

Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

the downtown church for a diverse city



Double Helix, Stockphoto

Second Sunday after Pentecost Blessing of the Animals

June 14, 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 *Aria in G major* Georg Philipp Telemann
 played by Eve Gilady
 Atacama Desert Wynn-Anne Rossi
 played by Madeleine Gilady

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN #409 *Morning Has Broken* Bunessan

INVITATION TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

One: Called to be faithful stewards of creation, we come to worship:

All: to sing to the One who has created all that is good, beautiful, and true.

One: Called to be disciples of Jesus, we come to worship:

All: to follow the One who meets us where we are and how we are.

One: Called to be inspired by the Spirit, we come to worship:

All: to be taught by the One who moves in and through us, as we serve the world.

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

KYRIE (ALL) #69 *More Voices Kyrie eleison (God have mercy)* Kervin

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ACT OF PRAISE (All) #104 *More Voices* Trad., Congo
 Mungu, ni mwema, mungu ni mwema, mungu ni mwema, ni mwema, ni mwema.
 Know that God is good, Know that God is good,
 Know that God is good, God is good, God is good.

READING Genesis 1:1-25

CHILDREN'S TIME

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

ANTHEM *Look at the World* John Rutter
 Members of the Metropolitan Choir and Choristers - from *Look at the World* CD recording

recorded in May and June of 2006, Ryan Jackson (then Assistant Organist), piano

Fifteen members of the 2006 choir continue in the 2020 choir; one member of the youth ensemble (then named CIC-*Concentus Iuventarum*) is now in the adult choir; the ten Choristers are now young adults! Ryan Jackson is now Director of Music of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City.

READING Genesis 1:26-2:4a

SERMON “IN THE OFFING”
 The Rev. Karen Bowles

SOLO *The Eagle and Me* Harold Arlen

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING

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.

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:

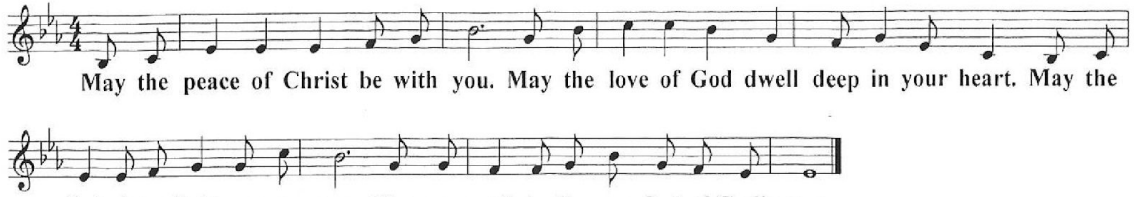
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *More Voices #10* *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom* Madeleine

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

BLESSING

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.

POSTLUDE *This is My Father's World*

arr. William Himes

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 **Fran Harvey**. The ministry of music is offered by **Choristers Eve** and **Madeleine Gilady**, members of the **Metropolitan Silver Band**, Members of the **Metropolitan Choir**, Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, bass John Schneider, soprano **Chelsea Van Pelt**, alto **Chris Taeyoung Kim**, tenor **Charles Davidson**, and **Benjamin Stein**, drummer.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

The church is closed to the public, but virtual Worship and programming are taking place.

Tuesday, June 16

- 2:00 p.m. Virtual Coffee Time Zoom/Phone [link here](#)
7:00 p.m. Congregational Care Committee Meeting Zoom

Wednesday, June 17

- 12:00 p.m. Bible Study Zoom [link here](#)
5:30 p.m. Board Meeting Zoom

Thursday, June 18

- 12:00 pm Yoga/Meditation Zoom [link here](#)
7:00 pm Choir/Handbells Meeting Zoom
8:00 pm Evening Communion Zoom/Phone [link here](#)

NEXT SUNDAY: June 21 Third Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 a.m. Virtual Worship via Facebook and YouTube
Philippians 4:4-9, John 1:1-18 / The Rev. Leigh Kern preaches and the Peace and Social Justice committee leads on Reconciliation Sunday

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TODAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP: 1-2:30PM

Our AGM will be held via Zoom and telephone (access details were provided by email on Wednesday). If participating online, registration is necessary prior to the meeting, [here](#). Technical assistance can be provided - please contact Vinoth Thanganadan, Technical Administrator, or Rev. Jason Meyers.

STAY CONNECTED

Full updates around Covid-19 can be found on the homepage at 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 (416-670-1902) or Jason at 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 and are available by phone/email - 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 or 416-363-0331 ext. 229.

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.

BROADVIEW MAGAZINE—TIME TO SUBSCRIBE, TIME TO RENEW!

Thank you for subscribing to *Broadview* magazine. Formerly known as The United Church Observer, the revamped format has been highly successful and the magazine continues to be a great read.

June is our *Broadview* subscription renewal month at Metropolitan when subscriptions come due on our congregation's group subscription plan at the bargain rate of **\$25 per year**. Anyone who receives the magazine may renew as follows:

- Online at www.metunited.ca by clicking on the Donate tab at top
- E-transfer to donations@metunited.ca
- Contacting Elena in the church office at 416-363-0331, ext. 229 or elenap@metunited.ca for renewal by credit card
- Mail to the church at 56 Queen Street E., Toronto, ON M5C 2Z3

Given that the church building is currently closed due to the pandemic, please let Doug Flanders, our congregation's *Broadview* representative know at dougflanders@sympatico.ca or 416-769-2746 if you wish to renew or not. For renewals, thank you for getting your subscription payment to the church as you can and before the end of this calendar year. If you could afford a few extra dollars beyond \$25, your "over and above" gift would help cover the cost of the gift subscription to *Broadview* that Metropolitan automatically gives to each new household.

A number have received the magazine this past year as a gift from the church because you were a recent new member. We encourage you to continue with a paid subscription of your own.

If you have already renewed, *thank you!*

And if you would like to subscribe to this thoughtful, well-written, award-winning magazine, let Doug Flanders know.

DIRECTORY

Intentional Interim Lead Minister: The Rev. Karen Bowles, ext. 227 (karenb@metunited.ca)
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Teachers: Karlos Griffith (karlosgriffith@rogers.com), Johnnavac Abraham
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Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 226 (patw@metunited.ca)
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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

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