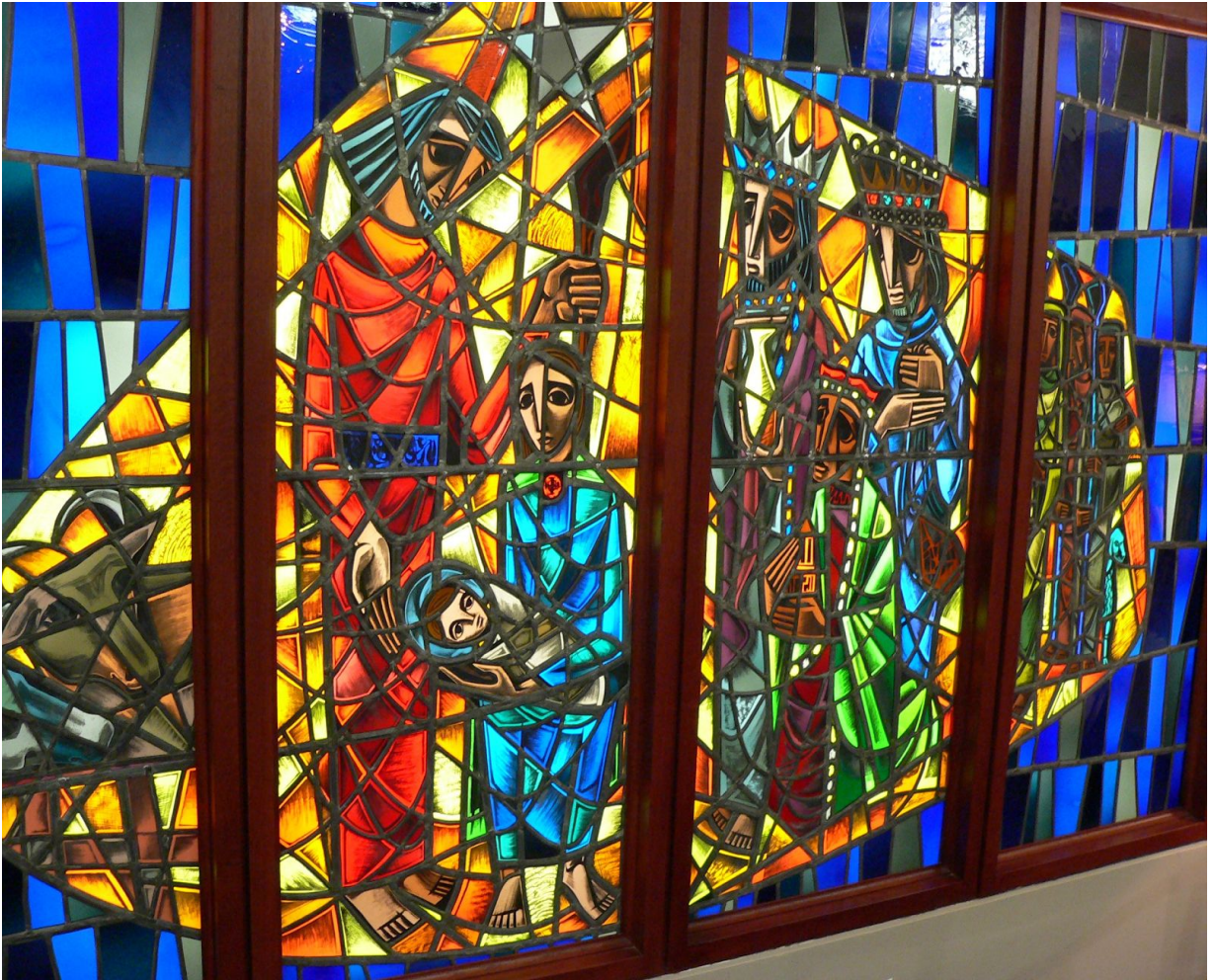


Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

the downtown church for a diverse city



Flanders Library window - Artist, Gerald Tooke

Sunday, January 3, 2021 Epiphany Sunday

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

CARILLON PRELUDE *The First Nowell*

ORGAN PRELUDE *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star*
The Three Kings

Dieterich Buxtehude
Paul Manz

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN #79 *Arise, Your Light is Come*

Festal Song

1 Arise, your light is come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God,
which shines on you today.

2 Arise, your light is come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.

3 Arise, your light is come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the broken-hearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.

4 Arise, your light is come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing;
God's power will make us strong.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

One: This past year, we found ourselves on a different road,

All: yet we still seek the Baby born in Bethlehem.

One: This year, we are worshiping in different ways,

All: yet we still look for that Child of Christmas who gifts the needy with hope.

