

Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

the downtown church for a diverse city

*those who lived in a land of deep darkness
on them light has shined.*

~ Isaiah 9:2

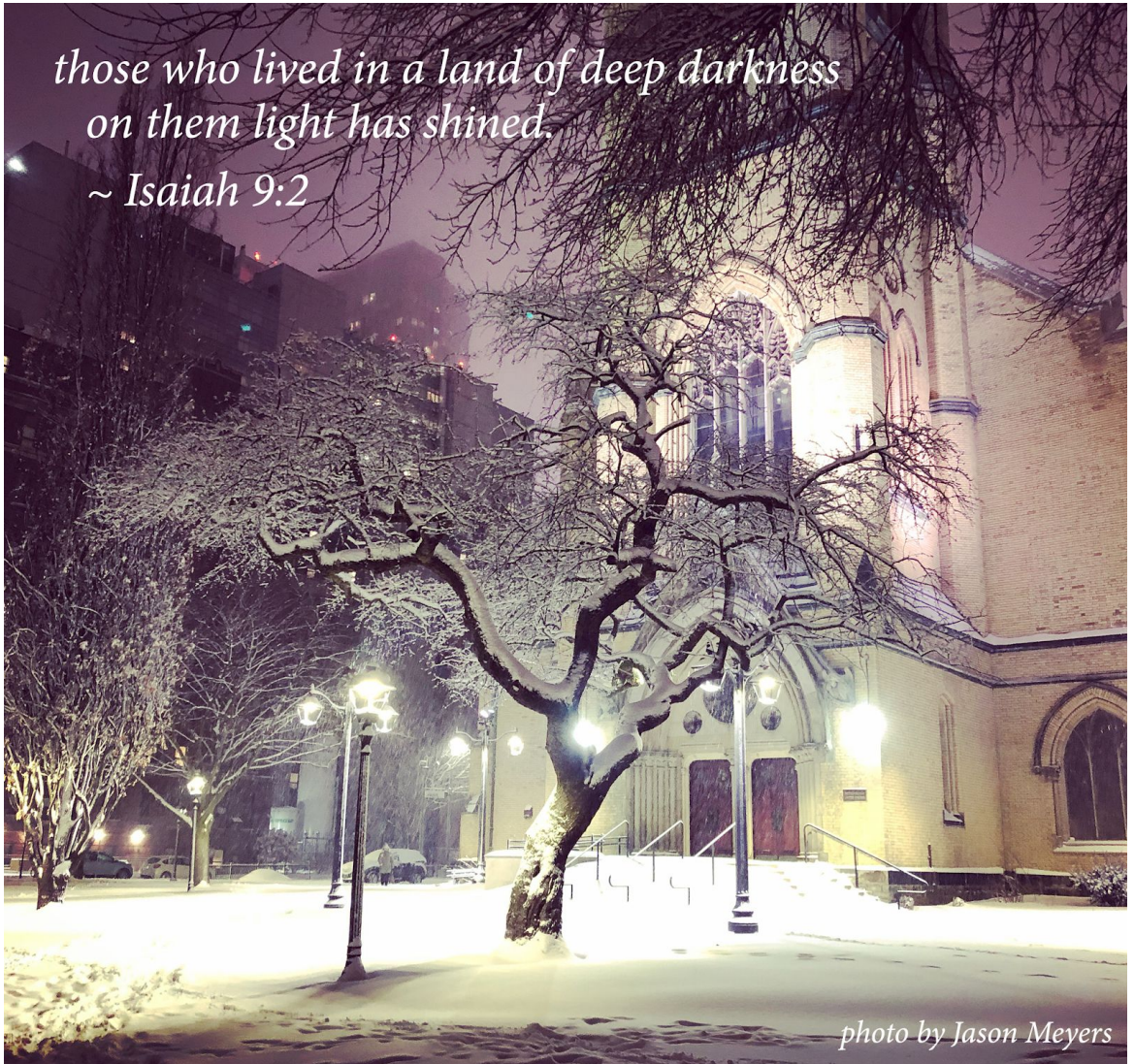


photo by Jason Meyers

Sunday, January 26, 2020 **Third Sunday after Epiphany**

We are an Affirming Congregation, offering welcome and companionship
to all, regardless of orientation or designation.

