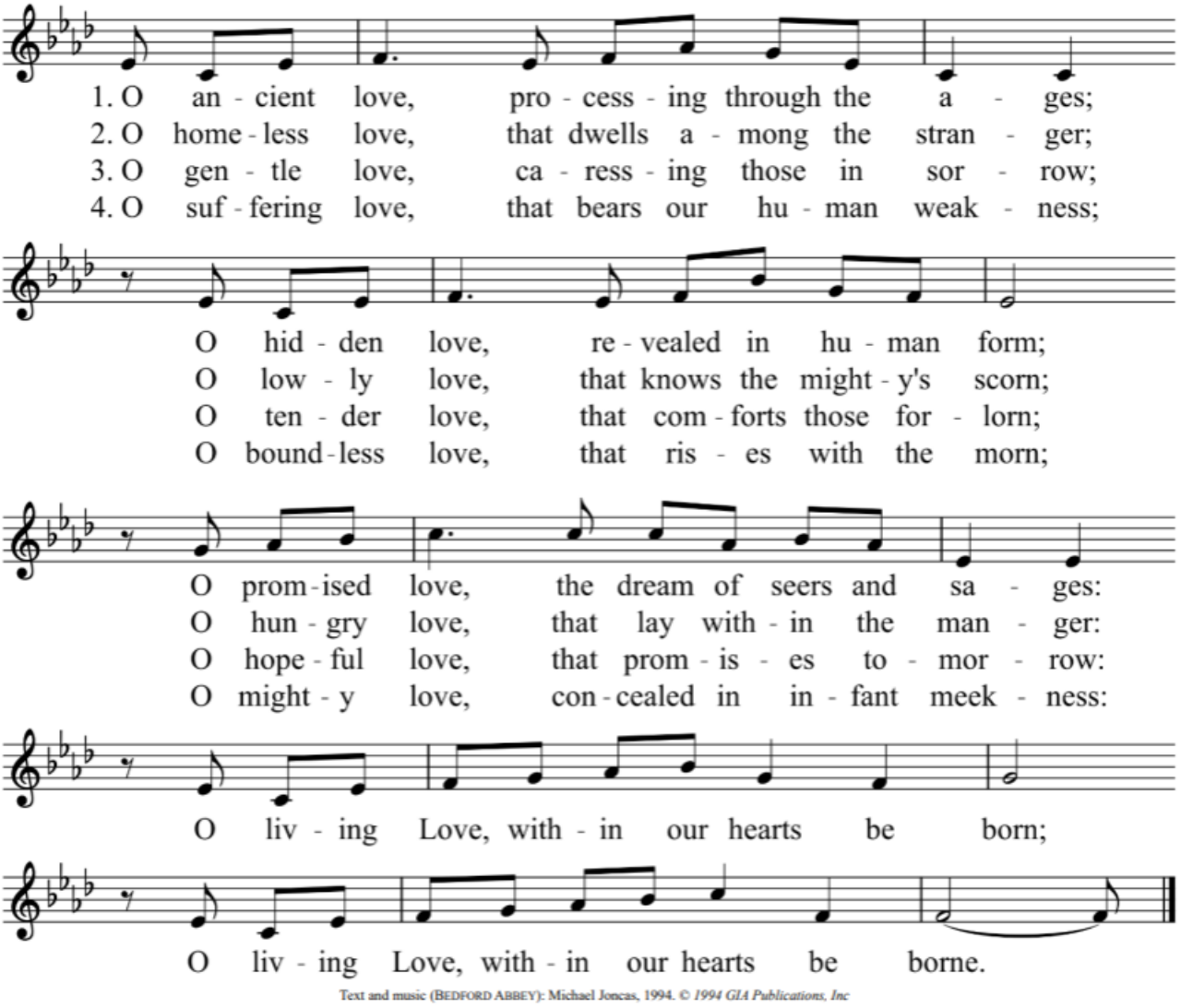
The Doxology *Liska Stefko*

*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.

Announcements

Concluding Hymn: #36 (SANC) "O Ancient Love" *Led by Redeemer Music Team*



Text and music (BEDFORD ABBEY): Michael Joncas, 1994. © *1994 GIA Publications, Inc*

Dismissal *Liska Stefko*

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: Alternative Collects, General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada
The Readings: New Revised Standard Version – Updated Edition
Prayers of the People: Judy Burnham
Prayer over the Gifts: Book of Alternative Services, Anglican Church of Canada
Eucharistic Prayer: Book of Alternative Services, Anglican Church of Canada, Supplementary Prayer 3
Prayer after Communion: Book of Alternative Services, Anglican Church of Canada
Dismissal: Book of Alternative Services, Anglican Church of Canada
Cover Art: James Tissot, 1836-1902. Foolish Virgins, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/57765. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Brooklyn_Museum_-_The_Foolish_Virgins_(Les_vierges_folles)_-_James_Tissot_(cropped).jpg.

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday November 8 (Proper 32A)

8:00 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

Wednesday November 11

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

Sunday November 15 (Proper 33)

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 – Bach Vespers (Choir & Orchestra) featuring Cantata No.73 (God, as you will, let it be done with me)
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

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 Ebden, 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, 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