

WELCOME TO METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH



Near the 'Tent of Nations' in Bethlehem © Creative Commons

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY February 20, 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.

SPECIAL NOTES FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Please wear your mask over your nose, mouth and chin at all times, and keep appropriately distanced from your pew neighbours. You are invited to hum or sing softly.

♪ indicates “*please stand as you are able.*”

ORDER OF SERVICE

CARILLON PRELUDE (OUTSIDE-10:30 A.M.)

ORGAN PRELUDE *Prelude from the ‘Orgelbuechlein’*

J. S. Bach

If you but suffer God to guide you

Passacaglia in d

Dieterich Buxtehude

Variations sur un thème du Clément Jannequin

Jehan Alain

Prelude on ‘O Waly Waly’

Emma Lou Diemer

WELCOME

♪ OPENING HYMN #333 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Hyfrydol

♪ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Take delight in the Lord;

All: For God satisfies the desires of our hearts.

One: Trust in the Lord;

All: For God will give us security and strength.

One: Come, let us commit our ways to the Lord and trust in God’s actions.

All: Let us worship the One who is our refuge in any time of trouble.

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 ELEISON (all) MV #70 *Kyrie eleison (God have mercy)*

Trad. from Ghana

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

♪ACT OF PRAISE (all) MV #59 Alleluia, Praise to God

Yoruba song from Nigeria

Alleluia, praise to God. Praises, high praises, we bring you, O God. Alleluia, praise to God.
Songs of joy sing out to God. Dancing and singing, we praise you, O God. Songs of joy...
Beat the drums, sing out to God. Praises, high praises, we bring you, O God. Beat the drums...

READINGS

Genesis 45:3–11, 15

Joseph reveals his identity to his brothers.

1 Corinthians 15:35–38

Paul teaches about resurrection.

ANTHEM *When the Stars Fall*

Stephen Hatfield

GOSPEL READING **Luke 6:27–38**

“Love your enemies”

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

All: Thanks be to God.

♪HYMN #372 *Though I May Speak*

O Waly Waly

SERMON

“Refuse To Be Enemies”

The Rev. Jason Meyers

ANTHEM

Pilgrim’s Hymn

Stephen Paulus

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. *(please greet each other with a bow)*

♪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. *(please be seated)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC *O how happy are they who now are in God's presence*

Johannes Brahms

In memory of those who have died recently.

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. (*please be seated*)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

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 #678 *For the Healing of the Nations*

Westminster Abbey

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

BLESSING MV #224 *May the God of Peace (turn towards centre)*

Trad. song from Benin

May the God of peace and of all good,

may the God of peace and of all good be always with you. Amen!

May God's peace be with you. Amen!

ORGAN POSTLUDE *Litanies*

Jehan Alain



Leading in worship are **The Rev. Jason Meyers** and **The Rev. Mark Aitchison**. Reading the lessons is **Doug Flanders**. The ministry of music is offered by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Joshua Duncan Lee**, Metropolitan Choir lead singers, 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**.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

TODAY

- 12:15 p.m. après Church (Zoom): Good News!
- 2:00 p.m. Taddle Creek Wild Church at Evergreen Brickworks

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Family Day - Church office closed

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- 10:00 a.m. Karlos Griffith Memorial (Off-site livestream)
- 6:30 p.m. Official Board (Zoom)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 8:00 a.m. Chop Chop Meal Prep
- 12:00 p.m. Zoom Bible Study

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast Bible Study (Zoom)
- 9:00 a.m. Footcare Clinic
- 12:00 p.m. Winter Community Meal Program
- 3:00 p.m. Linton Scott Memorial (Livestream)
- 6:00 p.m. Kids Bedtime Story with Alana
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
- 7:30 p.m. Metropolitan Choir
- 8:00 p.m. Evening Communion (Zoom)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- 10:00 a.m. Art and Computer Lab
- 12:00 p.m. Noon at Met: Sarah Svendsen
- 6:30 p.m. Family, Faith & Fun Friday Night (Zoom)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

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

NEXT SUNDAY: February 27 - Transfiguration Sunday

10:30 a.m. Zoom Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship Online and In-Person - The Rev. Mark Aitchison, preaching

Readings: Exodus 34:29-35; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-36

12:15 p.m. après Church (Zoom and in-person)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APRÈS CHURCH TODAY: GOOD NEWS!