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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

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

CARILLON PRELUDE (outside)

ORGAN PRELUDE *Prelude and Fugue in A Minor* J. S. Bach
 Christ, You Are the Day and Light Johann Pachelbel
 O Jesus Christ, True Light Helmut Walcha

♪PROCESSIONAL HYMN #879 *The Race That Long in Darkness Pined* Dunfermline

♪INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: We gather as God's beloved children –

All: Carrying whatever we carry with us today.

One: We come together as a people whom Jesus calls into community –

All: So this becomes a place where all are welcome.

One: We have come to give thanks, to pray and sing, to be with others –

All: Let us worship God.

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. (all seated)

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

KYRIE ELEISON (ALL) #69 *MORE VOICES* *Kyrie eleison (God have mercy)* Kervin

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

♪ACT OF PRAISE (All) p. 895 *Voices United*

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high! Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high!

And on earth peace to the people in whom God is well pleased.

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READINGS Isaiah 9:1–4; 1 Corinthians 1:10–18

ANTHEM “Lead, Kindly Light” from *Eternal Light: A Requiem* Howard Goodall
 Text at Hymn #640

GOSPEL READING Matthew 4:12–23

ONE: This is the witness of the good news of Jesus Christ.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH TIME

All children and youth are invited to follow their teachers to Sunday School in the MET Centre.

♪HYMN #563 *Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

Pescador de Hombres

SERMON TURN, TURN, TURN.

REV. JASON MEYERS

ANTHEM *'Tis Winter Now*

Paul Halley

'Tis winter now; the fallen snow has left the heavens all coldly clear; through leafless boughs the sharp winds blow, and all the earth lies dead and drear. And yet God's love is not withdrawn; His life within the keen air breathes; His beauty paints the crimson dawn, and clothes the boughs with glittering wreaths. And though abroad the sharp winds blow, and skies are chill, and frosts are keen, home closer draws her circle now, and warmer glows her light within. O God! Who gives the winter's cold, as well as summer's joyous rays, us warmly in thy love enfold, and keep us through life's wintry days. Samuel Longfellow

♪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 SOLO "Benedictus" from *Kleine Orgelmesse*

Franz Josef Haydn

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Chelsea Van Pelt, soprano

♪OFFERTORY HYMN #518, verse 3

Forest Green

**With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to you,
Not just to serve your cause, but share your love with neighbours too.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your son,
Help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

♪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 #681

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Fulda

♪COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

♪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

Choral Song

Samuel Sebastian Wesley



LEADING IN WORSHIP this morning are **The Rev. Karen Bowles** and **The Rev. Jason Meyers**. Reading the lessons is **Greg McMaster**. The ministry of music is offered by the **Metropolitan Choir** conducted by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, and by the Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Timothy Wisnicki**.

CARRYING THE BANNER is **Marc Tremblay**.

GREETERS are **Doug Flanders** and **Jane Litherland**.

USHERS are **Alan Cotterill**, **Sarah Cotterill**, **Roy Tomlinson**, and **Kenneth Younie**.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tuesday, January 28

12:10 – 12:30 p.m.

Midday Prayer Service

Sanctuary

6:30 p.m.

Open Art Studio and Knitting Circle

MET Centre

7:30 p.m.

