

# Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

the downtown church for a diverse city



Saint Paul delivering the Aeropagus Sermon in Athens (B. Tisi)

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

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

**PRELUDE**     *Sarabande in D Minor*  
Dr. Jennifer Martyn, violin

J. S. Bach

### WELCOME

**OPENING HYMN #264**     *Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise*

St. Denio

### INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Come to worship, people of God, with praises on your lips.

**All: Even when we are feeling isolated and fearful,  
we can reach towards the One who will always take our hands.**

One: Come into the presence of the One who makes holy  
every place and every space.

**All: Even as we stay in our homes,  
the doors of grace are opened wide for us.**

One: Come and hear the stories of the One who loves you.

**All: We will sing our songs and tell the tales  
of peace, of hope and of love.**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray.

### PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

### SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

**KYRIE (ALL) #68 More Voices**

Guarani song, arr. Sosa

O God have mercy, O God have mercy, O God have mercy, have mercy on us.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**ACT OF PRAISE (All) #59 More Voices**

Yoruba song (Nigeria)

Alleluia, praise to God (twice); Praises, high praises we bring you, O God.

Alleluia praise to God.

Songs of joy sing out to God. (twice) Dancing and singing, we praise you, O God.

Songs of joy sing out to God.

Beat the drums, sing out to God. (twice) Praises, high praises, we bring you, O God.

Beat the drums, sing out to God.

### READING

Acts 17:22-31

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### ANTHEM *If Ye Love Me*

Thomas Tallis

Gisele Kulak, soprano; Chris Taeyoung-Kim, alto; Charles Davidson, tenor;  
John Schneider, bass

### GOSPEL READING

John 14:15-21

### SERMON

#### PAN PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

The Rev. Karen Bowles

### SOLO *Morgen*

Richard Strauss

And tomorrow the sun will shine again  
And on the way which I shall follow  
She will again unite us lucky ones  
As all around us the earth breathes in the sun  
Slowly, silently, we will climb down  
To the wide beach and the blue waves  
In silence, we will look in each other's eyes  
And the mute stillness of happiness will sink upon us  
Charles Davidson, tenor; Robert Kinar, piano

### 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.**

#### CLOSING HYMN #678 *For the Healing of the Nations*

Westminster Abbey

### COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

#### BLESSING #429

William Wright

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**    *Heartfelt Love Have I For You, O Lord*    J. Krebs

William Wright, played on the historic organ of the Wenceslas Church, Naumburg, Germany

**LEADING IN WORSHIP** this morning are **The Rev. Karen Bowles** and **The Rev. Jason Meyers**. The Children's Time is led by **Bailey Fleming** and reading the lesson is **Heather Walsh**. The ministry of music is offered by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, violinist **Dr. Jennifer Martyn**, organist **Dr. William Wright**, sopranos **Chelsea Van Pelt** and **Gisele Kulak**, alto **Chris Taeyoung Kim**, tenors **Charles Davidson** and **Benjamin Stein**, bass **John Schneider**, and pianist **Robert Kinar**.

### **Faith Formation News!**

Welcome Bailey Fleming as MET's **Animator for Children and Youth Ministries**. Bailey comes to us as part of the **GO Project**, a United Church of Canada children and youth program that seeks to empower young people to be faithful change-makers in their communities.

Bailey has been involved with the GO Project for three years working with children and youth across the country. She currently lives in Toronto where she loves to explore the city, spend time with friends, and hang out at the beach! In addition to her work with GO, she has extensive experience working with children and youth through United Church ministry, summer camps, global exchange programs, and as a youth activities counsellor on a cruise line! She is looking forward to connecting with the MET community, building relationships with children and families, and supporting GO's mission of peace and justice. Through her time with MET she hopes to bring new ideas and enthusiasm to our programs and can't wait to make lasting connections and memories.

Over the past 13 years, The GO Project has been engaging communities across the country to help make the world a better place through mission, activism, justice, and peace. Through both summer camps and year-round programming, The GO Project has worked with and inspired young people to realize their gifts and explore God's call in their own lives. All GO Project programs are safe and affirming spaces for participants, staff, and community members who identify as LGBTQ+, are of racial or cultural minorities, are questioning their faith, longing for a place to belong, and are of all physical and intellectual abilities. The GO Project is excited to begin a new partnership with Metropolitan United Church and can't wait to get to know everyone!

## PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

The church is closed to the public, but virtual Worship and programming are taking place. Please visit [metunited.ca](http://metunited.ca) for updates.

### Monday, May 18

Victoria Day Statutory Holiday

### Tuesday, May 19

**2:00 p.m.** Virtual Coffee Time *Zoom/Phone*

### Wednesday, May 20

**12:00 p.m.** Bible Study *Zoom*

**1:30 p.m.** MET Care *Zoom*

### Thursday, May 21

**12:00 p.m.** Yoga/Meditation *Zoom*

**7:00 p.m.** Choir/Handbells Meeting *Zoom*

**8:00 p.m.** Evening Communion *Zoom/Phone*

### NEXT SUNDAY: May 24, Seventh Sunday of Easter

**11:00 a.m.** Virtual Worship via Facebook Premiere and YouTube  
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11  
The Rev. Jason Meyers

### STAY CONNECTED

Full updates around Covid-19 can be found on the homepage at [metunited.ca](http://metunited.ca). Past sermons and livestreams are also available under the Worship menu.

Sign up for the MET Connect weekly e-newsletter via our homepage for up-to-date news. We're also on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), and [Vimeo](#).

## PASTORAL CARE

Rev. Bowles and Rev. Meyers are connecting with many members and are determining the needs of our community in this challenging time. If you would like a pastoral phone call you can contact Karen at [karenb@metunited.ca](mailto:karenb@metunited.ca) (416-670-1902) or Jason at [jasonm@metunited.ca](mailto:jasonm@metunited.ca) (416-363-0331 ext. 224).

## COMMUNITY SERVICES MINISTRY

The Outreach team continues to respond to the needs of our community physically and spiritually. We are following a model that provides income to small businesses in the downtown core while meeting the needs of the community: **400 prepared meals/week** to the drop-in at All Saints Church prepared by two catering companies, **take-out meals** accessible by funded chits from three restaurants in our community, and soon we will introduce a similar chit system at **local laundromats**. Additionally, our community service workers, Megan and Stephanie, are buying and delivering groceries, providing grocery cards and meeting with folks, taking appropriate precautions.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

A group of dedicated folks is keeping in touch with all those in our community and are continuing to reach out offering help where needed. Tech help is being provided.

## STAFF

Administrative staff are working remotely but are still available by phone and email, so don't hesitate to be in touch.

## DONATIONS DURING THIS TIME

The work of Metropolitan continues. While we cannot collect offerings in person, there remain easy ways to contribute - through our [Canada Helps page](#), or by mailing in envelopes and/or cheques to the church.

You can also arrange for pre-authorized remittance for regular giving (PAR) from your bank account, or credit card - just [download and fill out a form](#) via the website. If you have any questions, please contact Elena Pejcinovska, Financial Manager at [elenap@metunited.ca](mailto:elenap@metunited.ca) or 416-363-0331 ext. 229.

We are grateful for your on-going support through this difficult time.

*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](mailto:karenb@metunited.ca))  
Minister of Congregational Care: The Rev. Jason Meyers, ext. 224 ([jasonm@metunited.ca](mailto:jasonm@metunited.ca))  
Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 226 ([patw@metunited.ca](mailto:patw@metunited.ca))  
Voluntary Associate Minister: The Rev. Bruce Misener, ext. 255 ([officiant@metunited.ca](mailto:officiant@metunited.ca))  
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair  
Chair of the Official Board: Kenneth Younie ([chair@metunited.ca](mailto:chair@metunited.ca))  
Children & Youth Ministries Animator: Bailey Fleming ([bailey@thegoproject.ca](mailto:bailey@thegoproject.ca))  
Teachers: Karlos Griffith ([karlosgriffith@rogers.com](mailto:karlosgriffith@rogers.com)), Johnavac Abraham  
Library: Marion Lick ([library@metunited.ca](mailto:library@metunited.ca)) and Maureen Maguire ([vigrass78@gmail.com](mailto:vigrass78@gmail.com))

### Community Outreach Ministry

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

### Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 226 ([patw@metunited.ca](mailto: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](mailto:janelt@metunited.ca))  
Office Administrator: Sheela Taylor, ext. 210 ([sheelat@metunited.ca](mailto:sheelat@metunited.ca))  
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