

Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

the downtown church for a diverse city



Jesus Mural of Faith, Hope, Love, and Peace, Chicago, IL

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 24, 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 *Offertory on 'Slane'*

William France

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN #679 *Let There Be Light*

Concord

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: At the presence of God, we rejoice:

All: glorifying the One who is Parent of all orphans.

One: In the presence of Jesus Christ, we listen:

All: to the Voice who calls us to humbly serve others.

One: Through the presence of the Holy Spirit, we speak:

All: making God's love known to the world-forsaken in our midst.

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 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

SPARKLER SOLO *Wren's Song*

Anna Laura Page

Hermione Martyn and Dr. Jennifer Martyn

CHILDREN'S TIME

SOLO *Hilariter/God is Ascended*

German, 16th-17th c.

Benjamin Stein, tenor

READING 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

SERMON **IT IS STILL EASTER**

The Rev. Jason Meyers

VIDEO Canticle of the Turning (MV#120)

Edited by Bri-anne Swan

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING

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 Let Streams of Living Justice – William Whitla to Thaxted

Let streams of living justice flow down upon the earth.
Give freedom's light to captives; let all the poor have worth.
The hungry's hands are pleading; the workers claim their rights,
The mourners long for laughter, the blinded seek for sight.
Make liberty a beacon, strike down the iron power.
Abolish ancient vengeance. Proclaim your people's hour.

For healing of the nations, for peace that will not end.
For love that makes us lovers, God grant us grace to mend.
Weave our varied gifts together: knit our lives as they are spun.
On your loom of time enrol us till the thread of life is run.
O great Weaver of our fabric, bind church and world in one.
Dye our texture with your radiance, light our colours with your sun.

Your city's built to music: we are the stones you seek.
Your harmony is language. We are the words you speak.
Our faith we find in service, our hope in other's dreams.
Our love in hand of neighbour. Our homeland brightly gleams.
Inscribe our hearts with justice, your way – the path untried:
Your truth – the heart of stranger, your life – the Crucified.
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COMMISSIONING AND BENECTION

BLESSING #429

William Wright

**May the blessing of God be upon you.
May God's love light all your way.
May the grace of Christ enfold you and peace around you stay.
May the Spirit of God dwell within you.
May you live in joy each day.**

BAND POSTLUDE *Old Time Religion* In memory of Paul Minnoch

arr. Piet Hamers

LEADING IN WORSHIP this morning are **The Rev. Karen Bowles**, **The Rev. Jason Meyers**, and **Bri-Anne Swan**. The Children's Time is led by **Bailey Fleming** and reading the lesson is **Jeff Laitar**. The ministry of music is offered by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, Metropolitan Sparkler **Hermione Martyn** and **Dr. Jennifer Martyn**, soprano **Gisele Kulak**, and tenors **Charles Davidson** and **Benjamin Stein**.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

Tuesday, May 26

2:00 p.m. Virtual Coffee Time *Zoom/Phone* [link here](#)

Wednesday, May 27

12:00 p.m. Bible Study Zoom [link here](#)

6:00 p.m. Board Meeting Zoom

Thursday, May 28

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: May 31 Pentecost Sunday

11:00 a.m. Virtual Worship via Facebook Premiere and YouTube

Acts 17:22-31; John 14:15-21 / The Rev. Karen Bowles preaches

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.



DIRECTORY

Intentional Interim Lead Minister: The Rev. Karen Bowles, ext. 227 (karenb@metunited.ca)
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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

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