

# Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

the downtown church for a diverse city



*'Comfort ye my people' by Vera Taylor*

## First Sunday in Advent

**November 29, 2020**

We are an Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada, 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

### CARILLON PRELUDE (OUTSIDE-10:30 A.M.)

PRELUDE	<i>Sleepers, Wake! The Watch are Calling</i>	Paul Manz
	<i>Redeemer of the Nations, Come</i>	J. S. Bach
	<i>Sleepers, Wake! The Watch Are Calling</i>	J. S. Bach
	<i>Redeemer of the Nations, Come and God's Son is Come</i>	J. S. Bach
	<i>O Come, O Come Emmanuel</i>	Flor Peeters

### WELCOME

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: Advent is a season of waiting: waiting for the hope, peace, joy, and love of God to break into our lives anew through the story of the birth of Jesus, and through acts of hope, peace, joy, and love.

Advent is a season of lighting candles; lighting candles for the hope, peace, joy, and love for which

we wait. Today we light the first candle, the candle of hope.

**All: We wait – We wait not because we do not know the story of Jesus, and not because you are not already and always here. We wait because to wait is to expect something more. To wait is to expect that the story might enter our hearts and our world in new ways, to bring the change for which we long.**

One: As we light the candle of hope, we remember the stories of God with us, when life has been hard, and not what we expected.

**All: We can trust that God is with us, as we wait for hope to be born, anew, in us.**

#### SUNG RESPONSE HYMN #7

Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright.

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

#### OPENING HYMN #1 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Veni Emmanuel

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 2 O come, O Wisdom from on high, who orders all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. R
- 3 O come, O come, great God of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. R
- 4 O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, from every foe deliver them  
that trust your mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave. R
- 5 O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. R
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. R

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;  
O bid our sad divisions cease, and be for us the Prince of Peace. R

### INVITATION TO **WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH**

One: In this uncertain season of Advent, we wait.

**All: Hoping, hoping God is coming to us.**

One: In the vagueness of these days, we try to listen.

**All: Hoping, hoping the Word will be whispered to us.**

One: In the weariness of our times, we wait, we listen, we watch.

**All: Hoping, hoping the Spirit will be found in our midst.**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray.

### PRAYER OF **CONFESSION**

### SILENCE FOR **PRIVATE PRAYER**

### ADVENT **KYRIE ELEISON**

P. Wright

### ASSURANCE OF **PARDON**

**READING** Isaiah 64:1-9  
'We are all the work of Your hand.'

### CHILDREN'S **TIME**

**GOSPEL READING** Mark 13:24-37  
'Keep Awake.'

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

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

### **HYMN #2** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Stuttgart

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free:  
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.

2 Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

3 Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a king;  
born to reign in us for ever; now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

SOLO *For behold, darkness shall cover the earth*  
*The people who walked in darkness from Messiah*

G. F. Handel

**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. (please be seated)**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****OFFERING****DEDICATION OF 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)

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER****ADVENT SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS**

P. Wright

**CONSECRATION****AGNUS DEI****INVITATION****POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**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 #25** *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending*

Helmsley

- 1 Lo, he comes with clouds descending, see the Lamb for sinners slain!  
Thousand, thousand saints attending join to sing the glad refrain:  
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! God appears on earth to reign.
- 2 Every eye shall then behold you, robed in awesome majesty;  
all who jeered, and mocked, and sold you, pierced, and nailed you to the tree,  
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving, shall the true Messiah see.
- 3 Now redemption, long expected see in solemn pomp appear;  
all the saints, by us rejected, thrill the trumpet sound to hear:  
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah! See the day of God appear!
- 4 Yea! Amen! Let all adore you, high on your eternal throne;  
crowns and empires fall before you, claim the kingdom for your own:  
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly! Everlasting Christ, come down.

**COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE** *Redeemer of the Nations, Come*

J. S. Bach

**LEADING IN WORSHIP** are **The Rev. Karen Bowles** and **The Rev. Jason Meyers**, and **Alana Martin**, our Children and Youth Animator. Reading the lesson is **Matthew Fraser**. The ministry of music is offered by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Timothy Wisnicki**, Junior Organ Scholar **Matthew Fraser**, baritone **Paul Winkelmans**, violinist **Dr. Jennifer Martyn**, and Carillonneur **Roy Lee**.

**PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK**

**Monday, November 30**

**7:00 p.m.** Centring Prayer (Zoom) [link here](#)

**Tuesday, December 1**

**5:00 p.m.** Transition Team (Zoom)

**Wednesday, December 2**

**9:00 a.m.** Fran's Prayer Circle (Zoom)

**11:30 a.m.** Hospitality Tent

McGill Square Park

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

**5:00 p.m.** Worship Committee (Zoom)

**7:00 p.m.** Congregational Care Committee (Zoom)

### Thursday, December 3

12:00 p.m. Community Meal Program Narthex  
8:00 p.m. Evening Communion (Zoom) [link here](#)

### Friday, December 4

12:00 p.m. [Friday Noon at Met Concert](#): Chelsea Van Pelt, soprano Online

### Saturday, December 5

8:30 a.m. Bible Study (led by Christopher Hoover) [link at metunited.ca](#)

7:00 p.m. [And He Shall Come: Music and Poetry for Advent](#)

### NEXT SUNDAY: December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. Online worship - metunited.ca, Facebook and YouTube

**Sign up for the MET Connect weekly newsletter at metunited.ca**  
**Follow Met on Facebook, Instagram (@metropolitanunitedto) & YouTube**

### NOVEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH: DISCIPLESHIP IN ACTION

Today is the last day of Stewardship month. Each week, we have heard about the many and varied ministries of the church during Offering time. If you have sent in pledge of support for 2021, thank you. This will help us plan for the coming year. Please contact Sheela in the office if you would like a pledge package.

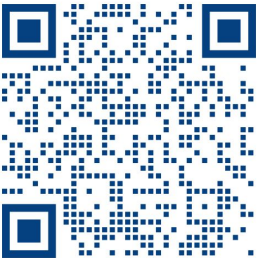
### PASTORAL CARE

Our ministers are connecting with members and determining the needs of our community during this challenging time. If you would like a pastoral phone call, you can contact Rev. Jason Meyers at [jasonm@metunited.ca](mailto:jasonm@metunited.ca) (416-363-0331 ext. 224).

### CONTINUED GIVING

A new, easy way to donate! Focus your smartphone's camera on the QR code to the left and you'll be directed to our giving page.

You can continue to mail in envelopes and/or cheques to the church, or arrange a pre-authorized remittance for regular giving (PAR) from your bank account, or credit card - fill out a form at [metunited.ca/donate](http://metunited.ca/donate). 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.





# METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH

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## 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))  
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair ([malcolms@metunited.ca](mailto:malcolms@metunited.ca))  
Context in Ministry Student: Timothy Wisnicki  
Chair of the Official Board: Kenneth Younie ([boardchair@metunited.ca](mailto:boardchair@metunited.ca))  
Children & Youth Ministries Animator: Alana Martin ([alana@thegoproject.ca](mailto:alana@thegoproject.ca))  
Teachers: Karlos Griffith ([karlosgriffith@rogers.com](mailto:karlosgriffith@rogers.com))  
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  
Junior Organ Scholar: Matthew Fraser  
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))  
Financial Manager: Elena Pejcinovska, ext. 229 ([elenap@metunited.ca](mailto:elenap@metunited.ca))  
Technical Administrator: Vinoth Thanganadan, ext. 223 ([vinotht@metunited.ca](mailto:vinotht@metunited.ca))  
Communications Specialist: Charles Davidson, ext. 228 ([communications@metunited.ca](mailto:communications@metunited.ca))  
Custodians: Nadan Kandiah, ext. 304; Puvi Kanagalingam, ext. 305

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