Metropolitan Silver Band Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Wednesday, January 29

7:00 a.m.	Out of the Cold Chop Chop	MET Kitchen
8:30 a.m.	Prayer Breakfast at Fran's	200 Victoria Street
12:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study (email Rev. Bowles for details)	Online

Thursday, January 30

11:00 a.m.	Out of the Cold Luncheon	MET Centre
12:10 – 1:00 p.m.	Yoga Church	Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Handbells Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Friday, January 31

10:30 a.m.	Open Art Studio	MET Centre
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Saturday, February 1

9:00 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Study	Flanders Library
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NEXT SUNDAY: February 2 Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

9:00 a.m.	Early Communion Service	Founders' Chapel
9:45 a.m.	Choristers and Sparklers	MET Centre
10:00 a.m.	Library Open (re-opens 12:15 p.m.)	
11:00 a.m.	Morning Service and Church School Rev. Karen Bowles, 'The Practical and the Paraprodikian' Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; John 1:29-42	Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	Great Heart	Sanctuary

STAY CONNECTED: Sign up for the MET Connect weekly e-newsletter for up-to-date worship, event and programming news. Fill out a form at the MET Connect table, or just visit metunited.ca. We're also on Facebook, Instagram (@metropolitanunitedto) and Vimeo.

MINISTRY OF INTEGRATED ARTS

METROPOLITAN CHOIR BAKE-A-THON happened yesterday morning, and choir members will happily collect your pledges. The cookies benefit our Out of the Cold lunches, and the money supports our annual Good Friday concert. Thank you for your support!

CHORISTERS, SPARKLERS, and GREAT HEART are rehearsing on Sundays and accept new children and youth at any time - please speak with Dr. Patricia Wright for more information.

K@MP- Kids at Met Performing - our arts day camp for ages 4-teens will be held August 31-September 4. We have a limit of 30 children total in three age groups, corresponding to Sparklers, Choristers, and Great Heart, and our own children have priority. Please contact Dr. Patricia Wright to register (exact information regarding fees, subsidies, etc. will be available soon).

OPEN STUDIO ARTS: (drawing, painting with acrylics, pencil, pastel - some supplies provided) Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the MET Centre (knitting also offered, basic supplies provided) Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the MET Centre - *All Are Welcome!*

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

NEXTGEN EVENT: Attention young people (and the young-at-heart): Join us at the Imperial Pub (2nd floor) on Thursday, January 30 at 6:30 p.m. for fellowship, discussion and refreshments. Email RSVP to andrew.mcgee@crowesoberman.com

AFFIRM GROUP BRUNCH: The Affirm Group is hosting a brunch on Sunday, February 2 at 1:00 p.m. at the Duke of Richmond Restaurant, located at the south end of the Eaton Centre. A great opportunity for LGBTQ2+ members to get together. Everyone who attends Met is welcome. Please RSVP to Jim Nixon at jnixon4411@hotmail.com. We'll meet at coffee hour and walk over together. The next set date is Sunday, May 24.

USHERS NEEDED: We need volunteers to serve as ushers for the first or fourth Sunday in the month. You may speak to William Wright, Usher Marshall, following the service or email at wrightmcawley@gmail.com.

MET INVESTMENT POLICY WORKING TEAM: Please contact Alan Cotterill of the Trustees at Cotterillalan@icloud.com if interested in volunteering for the working team to review the MET Investment Policy.

MET CONNECT TABLE: Are you helpful and like to sit behind tables? Volunteers are needed to staff the MET Connect Table in the coming months. Please sign up at... the MET Connect Table.

OUTREACH

A CALL TO COOKIE BAKERS: Our Out of the Cold luncheons are now running again for the season. If you provide homemade cookies you will be an important part of the love that we try to extend to our guests. Tins are in the Narthex this morning. Next Sunday, leave your cookies there. Many thanks.

THE COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM: is looking for a one-time donation of electronics in good working condition to assist a community member stabilize in their new home. Desired items include a DVD player, television, computer or tablet, and phone - cell or landline. Please contact our Community Service Worker, Stephanie Cunti prior to donation at csw@metunited.ca or 416-363-0331 ext. 241. Community Services is also specifically in need of unused deodorant, razors and shaving cream. Please contact our Housing Worker, Megan Carver at housingworker@metunited.ca or 416-363-0331 ext. 221.

