

Welcome to Metropolitan United Church



Wedding Feast by John August Swanson

Second Sunday After Epiphany January 16, 2022

We are an Affirming Congregation, offering welcome and companionship to all, inclusive of age, ethnicity, gender identity, differing abilities, and sexual orientation.

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 *Largo (Sonata V)*
 Concerto IV (Adagio; Allegro; Adagio)

J.S. Bach
J.G. Walther

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN #312 *Praise With Joy the World's Creator*

Lauda Anima

Praise with joy the world's creator, God of justice, love and peace,
Source and end of human knowledge, God whose grace shall never cease.
Celebrate the Maker's glory, power to rescue and release.

Praise to Christ who feeds the hungry, frees the captive, finds the lost,
Heals the sick, upsets religion, fearless both of fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence - Friend and Stranger, Guest and Host.

Praise the Spirit sent among us liberating truth from pride,
Forging bonds where race or gender, age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure - foolishness none dare deride.

Praise the Maker, Christ and Spirit, one God in Community,
Calling Christians to embody oneness and diversity.
This the world shall see reflected: God is One and One in Three.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: How precious is God's steadfast love!

All: We will find refuge in the shelter of God's embrace.

One: Christ is the Fountain of Life.

All: In Christ we behold the Light of God.

One: Come and feast on God's abundance.

All: We will drink from the river of God's delights.

One: Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving!

All: We will bring God our prayers and our praise with hearts full of love.

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND 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. (x2)

READINGS

Isaiah 62:1–5

No longer called “Desolate” but now named “Delight.”

1 Corinthians 12:1–12

Different kinds of gifts but the same Spirit.

ANTHEM *Jesus Christ the Appletree*

Elizabeth Poston

GOSPEL READING

John 2:1–12

The wedding in Cana.

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN #MV 10 *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom*

Madeleine

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
she who danced, when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the market-place.
Hear the Word made flesh among us,
full of glory, truth and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit-guide and close companion,
bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and earth.

SERMON

“THE PARTY TABLE”

THE REV. JASON MEYERS

SOLO “Benedictus” from *Kleine Orgelmesse*

F.J. Haydn

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 AND OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

OFFERTORY HYMN #540

Stuttgart

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.**

**Grant us time and inspiration, with a vision old and new,
that our goal in all our loving may be reached in loving you.**

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.

You call us out to praise you the God who gave us birth,
To gather in communion and treasure your whole earth;
We are your living story, to hear and to be heard;
We praise your name, who writes us, the author and the word.

For varied hues and textures new patterns, still you search,
To weave your seamless garments, the fabric of your church;
Our tattered faith you cherish, reclaim from wear and moth;
We praise your name, who twines us, the weaver and the cloth.

The church that speaks forgiveness confesses its own need;
The church that feels its hunger finds grace to care and feed;
Our famished world is crying, its future filled with dread;
We praise your name, who fills us, the baker and the bread.

The church that offers healing discerns its wounds and loss;
The church that faces dying shares life beyond the cross;
To people torn and broken, your mercy is revealed;
We praise your name, who loves us, the healer and the healed.

Our feeble voices struggle to sing your justice clear;
The world has sunk in silence, each discord echoes fear;
One voice alone is ragged, together we are strong;
We praise your name, who breathes us, the singer and the song.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEEDICTION

BLESSING #429

William Wright

May the blessing of God be upon you. May God's love light all your way. May the grace of Christ enfold you and peace around you stay. May the Spirit of God dwell within you. May you live in joy each day.

POSTLUDE *Choral Song*

S.S. Wesley

LEADING IN WORSHIP are **The Rev. Jason Meyers** and **The Rev. Mark Aitchison**. Reading the lessons are **Sara Cohen** and **Shawn Winsor**. The ministry of music is offered by guest musician **Michael Oldaker**, Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Joshua Duncan Lee**, Metropolitan Choir lead singers **Chelsea Van Pelt** and **Charles Davidson**, and Carillonneur **Roy Lee**.

Our sound and livestream technicians are **Paya Dehghani**, **Nishaanth Siva** and **Charles Davidson**. Metropolitan's livestreaming equipment was made possible thanks to the generosity of **Wayne C. Vance**.

