

Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

The downtown church for a diverse city

For thousands of years this land has been the traditional home of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. It is still home to Indigenous people from across Turtle Island. We are grateful to work, live and worship on this land.



Sunday, February 3, 2019
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

*We hope that you will find in the Worship Service food for faith and a doorway to God. Metropolitan is an **Affirming Congregation**. We welcome people of all sexual orientations to worship and minister among us.*

ORDER OF SERVICE

CARILLON PRELUDE 10:30 a.m. outside, ending with:

Lobe Den Herren ("Praise to the Lord, the Almighty")

setting by Roy Lee

ORGAN PRELUDE *Toccata in E Major*

Prelude on Brother James' Air

J. S. Bach

Harold Darke

♪PROCESSIONAL HYMN #220 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Lobe den Herren

INVITATION TO WORSHIP (Opening liturgy is adapted from Psalm 71)

One: God is our hope, the trustworthy source in all things.

All: We have been in God's hands since the beginning. We are God's beloved children born for praise.

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

One: In cold February, when the winds blow hard, and the streets are forbidding, you are our refuge. There is fire in you, and light for seeing, and conversation and belonging for our strange times.

All: You are a rock, a homing beacon, tall and majestic, an anchor even at a distance.

One: You are a fortress, built to last, stone by stone, through the faith you give.

All: Rescue us from wickedness. Forgive us our sinfulness. Restore us to right relationships, in our right minds.

One: Grant us patience as we go.

SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

KYRIE ELEISON (ALL) #69 *More Voices*

Kervin

Kyrie Eleison (God have mercy)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: There is a lamp lit in the window of Heaven. God is at home for us and we are at home in God. Let us live in the light of our forgiven life.

♪(indicates a congregational response - please stand as you are able).

♪ACT OF PRAISE (All)



Glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry be to God on high!



And on earth peace to the peo-ple in whom God is well pleased.

READINGS Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

ANTHEM *Love Is Little* from *Shaker Songs*

Kevin Siegfried

Love is little, love is low, love will make my spirit grow. Grow in peace, grow in light, love will do the thing that's right. Benjamin Stein, tenor

GOSPEL READING Luke 4:21-30

One: Here then is light: old light from glory, bright light from wisdom, fair light from faithful following. Here is Christ, alive in text and expectation.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Thanks be to God for the light.

ENCOUNTERING THE CHILD WITHIN

All children and youth are invited to make their way to Sunday School. Please follow the teachers.

♪**HYMN #589** *Lord, Speak to Me*

Winscott

SERMON "GOD'S WORD: A POWER AND PRESENCE IN OUR LIVES"
The Rev. Dr. Paul Scott Wilson

ANTHEM *Take My Life, and Let It Be* Text at Hymn #506

Ruth Watson Henderson

♪**PEACE GREETING**

One: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

♪**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND WORK

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Songs Without Words, op. 30, no. 1 in Eb Major*
Chris Taeyoung Kim, pianist

Felix Mendelssohn

♪THE OFFERTORY HYMN (All)

Old 100th

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low;
Give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

♪GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: Let us pray. (all seated)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER (all) (*Voices United*, p. 921)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

♪RECESSIONAL HYMN #655 *All My Hope on God Is Founded*

Michael

♪COMMISSIONING

♪BLESSING (All-please turn toward the centre)

Izumi Shiota



May the peace of Christ be with you. May the love of God dwell deep in your heart. May the



Spi-rit en-light-en your way. May you walk in the com-fort of God's care.

ORGAN POSTLUDE AND CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne

Dieterich Buxtehude



LEADING IN WORSHIP this morning are **The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea** and **The Rev. Dr. Paul Scott Wilson**. Reading the lessons is **Kenneth Younie**. The ministry of music is offered by the **Metropolitan Choir** conducted by the Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Michael Oldaker** and by Junior Organ Scholar **Timothy Wisnicki**. **Dr. Patricia Wright** is away and will return for Sunday, February 17.

