

Welcome to Metropolitan United Church



September 5, 2021 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Labour Day 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.

SPECIAL NOTES FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP

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

ORDER OF SERVICE

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

ORGAN PRELUDE *Fantasia in C Major*
Open My Eyes, That I May See
Antiphons
A Fancy on 'Westminster Abbey'

J. S. Bach
arr. Emma Lou Diemer
Marcel Dupré
Richard C. Baker

WORDS OF WELCOME

JOOPENING HYMN #326 *(soloist only)* *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* Azmon

- 1 O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace.
- 2 Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
- 3 He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken-hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.
- 4 Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones, your tongues again employ;
you blind, behold your Saviour comes, and leap, you lame, for joy!
- 5 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honours of your name.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP *(responses spoken softly)*

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. *(please be seated)*

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.

READINGS

PSALM 146

Help from God is lasting and complete.

JAMES 2:1-10, 14-17

Genuine faith: favouritism is forbidden

GOSPEL READING

MARK 7:24-37

Jesus' ministry beyond Galilee.

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN #371 *(soloist only)* Open My Eyes, That I May See

Open My Eyes

- 1 Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!
- 2 Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!
- 3 Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

SERMON

"HEARING AIDS FOR THE SPIRITUALLY DEAF"

REV. MARK AITCHISON

SOLO

"O Rest in the Lord" from *Elijah*

Felix Mendelssohn

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.

JAFFIRMATION 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 #678 *(soloist only) For the Healing of the Nations*

Westminster Abbey

1 For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.

2 Lead us forward into freedom, from despair your world release;
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.

3 All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.

- 4 You, Creator-God, have written your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind;
that, by our response and service, earth its destiny may find.

♪ COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE (please be seated)

Gloria

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 **Dr. Linn Holness**. The ministry of music is offered by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, Carillonneur **Roy Lee**, and mezzo-soprano **Valeria Kondrashov**.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Zoom links in MET Connect and at metunited.ca

Monday, September 6

LABOUR DAY - CHURCH CLOSED

Wednesday, September 8

11:30 a.m.	Hospitality Tent	Park
12:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study	

Thursday, September 9

6:30 p.m.	Member Engagement and Evangelism Committee (Zoom)	
6:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Handbells Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Lead Singers Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Saturday, September 11

8:30 a.m.	Saturday Bible Study (Zoom)
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NEXT SUNDAY:

September 12 - Gathering Sunday/Sixteenth after Pentecost/First Sunday of Creation

Preacher: The Rev. Jason Meyers

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	The Met Farmers' Market
10:45 a.m.	Worship

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAYS AT NOON

Starting up again next Wednesday, September 8 at midday! Led by our preaching minister for the week, please join in a weekly consideration and discussion of the scripture passages and attending commentary. The Zoom link can be found on the event page on our site, and in Met Connect.

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?

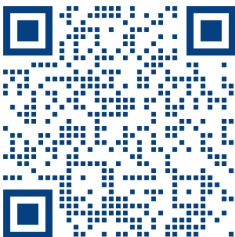
Broadview magazine is award winning, interesting, relevant, and a pertinent resource for Christians to explore faith and life issues. We have new subscribers coming on board so why not you as well? For \$25 a year, you will receive 8 issues by post. You may renew or subscribe by placing your subscription 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/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."

THE MET APP

"There's an app for that!" You can follow our programming, view the livestream and chat, register for events, make a donation, and much more through our new app. Use your phone or tablet to download the app [here](#). You can also find more details and instructions on our site.

EVER FAITHFUL

Many in our congregation have faithfully remembered Metropolitan with a gift in their estate plans. Some have designated gifts to specific programs, some gifts will go to our endowment, while others are to be used wherever the future need is greatest. We are deeply grateful for these legacy gifts and ask that you consider doing so as well. For information, please call Doug Flanders at (416) 769-2746 or email dougflanders@sympatico.ca. **A legacy — It's ours to leave.**



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. Thank you for supporting the ministries of Metropolitan United Church.

Sign up for the MET Connect weekly newsletter [here](#)
Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) & [YouTube](#)

WHEN YOU ARRIVE



Wear a mask at
all times



Sign in &
confirm screening



Sanitize hands

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)
Minister of Congregational Care: The Rev. Jason Meyers, ext. 224 (jasonm@metunited.ca)
Supply Minister: The Rev. Mark Aitchison, ext. 254 (marka@metunited.ca)
Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 226 (patw@metunited.ca)
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair (malcolms@metunited.ca)
Children & Youth Ministries Animator: The Rev. Alana Martin (alana@thegoproject.ca)
Teacher: 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 (meganc@metunited.ca)
Outreach and Community Service Coordinator: Stephanie Cunti, ext. 241 (stephaniec@metunited.ca)

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 226 (patw@metunited.ca)
Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar: Joshua Duncan Lee
Metropolitan Choir Lead Singers: Gisele Kulak, Chelsea Van Pelt, Valeria Kondrashov, Michelle Simmons, 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)
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