

WELCOME TO METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 25, 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

Masks are optional when in the church building. ♪ indicates “please stand as you are able.”

ORDER OF SERVICE

ORGAN PRELUDE

Prélude, Fugue et Variation, op. 11

César Franck, 1822-1890

Nimrod, from *Enigma Variations*, op. 39

Edward Elgar, 1852-1924

arr. for organ by W. H. Harris, 1881-1973

WORDS OF WELCOME

♪ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN #264** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST DENIO

♪ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: For the air that animates, the land that nurtures, and the water that sustains,

All: we give thanks for the gifts of God,

One: In the sound of children's laughter and the wisdom of elders,

All: we give thanks for the joy of God.

One: For the quest of faith in the life the Spirit gives,

All: we give thanks for the grace of God.

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

PRAYER OF APPROACH

LITANY FOR RECONCILIATION

One: Reconciliation is the responsibility of every Canadian.

It means acknowledging the past and ensuring history never repeats itself by respecting Indigenous treaties and rights and letting go of negative perceptions and stereotypes to work towards solidarity.

All: What can I do?

One: Reconciliation is not a destination.

All: It's a journey that will last our lifetime and generations to follow.

One: There is always prep time for a trip, contingent on the length and difficulty.

All: This is where we are right now within Canadian history.

One: We still have a lot to learn about the Indigenous perspective of history and Christianity, and about Indigenous worldview, culture, values, and spirituality.

All: Misunderstanding in Canada about these things is rampant.

One: Let's start off this journey with this acknowledgement,

All: *“You don’t know what you don’t know.”*
And let’s follow that acknowledgment with,
“Now that you know, how then shall we live?”
With God’s help, let’s take the next step.

Reflect on how you can work towards reconciliation in your own life and create your own personal reconciliation plan.

SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER AND REFLECTION

KYRIE (ALL) #69 More Voices

Kervin

Kyrie eleison (God, have mercy)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

♪ACT OF PRAISE (All) #293, v.1

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!

RESPONSIVE PSALM Psalm 91 #807

On Eagle’s Wings

READING

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Paul’s Charge to Timothy.

ANTHEM O Lord, Increase Our Faith

trad. attr. to Orlando Gibbons, 1583-1625

O Lord, increase our faith. Strengthen us and confirm us in thy true faith, endue me with wisdom, charity, chastity and patience in all my adversity. Sweet Jesus, say Amen.

GOSPEL READING Luke 16:19-31

The Rich Man and Lazarus.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ENCOUNTERING THE CHILD WITHIN

♪HYMN #227 For the Fruit of All Creation

AR HYD Y NOS

ANTHEM *A City Called Heaven*

arr. Josephine Poelinitz

Michelle Simmons, alto soloist

I am a poor pilgrim of sorrow, I'm left in this old wide world alone! Oh, I ain't got no hope for tomorrow; I'm trying to make heaven my home. Sometimes I'm tossed and I'm driven, Sometimes I just don't know which way to turn. Oh, I heard of a city called heaven; I'm trying to make heaven my home.

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

SOLO Ich will dir mein Herze schenken from *St. Matthew Passion*, BWV 244 J.S. Bach, 1685-1750
Gisele Kulak, soprano

I will give you my heart; sink within, my Saviour! I will sink into you; although the world is too small for you,
ah, you alone shall be for me more than heaven and earth.

♪OFFERTORY HYMN #518, V. 3

With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to you,
Not just to serve your cause, but share your love with neighbours too.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,
Help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

♪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.

♪RECESSIONAL HYMN #654 *All My Hope Is Firmly Grounded*

MICHAEL

♪COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

♪BLESSING #429 (*All - please turn toward the centre*)

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.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Finale: Ich hatte viel Bekümmernis, from *Cantata 21*

J.S. Bach, 1685-1750

arr. Franz Liszt, 1811-1886



Leading in worship are **The Rev. Mark Aitchison**, **The Rev. Jason Meyers**, and **Amy McClelland**. Reading the lessons is **Heather Walsh**. The ministry of music is offered by Minister of Music **Dr. Jonathan Oldengarm**, Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Joshua Duncan Lee** and the **Metropolitan Choir**. Our sound