CARRYING THE BANNER is **Janice Andrews**.
GREETERS are **Leesa Kopansky** and **Chris Hoover**.

USHERS are **Eva Breeze, Greg McMaster, Shari McMaster, and Ed Oikawa**.

The **Rev. Dr. Paul Scott Wilson** is Professor of Homiletics at Emmanuel College in the University of Toronto and the Toronto School of Theology. He is ordained in the United Church of Canada and has served several churches. A past president of the Academy of Homiletics, he is the author of many books on preaching, including two that won best book of the year awards. He lectures and preaches widely throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, and Canada. He is married to Deanna, who is also an ordained minister and they have three grown children and two grandchildren.

All are welcome to share in coffee and conversation after the service.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, February 4

10:00 a.m. Art Program Metropolitan Centre

Tuesday, February 5

6:00 p.m. Open Art Studio Metropolitan Centre
7:00 p.m. Silver Band rehearsal Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 6

7:00 a.m. OOTC Chop Chop Group Met Kitchen
6:00 p.m. Taize Service Sanctuary

Thursday, February 7

7:30 a.m. Prayer Breakfast Fran's Restaurant
11:00 a.m. OOTC Met Luncheon Metropolitan Centre
6:30 p.m. Metropolitan Handbells Nursery
6:30 p.m. Metropolitan Choir Chancel Room

Friday, February 8

10:00 a.m. Art Program Metropolitan Centre

Saturday, February 9

8:30 a.m. Breakfast Bible Study Flanders Library

NEXT SUNDAY: February 10 *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

9:30 a.m. Communion Service in the Founders' Chapel
"Here I Am, Send Me"
The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea

9:45 a.m. Metropolitan Sparklers and Choristers Met Centre

10:00 a.m. Library Open (re-opens 12:15 p.m.)

11:00 a.m. Morning Service and Church School
"High Calling"

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Hardy

Isaiah 6:1-8; I Corinthians 15: 1-11; Luke 5:1-11

12:15 p.m. *Great Heart*

Sanctuary

Ministry changes

Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair's new title, Minister Emeritus, came into effect on Feb. 1, 2019, after his recent retirement from being Metropolitan's Minister of the Congregation. The Minister Emeritus designation is honorary, indicating that he is retired and the high esteem in which he is held, with any expectations or privileges to be worked out after a year has passed, as stipulated by the United Church of Canada.

Rev. Bruce Misener has been appointed a Voluntary Associate Minister at Metropolitan, effective February 1, 2019. Rev. Bruce Misener will be assisting primarily in performing marriages.

MINISTRY OF INTEGRATED ARTS

DONATIONS NEEDED: The Visual and Creative Arts Committee is accepting donations of wool and yarn, knitting needles, patterns or other supplies. If you should find yourself with extra, please consider dropping it off in the church office. *Thank you.*

Music at Metropolitan brochures are available in the Narthex and on the Met Connect table. We have five concerts in the winter/spring season, and our next concert is on **Saturday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m.** with Ariel Harwood-Jones, Valeria Kondrashov, and instrumentalists including *Musicians on the Edge* presenting Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* and other Neapolitan masters. Admission is \$20, and tickets are on sale from Muriel Cairns after the service.

Concert date change: Please note that our May 5 concert ("Barbara") with Charles Davidson has been changed to **Saturday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m.**

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

MET CARE invites interested people to join the committee. Our work involves keeping in touch with those who are sick or bereaved or having other problems. Each member is involved in a "caring" capacity with a member(s) of the congregation and occasionally beyond. We are moving our meeting time to an evening one: 7:00 p.m. in the Flanders Library on the third Wednesday of each month. We hope that this will entice those who are busy in the day to join us! Please contact William Wright (wrightmcawley@gmail.com) for more information.