TODAY

- 10:30 a.m.** Sunday School (Zoom)
12:15 p.m. après Church (Zoom) - Discussion of recent Global News article & the future of the church
1:00 p.m. Budget Meeting (Zoom)

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tuesday, January 18

- 7:00 p.m.** Metropolitan Silver Band Sanctuary

Wednesday, January 19

- 12:00 p.m.** Zoom Bible Study
1:30 p.m. Met Care Team (Zoom)

Thursday, January 20

- 8:30 a.m.** Breakfast Bible Study (Zoom)
9:00 a.m. Footcare Clinic Met Centre
10:00 a.m. Pre-Board (Zoom)
12:00 p.m. Winter Community Meal Program Narthex
6:00 p.m. Peace & Social Justice Committee (Zoom)
6:00 p.m. Kids Bedtime Story with Alana (Zoom)
8:00 p.m. Evening Communion (Zoom)

Saturday, January 15

- 8:30 a.m.** Saturday Bible Study (Zoom)

NEXT SUNDAY: January 23 - Third Sunday after Epiphany

- 10:30 a.m.** Sunday School (Zoom)
11:00 a.m. Worship - The Rev. Jason Meyers, preaching
Readings: Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10; 1 Corinthians 12:12–31a; Luke 4:14–21
12:15 p.m. après Church (Zoom)
1:00 p.m. Budget Meeting (Zoom)

APRÈS CHURCH BEGINS THIS SUNDAY

An opportunity to check in and connect with our ministers and members of the community following worship each week. A different discussion topic will be featured each week. We'll begin just after the service ends, at approximately 12:15 p.m. The Zoom link is in Met Connect, and will also be posted in the chat windows on Sunday. This Sunday: the recent Global News article featuring Metropolitan, and the future of the church.

ZOOM SUNDAY SCHOOL IS BACK

Sunday School is back! Join us at 10:30 a.m. weekly on Zoom for fun, faith stories, crafts, games, and more! Email Alana at alana@thegoproject.ca for Zoom link.

KIDS BEDTIME STORY WITH ALANA

Every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. join Alana for a bedtime story; a short, informal time to read a story together to wind down for the night. Bring paper and crayons to draw how you feel and what you hear throughout the story. Email Alana at alana@thegoproject.ca for Zoom link.

FAMILY, FAITH & FUN FRIDAY NIGHTS

Family Faith & Fun Nights are a chance for your whole family to engage with stories of our faith and meaningful connection the last Friday of each month at 6:30 p.m. First up on Fri. Jan. 28th is Virtual Trivia! Come as a family ready to claim the prize! Open to all ages, with questions appropriate for all. Email alana@thegoproject.ca for Zoom link.

CONFIRMATION IN EARLY JUNE

If you or your teen are interested in being confirmed this year, now is the time to register! This is a great opportunity for young people to explore their faith further and discern how they want a church and faith life to be a part of their lives. Email Alana (alana@thegoproject.ca) to find out more and to register. We will meet the last Sunday of the month from 4-5:30 p.m., January-April, and for a retreat May 28-29.

MET CARE TEAM: CHAIR ROLE

The Met Care team is looking for a new chair. Met Care works with the ministers to provide pastoral care and support to Metropolitan's members, adherents and newcomers. Members of this committee keep in touch with our people through phone chats, emails, cards and seasonal gifts. The chair participates in these activities, as well as arranges and facilitates monthly meetings, and coordinates the group's work and resources with the ministers. If you are passionate about Met Care's work and would like to learn more about this volunteer opportunity, please contact Gunn Wongsuwan at vgwongsuwan@outlook.com or Rev. Mark Aitchison at marka@metunited.ca

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).

THE MET FARMERS' MARKET NEWS

Due to the planned redevelopment of the Park, the Farmers' Market will be deferred to 2023. We are looking forward to spending the year planning for 2023, and are excited to re-launch in the new park space. If you would like to join the market Steering Committee and help us build for 2023, please email Leah Darke at marketchair@metunited.ca.

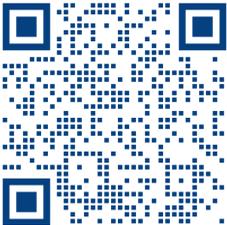
WARM WINTER ITEMS

Community Services is in need of warm winter items for distribution in the community: gloves, hats, sweatpants, and hand and toe warmers are particularly in demand, while hoodies and winter boots are also appreciated. To arrange drop off of any items, please contact Leah at leahg@metunited.ca

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.*

CONTINUED GIVING



An easy way to donate - use your phone to scan the 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.

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METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH

DIRECTORY

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Minister of Worship and Faith Formation: 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)
Voluntary Associate Minister: The Rev. Alana Martin, ext. 255 (officiant@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

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