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

UPCOMING PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

**Zoom links in Met Connect and at metunited.ca*

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

8:00 p.m. Centring Prayer*

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Silver Band

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

12:00 p.m. Zoom Bible Study*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

8:30 a.m. Breakfast Bible Study*

9:00 a.m. Footcare Clinic

12:00 p.m. Community Meal Program

7:30 p.m. Metropolitan Choir

8:00 p.m. Evening Communion*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

10:00 a.m. Art and Computer Lab

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

8:30 a.m. Saturday Bible Study*

NEXT SUNDAY: OCTOBER 2 - World Communion Sunday

9:30 a.m. Choristers

10:30 a.m. Nursery

11:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship - The Rev. Jason Meyers preaching

Readings: Lamentations 1:1-6; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

12:30 p.m. Sunday Lunch at the Imperial Pub

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TADDLE CREEK WILD CHURCH TODAY

Wild Church, our monthly nature-based service, begins today at 12:30 p.m. in the Park with *Prayerwalking the Land*. Mark down these future dates: October 23; November 27; December 18.

BREAKFAST IN THE GARDEN

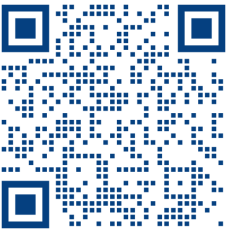
The City of Toronto (Pollinate TO) has gifted us new shrubs for our entry beds. Next Sunday, October 2 at 9:00 a.m., come join Friends of Met's Gardens and the Garden Club of Toronto team and help us with planting, watering and weeding. Coffee and muffins will be provided! Please sign up to attend through the form linked in Met Connect, or speak with Dorcas Beaton.

SUNDAY LUNCH OCTOBER 2 AT IMPERIAL PUB

Come out to our first informal congregational lunch of the fall at nearby Imperial Pub at 54 Dundas St. E. after worship next Sunday! We'll enjoy some fellowship, food and drink in the library lounge upstairs.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH: MUSICAL ENSEMBLES

Calling on singers and instrumentalists for Choristers (kids' choir) and Great Heart (youth band)! These groups meet each Sunday either before or after the service. An excellent educational opportunity, and a lot of fun - all ages are welcome! For more info, contact Dr. Jennifer Martyn, at jennifer.f.martyn@gmail.com (Choristers) or Benjamin Stein at benny@interlog.com (youth band Great Heart).



CONTINUED GIVING

Scan the code to the left to 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.

[Sign up](http://metunited.ca) for the Met Connect weekly newsletter at metunited.ca

Follow Metropolitan on

[YouTube](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

DIRECTORY

Chair of the Official Board: Joseph Curry (boardchair@metunited.ca)
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. Jonathan Oldengarm, ext. 226 (jonathano@metunited.ca)
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair
Minister of Music Emerita: Dr. Patricia Wright
Voluntary Associate Minister: The Rev. Alana Martin, ext. 255 (officiant@metunited.ca)
Children & Youth Ministries Animator: Amy McClelland (amy@thegoproject.ca)
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. Jonathan Oldengarm, ext. 226 (jonathano@metunited.ca)
Interim Music Director: Benjamin Stein
Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar: Joshua Duncan Lee
Metropolitan Choir Lead Singers: Gisele Kulak, Veronika Anissimova, Valeria Kondrashov,
Michelle Simmons, Charles Davidson, Benjamin Stein, Nicholas Higgs, John Schneider
Director, Great Heart Youth Ensemble: Benjamin Stein
Conductor, Metropolitan Choristers and 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)
Office Administrator: Sheela Taylor, ext. 210 (sheelat@metunited.ca)
Financial Manager: Elena Pejcinovska, ext. 229 (elenap@metunited.ca)
Property Manager: Frank Cormier, ext. 231 (frankc@metunited.ca)
Communications Specialist: Charles Davidson, ext. 228 (charlesd@metunited.ca)
Custodians: Puvi Kanagalingam, Brian McElwain, ext. 320

56 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON M5C 2Z3

Tel. 416.363.0331 | Fax. 416.363.7586 | Email: office@metunited.ca