

The Query

eNews for the MCC Toronto community

MCC Toronto



Peace among religions is a precondition for world peace.

- Swami Agnivesh

Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

This Sunday, April 3, starts a 3-part sermon series within our current Sermon Series "Fights for Human Rights". Yes... you heard that right, a sermon series inside a sermon series!

This year marks the first time in many years that Ramadan, Easter, and Passover all occur at the same time. So, over the next three Sunday's including Palm Sunday, and Easter Sunday we'll be exploring some of the foundational stories of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam as we also explore things like Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism in our world and in our quest for Human Rights for all.

We'll start this Sunday, April 3, with Rev. Jeff Rock telling the story of Hagar who is servant-wife of Abraham banished to the desert along with her and Abraham's son Ishmael - so that Isaac, Abraham's other son by his wife Sarah is the rightful heir and the child through whom the great nation of Israel shall emerge. Well, that's the story we hear in the Hebrew scriptures. However, in the Quran and in the Muslim tradition it is through Hajjar (her Arabic name) and through Ishmael that shall arise another mighty nation, the Arab people and the heart of Islam, also according to God's promise. The same story is told in BOTH sacred books, but from different perspectives.

Then on Palm Sunday, April 10, we'll celebrate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem with the waving of branches and singing of songs, and also look at the story of the Passover, a foundational Jewish narrative and the holiday Jesus came to town for. We will look at the history of Anti-Semitism from the times of scripture, to today and the importance of recognizing our Jewish siblings and combating hate.

Then on Easter Sunday, April 17, we'll begin the day with an Easter Sunrise Service at Ashbridges Bay at 6 AM and then for the first time ever at MCC Toronto, Rev. Deana Dudley will lead us in worship at the 9 AM and 11 AM services in celebrating the resurrection, our foundational Christian story.

Join Us | Easter Services Calendar



As our Lenten sermon series "Fights for Human Rights" continues, we hope you will join us for our upcoming Easter Services. Please note that on Easter Sunday we are hosting both a 9 and 11 AM in-person Worship Service.

During this special time, MCC Toronto also invites you to consider the opportunity of making a gift in memory. All donors (and their remembered loved ones) will be recognized in the April 15 edition of the Query and as part of our Easter Sunday Worship Service on April 17.

MAKE AN EASTER MEMORIAL DONATION

Easter Worship Schedule:

Palm Sunday Service - April 10 | In-person & Livestreamed | 11 AM

Good Friday Service - April 15 | In-person & Livestreamed | 7:30 PM

Easter Sunrise Service - April 17 | Join us in-person at Ashbridges Bay at 6 AM | or watch on YouTube Channel - 7:30 AM

Easter Sunday Service - April 17 | In-person at 9 & 11 AM | livestreamed at 11 AM

Instagram Takeover and Live



Andrew Kushnir, a queer Ukrainian-Canadian playwright with strong ties to Ukraine is taking over our Instagram account today to share important information and to go live, talking about supporting LGBTQ+ Ukrainians!

Join us this evening, Friday, **April 1, at 5 PM** for this exciting Instagram takeover!

If you haven't already, subscribe to our Instagram account [here!](#)

Sunday Service Musical Guest



Anwar Khurshid is our Offertory Performer this Sunday!

Anwar has composed music featured in Oscar-winning film *Life of Pi* as well as *Kama Sutra*. He is available to compose and create original music for festivals, films, corporate events and weddings in Toronto (GTA), USA, UK and Dubai.

Performing internationally with musicians from Blues, Jazz, African, Middle Eastern and Chinese genres, Anwar's innovative collaborations create music transcending categorization!

Check out Anwar's website at <https://sitarfusion.ca>

April 03 | 11 AM | MCC Toronto's YouTube Channel

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN THIS SERVICE ONLINE](#)

Jeff's Birthday Fundraiser

Many thanks to the 29 people who made contributions to my Facebook Birthday Fundraiser in support of MCC Toronto's LGBTQ+ Refugee Programs. I am very happy to report that together, we raised \$3,464! I had agreed to match the donations up to \$2,000, but inspired by YOUR generosity, I am doubling the full donation amount for a total of \$6,928 in support of our Refugee Programs.

Many thanks to all of you who participated. And special thanks to all of you who reached out with birthday greetings!

-Rev. Jeff Rock, Senior Pastor



Volunteers have always been at the heart of MCC Toronto. We would not be the strong, inclusive and welcoming community we are, without the support and dedication of volunteers who help support our Worship Services and our other public programs. Currently we are looking for volunteers for our **Triangle Lunch Program**.

To sign up for these or other opportunities, please click the link below.

[SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE](#)



Taking care of each other is more important than ever these days, and if you are in need of some care we are here for you. Just hop on the link below and fill out the form to let one of our pastors know about your needs.

Want to learn more? [Watch this video by Rev. Junia Joplin!](#)

[REQUEST CONGREGATIONAL CARE HERE](#)

Every Gift is a Blessing. Please consider making a gift to MCC Toronto today.

[DONATE](#)

Online and In-Person Programming April 3 - 9

APR 3 - 9	SUNDAY 03 11 AM - Online and In-Person Sunday Service 1 PM - Digital Coffee Hour (ZOOM)	MONDAY 04	TUESDAY 05 7 PM - Bible Study	WEDNESDAY 06
		THURSDAY 07 10:30 AM - Ever Wonder Group Discussion (ZOOM)	FRIDAY 08	SATURDAY 09

Sunday:

11 AM - Online and In-Person Sunday Service
1 PM - Digital Coffee Hour

Thursday:

10:30 AM - Ever Wonder Group Discussion
(Email: everwonder@mcctoronto.com)

Tuesday:

7 PM - Bible Study



Sunday Digital Coffee Hour

Sunday Digital Coffee Hour

Sunday | 1 PM

[ZOOM Link](#)

Meeting ID: 828 3849 6709

Password: 797837



Bible Study

Bible Study

Tuesday | 7 PM

[ZOOM Link](#)

Meeting ID: 860 7974 3149

Password: 337101



Sunday Service Worship

Online | 11 AM | In-person | MCC Toronto YouTube

Share Us Digitally!

If you know of anyone who might be interested in anything we're doing at MCC Toronto please invite them to join us digitally via the button below.

SHARE THE QUERY HERE



Questions? Comments? Inquires?
We'd love to hear from you!

Connect with us at
communications@mcctoronto.com



