Welcome to Metropolitan United Church



Photo by M. Aitchison

August 29, 2021 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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.

SPECIAL NOTES FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We ask that you wear your mask over your nose and mouth at all times, and maintain physical distancing when exiting. Please do not sing - listen to the soloist and sing in your hearts! See the back of the bulletin for more info.

ORDER OF SERVICE

CARILLON PRELUDE (OUTSIDE-10:30 a.m.)

Organ Prelude Pièce d'Orgue

The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune

J. S. Bach R. Vaughan Williams

WORDS OF WELCOME

JOPENING HYMN #399 (soloist only) God, Whose Love is Reigning o'er Us Lauda Anima

- 1 God, whose love is reigning o'er us, source of all, the ending true, hear the universal chorus raised in joyful praise to you:
 Hallelujah, hallelujah, worship ancient, worship new.
- Word of God, from nature bringing springtime green and autumn gold, mountain streams like children singing, ocean waves like thunder bold: Hallelujah, hallelujah, as creation's tale is told.
- Holy God of ancient glory,
 choosing man and woman, too;
 Abram's faith and Sarah's story
 formed a people bound to you.
 Hallelujah, hallelujah, to your covenant keep us true.
- Covenant, new again in Jesus,
 Star-child born to set us free;
 sent to heal us, sent to teach us
 how love's children we might be.
 Hallelujah, hallelujah, risen Christ, our Saviour he!
- Lift we then our human voices
 in the songs that faith would bring;
 live we then in human choices
 lives that, like our music, sing:
 Hallelujah, hallelujah, joined in love our praises ring!

Invitation to Worship (responses spoken softly)

One: Look to the mountains; look to the hills!

All: Love comes to us with joy!

One: The world is filled with beauty. All: Flowers appear on the earth, birdsong brightens the day. Crops yield their produce in abundance, the air is filled with sweetness. One: AII: The summer of God's love is with us. Let the oil of gladness anoint your souls. Let us worship God!. The Lord be with you. One: All: And also with you. Let us pray. (please be seated) One: PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER KYRIE (soloist only) P. Wright God, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; God, have mercy upon us. Assurance of Pardon Act of Praise Hymn #342, v.4 (soloist only) Lyons Then let us adore and give as is right, all glory and power, all wisdom and might, all honour and blessing with angels above, and thanks never ceasing and infinite love. READING Psalm 15 Guidelines For Living... JAMES 1:17-27 Listening and Doing.. GOSPEL MARK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-22 Jesus, Teaches about Inner Purity. This is the witness of the good news of Jesus Christ. ONE: Thanks be to God. ALL: JHYMN #505 (soloist only) As a Chalice Cast of Gold Inward Light As a chalice cast of gold, burnished, bright, and brimmed with wine, make me, God, as fit to hold grace and truth and love divine. Let my praise and worship start with the cleansing of my heart. 2 Save me from the soothing sin of the empty cultic deed and the pious, babbling din of the claimed but unlived creed. Let my actions, God, express what my tongue and lips profess.

- When I bend upon my knees, clasp my hands, or bow my head, let my spoken, public pleas be directly, simply said, free of tangled words that mask what my soul would plainly ask.
- When I dance or chant your praise, when I sing a psalm or hymn, when I preach your loving ways, let my heart add its amen.

 Let each cherished outward rite thus reflect your inward light.

SERMON "COMPELLED BY LOVE"

REV. MARK AITCHISON

SOLO For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter

♪Peace Greeting (responses spoken softly, then greeting each other with a bow)

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 (spoken softly)

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 AND OFFERING

DEDICATION OF OFFERING

GREAT THANKSGIVING (responses spoken softly)

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. (please be seated)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord's Prayer (all) (Voices United, p. 921) (spoken softly)

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.

JCLOSING HYMN #288 (soloist only) Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Faithfulness

1 Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided—great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!

- Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

 Refrain
- 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—wondrous the portion thy blessings provide. Refrain

Commissioning and Benediction (please be seated)

Organ Postlude Fugue in B Major

Marcel Dupré

As you leave the sanctuary, please wear your mask and continue to observe a two metre distance between yourself and others.

LEADING IN WORSHIP are **The Rev. Mark Aitchison** and **Dennis Donovan.** The reader is **Dennis Donovan.** The ministry of music is offered by the Wayne C.Vance Organ Scholar **Timothy Wisnicki,** Carillonneur **Roy Lee**, and mezzo-soprano **Valeria Kondrashov.**

This is Timothy Wisnicki's final Sunday at Metropolitan as our Organ Scholar. Thank you, Timothy, for your ministry of music, and all blessings to you in your future work in congregational ministry.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Zoom links in MET Connect and at metunited.ca

Wednesday, September 1

11:30 a.m. Hospitality Tent Park

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

NEXT SUNDAY: September 5 - Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Preacher: The Rev. Mark Aitchison

10:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m. The Met Farmers' Market

10:45 a.m. Worship

IN THE NEWS: THE MET FARMERS' MARKET

The Market was featured in August's issue of local community newspaper The Bridge - view here, or visit thebridgenews.ca and select 'Latest Issue.'

The Market runs every Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and we're on the hunt for friendly volunteers! Possible duties include greeting visitors, line management, information and community booth support, set up and tear down of tents and other supplies. Drop market@metunited.ca a line!

WHY DON'T YOU?

Broadview magazine is award winning, interesting, relevant, and a pertinent resource for Christians to explore faith and life issues. We have new subscribers coming on board so why not you as well? For \$25 a year, you will receive 8 issues by post. You may renew or subscribe by placing your subscription on the offering plate clearly marked "Broadview", by contacting Elena in the church office: (416) 363-0331, ext. 229; elenap@metunited.ca; or online at www.metunited.ca via the Donate. As a returned subscriber shared: "This magazine is great. Interesting, relevant and helps us keep in touch with what's going on in the wider church."



CONTINUED GIVING

A new, easy way to give! Focus your smartphone's camera on the QR code and you'll be directed to our giving page. Thank you for supporting our ministries.

Sign up for the MET Connect weekly newsletter <u>here</u> Follow us on Facebook, Instagram & YouTube

IN THE SANCTUARY



No food or drink



Pick up a bulletin



Keep physically distanced & follow ushers



Stay in your seat



No singing



Use washroom at back of Sanctuary

LEAVING THE CHURCH



Respect physical distancing



Offering plates at exit



No socializing in building



DIRECTORY

Chair of the Official Board: Kenneth Younie (boardchair@metunited.ca)

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Ministry of Music

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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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