PANCAKE MARDI GRAS BRUNCH on **Sunday, March 3, at 12:15 p.m.** in the Met Centre. All are welcome! We invite you to join the Lunch Preparation team. Please register at the Met Connect table. We prepare Friday, March 1 and Saturday, March 2 from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **RSVP The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea.**

OUTREACH

YOUR HOMEMADE COOKIES ARE NEEDED FOR OOTC - Cookie Bakers make possible a much-loved addition to the Thursday meals. Tins are available in the Narthex and your cookie donations can be returned there. Thank you!

OUT OF THE COLD VOLUNTEERS: We're asking for volunteers to help with early morning food preparation on Wednesdays and also on Thursdays at noon to help with clean-up, dishes, etc. Please contact **Kathy Priestman** at **416-691-5808**.

The Out of the Cold Program also needs a driver with a car to pick up bread each Wednesday at 8 p.m. (Bloor and Spadina area) and deliver it to the church on Thursday morning. Please contact Marg McIntosh at 416-934-0595 or marg.mcintosh@rogers.com.

SPIRITUAL LEARNING FOR LIFE

FLANDERS LIBRARY: 'The Trumpet of the Swan' is a children's novel by E.B. White, author of 'Stuart Little'. You can read this book to your children and grandchildren. The Library is open 10:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:15-1:00 p.m. every Sunday.

FAITH THROUGH ACTION

METROPOLITAN'S MEMORIAL FUND: Thank you for remembering loved ones with a gift to our congregation's Memorial Fund. Gifts are used to enhance our sanctuary and to build the church's endowment fund.

MAKING THINGS EASIER! Are you using the green visitor envelopes for your weekly offering or putting money directly on the plate? Please consider formalizing your giving to Metropolitan through weekly offering envelopes, giving by bank deduction, or by credit card. Giving will be easier for you and you will also receive a receipt for income tax purposes at year end. Please contact Elena at (416) 363-0331, ext. 29; elenap@metunited.ca. Thank you for your generous support.

CHANGES, CONSTANTS: Staff change, programs evolve, and opportunities arise. All the while, our church remains a constant beacon of light and hope in downtown Toronto. Your legacy gift to Metropolitan will help our church face the future with confidence and additional financial resources for ongoing ministry. Thank you for remembering Metropolitan United Church with a gift in your will. For information, please contact Doug Flanders (416) 769-2746; email dougflanders@sympatico.ca ***A legacy — It's ours to leave.***

Think of giving not as a duty but as a privilege. — John D. Rockefeller Jr.

Scented Products can aggravate health problems for some people. Please avoid the use of perfume or other scented products. Thank you for your cooperation.

DIRECTORY

Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair

Minister of Congregational Care and Development: The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea, ext. 24

Voluntary Associate Minister: The Rev. Bruce Misener

Teachers: Karlos Griffith (karlosgriffith@rogers.com), Johnvac Abraham

Library: Marion Lick (library@metunited.ca) and Maureen Maguire (vigrass78@gmail.com)

Community Outreach Ministry

Manager of Community Services: Laura Awosanya (lauraa@metunited.ca)

Outreach and Housing Worker: Megan Carver, ext. 21 (housingworker@metunited.ca)

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 26 (patw@metunited.ca)

Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar: Michael Oldaker

Junior Organ Scholar: Timothy Wisnicki

Metropolitan Choir Lead Singers: Gisele Kulak, Chelsea Van Pelt, Valeria Kondrashov, Chris Taeyoung Kim, Charles Davidson, Benjamin Stein, Nicholas Higgs, John Schneider

Director, *Great Heart* Youth Ensemble: Benjamin Stein

Conductor, *Metropolitan Sparklers*: Dr. Jennifer Martyn

Carillonneur: Roy Lee

Carillonneur Emeritus: James Slater

Director, Metropolitan Silver Band: Fran Harvey

Administrative Ministry

Director of Administration: Jane Tuomi, ext. 35 (janelt@metunited.ca)

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Metropolitan United Church

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