What's your good news? These are certainly difficult days, but God's Spirit is still at work amongst us. What are you celebrating? What is bringing you joy? What is inspiring you? Let's hear some good news for a change! We'll start the Zoom call at approximately 12:15 p.m. and join those attending in-person.

TADDLE CREEK WILD CHURCH: EVERGREEN BRICKWORKS AT 2PM

Located in a reclaimed former quarry and industrial site, the Evergreen Brickworks is now a natural gem in the city. Join us for this family friendly gathering of grounding, intentional wandering and reflection today at 2:00 p.m. Please monitor the weather and dress accordingly. There is a paid parking lot on-site, but also a shuttle bus that leaves every 30-45 minutes from Broadview station. We'll meet at the front gates at 2:00 p.m. sharp. Please email Jason if you are planning to attend at jasonm@metunited.ca so we can watch for you.

WELCOME BACK! IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We've reopened for in-person worship. Registration isn't necessary for services, but please continue to provide your proof of vaccination and photo ID when attending.

NOON AT MET NEXT FRIDAY

Our Friday recital series picks up next Friday, February 25 with Sarah Svendsen, organ, in-person and livestreamed. Featuring Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*.

FAMILY, FAITH & FUN NIGHT NEXT FRIDAY

We'll meet at Greenwood Park at 6:30 p.m. for skating and warm drinks (cocoa and tea!). This will be weather dependent, so plan B is a "Chopped" party on Zoom (Alana tells you ingredients to bring and then you must figure out what you're making for a treat). RSVP to Alana: alana@thegoproject.ca

VOLUNTEER CALL: ONLINE WORSHIP HOSTS

Can you juggle chat windows without breaking a sweat? Are you curious about our online congregation joining us on Facebook, YouTube and the website? We're in need of Online Worship Hosts to welcome viewers, answer questions and act as a pastoral presence on our platforms. Training will be provided. if you can help out once a month or more, please email worship@metunited.ca

MET SOCIAL: SHROVE TUESDAY EDITION

The Met Care team invites you to another Zoom edition of our Shrove Tuesday gathering, Tuesday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m. We'll cook up some pancakes at home and meet up online as we prepare for the new season.

LENT PROGRAMMING

Zoom links at metunited.ca and in Met Connect

ASH WEDNESDAY TAIZÉ SERVICE

Wednesday, March 1 at noon, join us in the chancel for a contemplative start to Lent. This is an in-person only service.

LENT MEDITATIONS

Daily devotionals from the Met community, delivered each morning to your inbox. If you're not already on the list, sign up through Met Connect soon.

DAILY LENTEN OFFICE

An invitation to begin the day in prayer and community with a scripture reading, short reflection and prayer. On Zoom from 8:00-8:15 a.m. Monday through Friday each week starting Wednesday, March 2.

CENTRING PRAYER

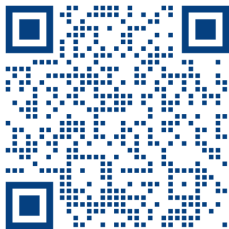
Our Christian meditation series returns for six Monday evenings in Lent, led by former Jesuit priest Tchawbaw Cabafi and Rev. Meyers. 8:00 p.m. beginning March 7 on Zoom.

BIG QUESTIONS COURSE

A six week Lenten exploration of the big spiritual questions from an inclusive Christian perspective. Sundays beginning March 6 at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom. Sign up by emailing Rev. Jason at jasonm@metunited.ca

PASTORAL CARE

If you would like a pastoral phone call, you can contact Rev. Jason Meyers at jasonm@metunited.ca or by phone at 416-363-0331 ext. 224.



CONTINUED GIVING

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 - forms at metunited.ca/donate. Please contact Elena Pejcinovska, Financial Manager at elenap@metunited.ca or 416-363-0331 ext. 229 with any questions.

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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



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