

The Query

eNews for the MCC Toronto community

MCC Toronto



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Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!

– Luke 19:38

Celebrating Christians Around the World

Palms, or pussy willows? Palms don't have a lot of relevance in Canadian culture, because palm trees don't grow here. But every year, Rev. Jeff waves pussy willows with his palm fronds, because pussy willows DO grow in Canada, AND they are some of the first harbingers of Spring.

Rev. Jeff is in good company. In many Orthodox churches, particularly in both Ukraine and Russia, the Palm Sunday tradition is to wave pussy willows, and to keep them with the icons in their house until the next Palm Sunday. There is a legend that it is the pussy willow that tells all the other plants that it is time to wake up and grow again. Their arrival was also a sign that the long days of the Lenten Fast were coming to an end.

We, too, celebrate the coming of Spring. But on Palm Sunday we also celebrate with Christians around the world, including both Ukraine and Russia, the coming of Jesus the Christ into ancient Jerusalem. Let us be united with them in our hopes and dreams of peace in this season.

Rev. Deana Dudley,
Assistant Pastor

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN PALM SUNDAY SERVICE ONLINE](#)

JOIN US | HOLY WEEK SERVICES CALENDAR

The great festival of Holy Week and Easter are upon us.

We begin with a Palm Sunday Celebration this Sunday, April 10, at 11 AM with branches waving and a reflection on the Jewish Passover as part of our Fights for Human Rights Sermon Series.

Then on Good Friday April 15 at 7:30 PM we will hold a Tenabrae Service reflecting on the Stations of the cross Good Friday at 7:30 PM. You can watch it online [here!](#)

On Easter Sunday we start with a Sunrise Service at Ashbridges Bay. Park at Woodbine Beach Parking Lot (10 Ashbridges Bay Park Rd, M4L 3W6) by 5:45 AM and walk out to the Ashbridges point as we celebrate the resurrection. A video of the service will be uploaded at 7 AM. Watch it [here!](#)



Then for the first time ever at MCC Toronto Rev. Deana Dudley will lead us in our Easter Sunday Services at 9 AM and 11AM in our historic sanctuary at 115 Simpson Avenue with an accompanying livestream [here!](#)

Easter Worship Schedule:

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

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

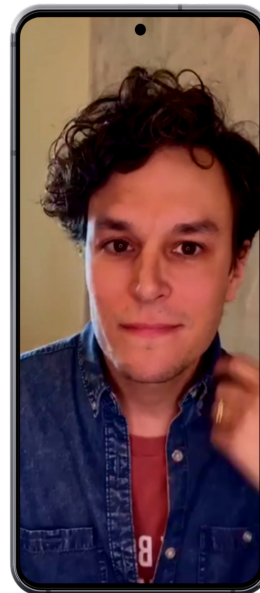
Easter Sunrise Service - April 17 | Join us in-person at Ashbridges Bay at 6 AM | or watch on YouTube Channel - 7:30 AM

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

Instagram Takeover and Live

Last week Andrew Kushnir, a queer Ukrainian-Canadian playwright with strong ties to Ukraine took over our Instagram account and shared important information about supporting LGBTQ+ Ukrainians.

If you haven't already, watch his IG live and give us a follow on [Instagram](#)!



Sunday Service Musical Guest



Cantor David Rosen is our Offertory Performer this Sunday!

Cantor Rosen is senior cantor and music director at Toronto's Holy Blossom Temple.

He is a sought-after performer of Jewish and secular music, and has performed in concerts across the United States, Canada, and Europe. His rich, versatile baritone voice has allowed him to sing a wide repertoire of music, from traditional Chazzanut to Broadway showtunes.

He recently produced and was a soloist in "Gifts of Light," an interfaith virtual concert to raise money for the United Way's COVID Relief Fund. The event attracted thousands of virtual viewers and included stars such as Steven Page, Richard Margison, and musicians from the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

Cantor Rosen serves as adjunct faculty at the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion. He is a member of the Cantors' Assembly, a past president of the Toronto Council of Hazzanim, and a member of the executive board of the American Conference of Cantors, where he sits on the ethics committee and the admissions panel.

In 2021, Cantor Rosen launched the Holy Blossom Centre for Arts and Culture, a multi-disciplinary centre attracting performers and educators from around the globe who perform and teach at Holy Blossom Temple, serving both its membership and the community at large.

April 10 | 11 AM | MCC Toronto's YouTube Channel

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

A Beautiful Gift



Shannon Linton is doing somethin amazing for us!

Her new single, "At the End of the World", is coming out on April 15 and she is donating all the proceeds to MCC Toronto to support our LGBTQ+ Refugee Programs.



So watch out for Shannon Linton's single on her website at shannonlinton.bandcamp.com on April 15 to buy her new single. If you decide to make a donation directly to [MCC Toronto](#), Shannon will send you a free download of "At the End of the World" if you DM her a screenshot of your donation receipt on Facebook [@shannonlintonmusic](#), her [Instagram account](#) or email her at shannonlinton@hotmail.com.

We can't thank Shannon Linton enough for supporting our human rights efforts and helping our LGBTQ+ Refugee Programs.

Young Adults Board Game Night



Get ready to roll again! Join us at **7 PM** on **Thursday, April 21**, at 115 Simpson Ave in the social hall for a night of games with your fellow MCC Toronto's young adults!

There is a capacity of 7 people, so to keep your spot, email James at dastolfoj@yahoo.ca before Monday, **April 18**.

To keep everyone safe, we ask that you please join only if you have two valid doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and wear a mask.



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 10 - 16

APR 10 - 16	SUNDAY 10 11 AM - Online and In-Person Palm Sunday Service 1 PM - Digital Coffee Hour (ZOOM)	MONDAY 11	TUESDAY 12	WEDNESDAY 13
		THURSDAY 14 10:30 AM - Ever Wonder Group Discussion (ZOOM)	FRIDAY 15 7:30 PM - Online and In-Person Good Friday Service	SATURDAY 16

Sunday:

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

Thursday:

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

Friday:

7:30 PM - Online and In-Person Good Friday Service



Sunday Digital Coffee Hour

Sunday Digital Coffee Hour

Sunday | 1 PM

[ZOOM Link](#)

Meeting ID: 828 3849 6709

Password: 797837



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



Sent with love

