

WELCOME TO METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY February 13, 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.)

ORGAN PRELUDE *Sonata IV in B-flat Major*

Felix Mendelssohn

Allegro con brio-Andante religioso-Allegretto

Offertory on 'Slane'

William France

Morning Song

William France

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN #217 *All Creatures of Our God and King*

Lasst uns erfreuen

- 1 All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing:
 hallelujah, hallelujah!
 Bright burning sun with golden beam, soft shining moon with silver gleam,
 sing praises, sing praises,
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
- 2 O rushing winds and breezes soft, O clouds that ride the winds aloft,
 sing praises, hallelujah!
 O rising morn, in praise rejoice; O lights of evening, find a voice:
 sing praises, sing praises,
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
- 3 Earth, ever fertile, day by day brings forth rich blessings on our way:
 sing praises, hallelujah!
 The flowers and fruits that verdant grow, let them God's glory also show:
 sing praises, hallelujah!
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
- 4 And everyone of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part:
 sing praises, hallelujah!
 All who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and yield up all your care:
 sing praises, hallelujah!
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
- 5 Let all things their Creator bless, and worship God in humbleness:
 sing praises, hallelujah!
 Praise God eternal, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, three in one:
 sing praises, hallelujah!
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: When we trust in God, when our trust *is* God,
we are like a tree planted by water.

**All: Our roots go deep, we are ever-green;
even in a drought we are not anxious, but bear fruit, full and beautiful,
gifts of the God who made us.**

One: When we turn our hearts away from God,
putting trust in our own strength,

All: we become like a shrub in the desert, living in a parched, salty place.

One: Let us rejoice in the love of God,
and worship our God together.

All:: We come to worship the God who feeds us, who fills us, and who blesses us.

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) 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

Jeremiah 17:5–10

Those who trust in God are like trees planted by water.

Psalm 1

Blessed are those who follow God's law.

ANTHEM *What a Friend/Yesu Kwetu ni Rafiki*

arr. Mark Burrows

Metropolitan Choristers and friends

GOSPEL READING **Luke 6:17–26**

Blessings and woes.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

- 1 We cannot own the sunlit sky, the moon, the wild-flowers growing,
For we are part of all that is within life's river flowing.
With open hands receive and share the gifts of God's creation,
That all may have abundant life in every earthly nation.
- 2 When bodies shiver in the night and weary wait for morning,
When children have no bread but tears, and war horns sound their warning.
God calls humanity to awake, to join in common labour,
That all may have abundant life, oneness with their neighbour.
- 3 God calls humanity to join as partners in creating
a future free from want o fear, Life's goodness celebrating,
that new world beckons from afar, Invites our shared endeavor
that all might have abundant life and peace endure forever.

SERMON

"Be a Tree"

The Rev. Jason Meyers

ANTHEM

Ubi Caritas

Ola Gjeilo

Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart.

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

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

CHORAL RESPONSE

Da pacem cordium - Give peace to every heart.

Taizé

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 #642 *Be Thou My Vision*

Slane

- 1 Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart; naught be all else to me save that thou art,
thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife; I ever with thee, and thou in my life;
thou loving parent, thy child may I be, thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.
- 3 Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower; raise thou me heavenward, O power of my power.
- 4 Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, the first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 5 Great God of heaven, after victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O ruler of all.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

BLESSING MV #224 *May the God of Peace*

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!

POSTLUDE *Sonata IV in B-flat Major (Allegro maestoso e vivace)*

Felix Mendelssohn



Leading in worship are **The Rev. Jason Meyers** and **The Rev. Mark Aitchison**. Reading the lessons is **Dr. Linn Holness**. 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, members of the Metropolitan Choristers and friends, 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): *From Hybrid to Integrated - how can we build community and a sense of belonging when some of us will be worshiping online and others will be worshiping in the building?*
- 1:30 p.m. Outreach Committee

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Silver Band

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- 8:00 a.m. Chop Chop Meal Prep
- 12:00 p.m. Zoom Bible Study
- 1:30 p.m. Met Care

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast Bible Study (Zoom)
- 9:00 a.m. Footcare Clinic
- 10:00 a.m. Pre-Board (Zoom)
- 12:00 p.m. Winter Community Meal Program
- 6:00 p.m. Kids Bedtime Story with Alana
- 6:00 p.m. Peace and Social Justice
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
- 7:30 p.m. Metropolitan Choir
- 8:00 p.m. Evening Communion (Zoom)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

10:00 a.m. Art and Computer Lab

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

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

NEXT SUNDAY: February 20 - Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

10:30 a.m. Zoom Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship Online and In-Person - The Rev. Jason Meyers, preaching
Readings: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38

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

2:00 p.m. Taddle Creek Wild Church at Evergreen Brickworks

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOON AT MET CONCERTS

Our Friday recital series continues on February 25 with Sarah Svendsen, organ, in-person and livestreamed.

REOPENING FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We are resuming in-person worship next Sunday, February 20. Registration will not be necessary, but we will continue to check proof of vaccination for those attending (please remember photo ID as well).

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).



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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Director, Great Heart Youth Ensemble: Benjamin Stein
Conductor, Metropolitan Sparklers: Dr. Jennifer Martyn
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Director, Metropolitan Silver Band: Fran Harvey



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