One: This year, we gather in different places,

All: yet we still long to find the One who has come for us, even as we remain apart.

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. (please be seated)

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

READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come.

Ephesians 3:1-12

Boldness and confidence through faith.

READING RESPONSE #96 vs. 1 and 2

Kelvingrove

1 Will you come and see the light from the stable door?

It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.

It will be your guiding star,

it will show you who you are;

will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

2 Will you step into the light that can free the slave?

It will stand for what is right, it will heal and save.

By the pyramids of greed

there's a longing to be freed;

will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:1-15

The visit of the magi and the escape to Egypt

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

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.

HYMN #89 *From a Distant Home*

Isla del Encanto

1 From a distant home the Saviour we come seeking,
using as our guide the star so brightly beaming.

Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,

heaven's wondrous light,

O never cease your shining!

Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,

and upon the earth be peace and love to all.

2 Glowing gold I bring the newborn babe so holy,
token of his power to reign above in glory. R

3 Frankincense I bring the child of God's own choosing,
token of our prayers to heaven ever rising. R

4 Bitter myrrh have I to give the infant Jesus,
token of the pain that he will bear to save us. R

SERMON "THE ROAD TO SOMEWHERE"

REV. JASON MEYERS

SOLO *The Kings*

Peter Cornelius

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

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)

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 #92 *In the Darkness Shines the Splendour*

Irby

- 1 In the darkness shines the splendour
 of the Word who took our flesh,
welcoming, in love's surrender,
 death's dark shadow at his crèche.
Bearing every human story,
Word made flesh reveals his glory.
- 2 Light of nations, veiled in history,
 born of woman's flesh and blood,
calling to the depths of mystery
 restless hearts that seek the good.
Healing every human story,
Word made flesh reveals his glory.
- 3 Broken bread, sustaining us in sorrow,
 wine poured out to toast our joy;
exodus and new tomorrow,
 life's full promise to enjoy!
Gladdening every human story,
Word made flesh reveals his glory.
- 4 All God's people, sing in jubilation
 of the birth that sets us free,
telling of the revelation:
 Jesus, God's epiphany.
Celebrate the human story!
Word made flesh reveals our glory.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE *In Thee Is Gladness*

J. S. Bach

LEADING IN WORSHIP is **The Rev. Jason Meyers**. Reading the lessons is **Kenneth Younie**. The ministry of music is offered by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, soprano **Gisele Kulak**, and Carillonneur **Roy Lee**.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Zoom links can be found in MET Connect and at metunited.ca

Wednesday, January 6

7:00 p.m. Congregational Care Committee

Saturday, January 9

8:30 a.m. Bible Study (led by Christopher Hoover)

NEXT SUNDAY: January 10 - Third Sunday after Christmas/Baptism of Jesus

11:00 a.m. Online Worship

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

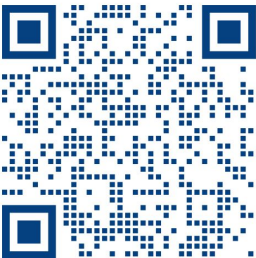
GIFTS OF SECURITIES — FROM YOU TO METROPOLITAN

A number from our congregation support Metropolitan United Church through gifts of securities. Such gifts are easy to arrange and a way of supporting Metropolitan other than from your annual income. You will receive a charitable donation receipt for the full value of the shares AND pay no capital gains tax on any securities given. For information, please call Doug Flanders at (416) 769-2746 or email dougflanders@sympatico.ca. *A legacy. It's ours to leave.*

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 (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. If you have any questions, please contact Elena Pejcinovska, Financial Manager at elenap@metunited.ca or 416-363-0331 ext. 229.



METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH

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)
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair (malcolms@metunited.ca)
Context in Ministry Student: Timothy Wisnicki
Chair of the Official Board: Kenneth Younie (boardchair@metunited.ca)
Children & Youth Ministries Animator: Alana Martin (alana@thegoproject.ca)
Teachers: Karlos Griffith (karlosgriffith@rogers.com)
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
Wayne C. Vance 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)
Office Administrator: Sheela Taylor, ext. 210 (sheelat@metunited.ca)
Financial Manager: Elena Pejcinovska, ext. 229 (elenap@metunited.ca)
Technical Administrator: Vinoth Thanganadan, ext. 223 (vinotht@metunited.ca)
Communications Specialist: Charles Davidson, ext. 228 (communications@metunited.ca)
Property Manager: Frank Cormier, ext. 231 (property@metunited.ca)
Custodians: Nadan Kandiah, ext. 304; Puvi Kanagalingam, ext. 305

56 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON M5C 2Z3

Tel. 416.363.0331 Fax. 416.363.7586

Email: metunited@metunited.ca