

Welcome to Metropolitan United Church



A smoky sun in Calgary, AB - Photo by Rev. Meyers

September 12, 2021

First Sunday in the Season of Creation

Gathering 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 or hum - listen to the soloist and sing in your hearts! See the back of the bulletin for more information.

ORDER OF SERVICE

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

BRASS PRELUDE *Alleluia*

“Basse Danse Bergeret”

from *Five Renaissance Dances*

Crimond

Die Bankelsangerlieder

W.A. Mozart, arr. David Marlatt

Tilman Susato, arr. John Iveson

arr. David Marlatt

Anonymous, arr. Robert King

WORDS OF WELCOME

OPENING HYMN #220 (*quartet only*) *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Lobe den Herrn

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation;
O my soul, praise him, at all times your health and salvation.
Come, all who hear:
brothers and sisters draw near, joining in glad adoration.
- 2 Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning,
keeping us safe at his side, and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen
how all you needed has been met by God's gracious ordaining?
- 3 Praise to the Lord who will prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy will daily attend us:
ponder anew
what the Almighty can do, who out of love will befriend us.
- 4 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen
sound from God's people again, gladly with praise we adore him.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP (*responses spoken softly*)

One: Look at the heavens!

All: They are shouting the glory of God.

One: The days and the nights declare the magnificence
of God's creative works.

**All: Their voice goes through all the earth
and their words reach the ends of the world.**

One: Let our words of praise be acceptable to you.

All: Our Lord, our rock, our redeemer!

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 (*quartet 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 #293, v.1 (*quartet only*)

Lyons

We praise you, Creator, in earth, sea, and sky: our Ruler, our Maker, our Sovereign most high.
Each new generation lifts voices in praise; how good your creation, how gracious your ways!

READINGS

PROVERBS 1:20-33

Wisdom cries in the streets.

JAMES 3:1-12

The tongue is a fire.

ANTHEM *Through All The World Below*

Southern Harmony, arr. Don McAfee

Through all the world below God is seen all around; search hills and valleys through, there He's found.
The growing of the corn, the lily and the thorn, the pleasant and forlorn all declare "God is there," in
meadows dressed in green, there He's seen. See springs of water rise, fountains flow, rivers run; the mist
below the skies hides the sun; then down the rain doth pour, the ocean it doth roar and dash against the
shore, all to praise in their lays that God who ne'er declares His designs. The sun, to my surprise, speaks
of God as he flies; the comets in their blaze give Him praise....

GOSPEL READING

MARK 8:27-38

Who do people say that I am?

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN #300 (*quartet only*) *God, Whose Firm Is All Creation*

Shipston

- 1 God, whose firm is all creation, take the gratitude we give;
take the finest of our harvest, crops we grow that all may live.
- 2 Take our ploughing, seeding, reaping, hopes and fears of sun and rain,
all our thinking, planning, waiting, ripening into fruit and grain.
- 3 All our labour, all our watching, all our calendar of care,
in these crops of your creation, take, O God: they are our prayer.

SERMON

"AFTER THE FIRE"

REV. JASON MEYERS

ANTHEM *Yabban, Yamman*

Rupert Lang

Yabban, Yamman (Father, Mother in Aramaic), timeless and loving, loving creator of all, your name is holy. We seek to do your will that your purpose may prevail, we ask you for the bread of life and for the power to forgive and be forgiven. For all your gifts and constant love your holy name be blest and praised now and forever. Amen. Paraphrase of the "Lord's Prayer" by Frances Somerville

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

BRASS OFFERTORY "Prelude" from *Te Deum* Marc Antoine Charpentier, arr. Douglas Smith

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.

♪CLOSING HYMN #292 *(quartet only)* **Creating God, We Give You Thanks**

Wareham

- 1 Creating God, we give you thanks that this your world is incomplete;
that battle calls our marshalled ranks, that work awaits our hands and feet.
- 2 You have not finished woman, man, for we are in the making still,
as friends who share the Maker's plan, as those who know your loving will.
- 3 Beyond the present sin and shame, wrong's bitter, cruel, scorching blight,
we see the beckoning vision flame, the blessed kingdom of the right.
- 4 What though the kingdom long delay, and still with haughty foes must cope?
It gives us that for which to pray, a field for toil and faith and hope.
- 5 Since what we choose is what we are, and what we love we yet shall be,
the goal may ever shine afar, the will to win it makes us free.

♪COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION *(please be seated)*

BRASS POSTLUDE *Nearer My God to Thee*

Lowell Mason, arr. Eric Lutz

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. Jason Meyers** and **The Rev. Mark Aitchison**. Reading the lessons is **Fran Harvey**. The ministry of music is offered by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Joshua Duncan Lee**, Carillonneur **Roy Lee**, Metropolitan Choir lead singers **Gisele Kulak**, **Valeria Kondrashov**, **Charles Davidson**, and **Nicholas Higgs**, and Metropolitan Band members **Michele McCall** and **Debbie Silverthorne**, trumpets; **Rita Arendz**, horn; **Fred Haire**, euphonium; and **Fran Harvey**, tuba.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Zoom links in MET Connect and at metunited.ca

Tuesday, September 14

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 5:30 p.m. | Trustees Meeting (Zoom) | |
| 7:00 p.m. | Metropolitan Silver Band Rehearsal | Sanctuary |

Wednesday, September 15

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

Thursday, September 16

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| 6:30 p.m. | Metropolitan Handbells Rehearsal | Sanctuary |
| 8:00 p.m. | Evening Communion (Zoom) | |

Saturday, September 17

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 9:00 a.m. | Saturday Bible Study (Zoom) | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|--|

NEXT SUNDAY: September 19 - Second Sunday in the Season of Creation

Preacher: The Rev. Jason Meyers

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

10:45 a.m. Worship

THURSDAY EVENING COMMUNION

Our simple communion service over Zoom resumes Thursday at 8:00 p.m. - please have your own bread and beverage available to celebrate the sacrament together! Joining link on our site and in Connect.

MET SOCIAL

On Wednesday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m. we'll enjoy an episode of the hilarious Britcom *Keeping Up Appearances* together over Zoom (link posted in Met Connect). If you're new to the show, trust us, you don't want to miss the farcical hijinks of Hyacinth Bucket (pronounced "Bouquet") and family!

HELP OUT AT THE MET FARMERS' MARKET!

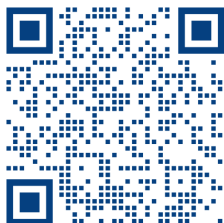
The Market continues each Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. into the fall. Are you able to help out for a few hours to help this important initiative run smoothly? Drop market@metunited.ca a line!

THE MET APP

Follow our social channels, view worship and concert livestreams, make a donation and more through our new app. Use your phone or tablet to download [here](#). 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](#)
Find 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)
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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

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