SPIRITUAL LEARNING FOR LIFE

YOUTH CANOE TRIP: Gibimishakaadimin ("we paddle forward together") is a five-year project of reconciliation launched as a direct outcome of the recommendations of the TRC Report. Now going into its fourth year, it brings together Indigenous youth - literally from coast to coast to coast - together with non-Indigenous youth from the Toronto area in the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation. All participant costs are funded by area United Churches and the wider church.

From August 21 to August 29, a total of 20 youth ages 14 to 18, with three young adults in training, will embark on nine days and eight nights of learning about each other and the richness of Indigenous cultural and community histories. This journey of paddling together and fostering relationships through a canoe trip and experiential learning on both land and water will take place deep in the heart of the Canadian Shield. Contact Rev. Karen Bowles for more information.

FLANDERS LIBRARY: The Library regularly adds new books to our collection. This month 11 new books appeared in the library's catalogue. One of these books is "A History of the Bible: The Story of the World's Most Influential Book" by John Barton. The Library is open 10:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:15-1:00 p.m. every Sunday. Don't forget that the library catalogue is available online - visit the Library page!

FAITH FORMATION: Met is looking for a Youth and Children Animator to lead the Sunday school and youth program. If you know of anyone who is excited about Christian leadership and working with this age group, please contact Rev. Karen Bowles or download the position description from the news section of the website.

CALM COMMUNITY FOR A BUSY CITY

Midday Service of Prayer and Healing - Tuesdays 12:10 to 12:30 p.m.

Yoga Church - Thursdays 12:10 to 1:00 p.m.

SCRIPTURE READINGS AND HYMNS: Large-print copies of today's scripture and hymns are available at the back of the sanctuary.

THE SHARING OF OUR ABUNDANCE

THANK YOU! On behalf of Metropolitan's Official Board, *thank you* for your generous and ongoing gifts to our many ministries in 2019. Your gifts help to transform lives. The church will be sending receipts for income tax purposes soon. Again, our sincere thanks for your support.

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING (PAR): Many of Metropolitan's donors use Pre-Authorized Giving (PAR), which enables you to give monthly by bank deduction or credit card. It's easy to arrange and a convenient way to support our work. If this is of interest to you, please contact Elena in the church office at (416) 363-0331, ext. 229 or elenap@metunited.org.

I HAVE REMEMBERED METROPOLITAN: Recently, a generous friend confirmed a future legacy gift for Metropolitan's ministry of music. You too may designate an estate gift of any amount to any area of our congregation's work. It is an easy yet effective way to make a lasting difference. Please call Doug Flanders at (416) 769-2746 or email dougflanders@sympatico.ca **A legacy—it's ours to leave.**

If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one. — Mother Teresa

The Official Board of Metropolitan United Church deeply appreciates your financial gifts. We strive to honour our donors' wishes at all times. When gifts are designated for a specific purpose and the need for that purpose has been fulfilled, your Board will redirect surplus gifts to the closest alternative or the area of greatest need. Thank you again for supporting Metropolitan.

DIRECTORY

Intentional Interim Lead Minister: The Rev. Karen Bowles, ext. 227 (karenb@metunited.ca)
Minister of Congregational Care: The Rev. Jason Meyers, ext. 224 (jasonm@metunited.ca)
Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 226 (patw@metunited.ca)
Voluntary Associate Minister: The Rev. Bruce Misener, ext. 255 (officialat@metunited.ca)
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair
Chair of the Official Board: Kenneth Younie (chair@metunited.ca)
Teachers: Karlos Griffith (karlosgriffith@rogers.com), Johnvac Abraham
Library: Marion Lick (library@metunited.ca) and Maureen Maguire (vigrass78@gmail.com)

Community Outreach Ministry

Outreach and Housing Worker: Megan Carver, ext. 221 (housingworker@metunited.ca)
Community Service Worker: Stephanie Cunti, ext. 241 (csw@metunited.ca)

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 226 (patw@metunited.ca)
Wayne C. Vance 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
Director, Metropolitan Silver Band: Fran Harvey

Administrative Ministry

Director of Administration: Jane Tuomi, ext. 222 (janelt@metunited.ca)
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