

WELCOME TO METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH



THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

October 9, 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

Oboe Tune

William France, 1912-1985

○ give thanks to the Lord; The Lord is my Shepherd

Kola Owolabi, b. 1977

WORDS OF WELCOME

♪ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN #516** *Come, You Thankful People, Come* ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR

♪ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

**All: We worship the Lord with gladness
and come into God's presence with song.**

One: Know that it is the Lord God who made us, and we are God's people.

All: We enter God's gates with praise and thanksgiving.

One: Let us give thanks to God this day and bless God's holy name.

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 *(Congregation and choir)* **More Voices #69**

William S. Kervin

Lord, 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!

READINGS

Deuteronomy 26:1–11

Bring the first fruits before God.

Philippians 4:4–9

“Rejoice in the Lord always!”

ANTHEM *Weave for us a garment*

Kola Owolabi

Weave for us a garment of brightness; That we may walk fittingly where birds sing, That we may walk fittingly where grass is green. May the warp be the white light of morning, May the weft be the red light of evening, May the fringes be the falling rain, May the border be the standing rainbow. O our mother the earth, O our father the sky. -*Native American Prayer (Tewa Pueblo)*

GOSPEL READING **John 6:25–35**

Give us the bread from heaven for eternal life.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ENCOUNTERING THE CHILD WITHIN

HYMN #291 *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

ROYAL OAK

SERMON *“The Sixth Generation”*

Rev. Jason Meyers

ANTHEM *Hallelujah*

Leonard Cohen, 1934-2016; arr. Roger Emerson

Michelle Simmons and Nicholas Higgs, soloists

Now I've heard there was a secret chord That David played, and it pleased the Lord. But you don't really care for music, do you? It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth, the minor falls, the major lift; the baffled king composing Hallelujah. You say I took the name in vain though I don't even know the name, but if I did, well really, what's it to you? There's a blaze of light in ev'ry word, it doesn't matter what you heard, the holy or the broken Hallelujah. Now I've done my best, I know it wasn't much; I couldn't feel, so I tried to touch. I've told the truth, I didn't come here just to fool you. And even though it all went wrong I'll stand right here before the Lord of song with nothing, nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah.

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 SOLO Now Heaven in fullest glory shone, Franz Josef Haydn, 1732-1809
from *The Creation*; John Schneider, baritone

Now heaven in fullest glory shone ; Earth smil'd in all her rich attire ; The room of air by fowl is fill'd ; The water swell'd by shoals of fish ; By heavy beasts the ground is trod : But all the work was not complete ; There wanted yet that wondrous being, That, grateful, should God's power admire, With heart and voice His goodness praise.

OFFERTORY HYMN #822, v.1 *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

OLD 100TH

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*)

THANKSGIVING PRAYER (Inspired by the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address)

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 #236 *Now Thank We All Our God*

NUN DANKET

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

Earth Song, from *Three Pieces for Organ*

Heather Spry, 1951-1996



Leading in worship are **The Rev. Jason Meyers**, **The Rev. Mark Aitchison**, and **Ael Spence**. Reading the lessons is **Doug Flanders**. 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**.

MUSIC NOTES

- Canadian poet and singer **Leonard Cohen** left us a body of iconic and profound poetry. Cohen's lyrics often refer to the Jewish faith of his youth, and ask those probing questions that are universal to the human experience. In *Hallelujah*, we see the imperative for gratitude, even through our own broken and flawed existence.
- Canadian-born **Kola Owolabi**, of Nigerian and Trinidadian descent, was a student next door to us at St. Michael's Choir School, and is now Professor of Organ at Notre Dame University. His rollicking anthem *Weave for us a garment* is based on a traditional Native American text, and was commissioned by the Church of St. Andrew and St. Mark in Dorval, QC.
- Franz Josef Haydn's oratorio *The Creation* is an Enlightenment-era celebration of the beauty of Divinely-ordered nature, and was written on the eve of the Romantic Era, when nature itself was celebrated as the Divine.
- Toronto organist, conductor, composer and carillonneur **Heather Spry's** *Earth Song* begins and ends with Stravinsky-like, elemental rhythmic music, surrounding a lush and melodious middle section that fully exploits the Met organ's rich colour palette.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10 Thanksgiving Day (Church closed)

8:00 p.m. Centring Prayer*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11

6:00 p.m. Trustees

7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Silver Band

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

12:00 p.m. Zoom Bible Study*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

8:30 a.m. Breakfast Bible Study*

9:00 a.m. Footcare Clinic

10:30 a.m. Pre-Board

12:00 p.m. Community Meal Program

6:00 p.m. Stewardship

6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

7:30 p.m. Metropolitan Choir

8:00 p.m. Evening Communion*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

10:00 a.m. Art and Computer Lab

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

8:30 a.m. Saturday Bible Study*

NEXT SUNDAY: OCTOBER 16 - Carillon Centenary and Rededication

9:30 a.m. Choristers

10:30 a.m. Nursery

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

Readings: Psalm 66:1-12; 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

11:15 a.m. Sunday School

12:30 p.m. Rededication of the Carillon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARILLON CENTENARY NEXT WEEK

We are thrilled that the restoration of the carillon will be completed in time for its centenary next Sunday. There will be a special postlude following the service, including speeches outside (weather permitting) and guest carillonners performing from the new tower keyboard.

THE FLANDERS LIBRARY IS OPEN - CHECK US OUT!

The classic 'Chronicles of Narnia', seven fantasy novels by C.S. Lewis, are part of a diverse catalogue available to borrow from Met's Flanders Library. Popularized on film, television, radio and stage, these books are perfect for the whole family - read them with your kids or grandkids! The Library downstairs is open each Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and following the service until 1:00 p.m.

THE DOORS ARE OPEN AGAIN!

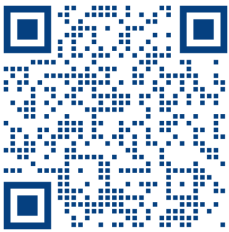
The sanctuary is once again open to the public Monday through Friday from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Thanks to the Narthex Greeters for welcoming visitors and providing information to those passing through!

ONLINE WORSHIP HOSTS

We're in need of additional worship hosts for our online service. Be a welcoming Met voice for congregants, moderating the chat from your phone or tablet browser, even from the church itself on a Sunday morning! Please email Jason if you would like to join our team, and can help out one Sunday a month.

TADDLE CREEK WILD CHURCH

Sunday Oct. 23 at 2:00 p.m. we'll meet in High Park for *A Litany of Fall Colours*. Stay tuned for meet up info.



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.

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Conductor, Metropolitan Choristers and Sparklers: Dr. Jennifer Martyn
Carillonneur: Roy Lee
Director, Metropolitan Silver Band: Fran Harvey



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