

WELCOME TO METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S DAY January 1, 2023

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.

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

ORDER OF SERVICE

CARILLON PRELUDE (outside, ending with:)

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM (Of the Father's Love Begotten)

arranged by William De Turk

ORGAN PRELUDE

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern (*Hymn 98*)

Johann Pachelbel, 1653-1706

Introit, from *Trois Cadeaux*, op. 206

John William Jenkins

Das alte Jahr vergangen ist, BWV 614

J.S. Bach, 1685-1750

WORDS OF WELCOME

♪ OPENING HYMN: 79 *Arise, Your Light is Come*

FESTAL SONG

♪ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

All: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; give praise, all shining stars!

One: Give praise, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!

All: Give praise, hills and mountains.

One: All people together, let us praise the name of the Lord and declare God's glory in heaven and on earth.

All: Let us worship God!

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

William S. Kervin

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy).

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

FACT OF PRAISE (All) 72 v.5

VOM HIMMEL HOCH

“Glory to God, in highest heaven, Who unto us a Son has given.”
With angels sing in pious mirth: A glad new year to all the earth!

READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, Shine; for your light has come

SOLO *New Year's Carol*

Benjamin Britten, 1913-1976

Benjamin Stein, tenor and theorbo

GOSPEL READING **Matthew 2:1-12**

The visit of the Magi

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

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: 97 *When a Star Is Shining*

KING'S WESTON

SERMON **“Watch, Listen and Ponder”**

Jim Harbell

SOLO *Joseph's Lullaby*

MercyMe

Benjamin Stein, tenor and guitar

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

Adagio, from *Sonata in F minor*, op. 65 no. 1

Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1947

♪OFFERTORY CAROL: 55, v.4

CRANHAM

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him – give my heart.

♪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: 96 *Will You Come and See the Light*

KELVINGROVE

♪COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

♪BLESSING: 47, v.3 (All)

STILL, STILL, STILL

*Joy! Joy! Joy! Glad tidings of great joy!
For through God's holy incarnation
Christ is born for our salvation.
Joy! Joy! Joy! Glad tidings of great joy!*

ORGAN POSTLUDE

In Dir ist Freude, BWV 615

J.S. Bach



Leading in worship is Minister of Congregational Care and Outreach (SME) **Jim Harbell**. The ministry of music is offered by Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Joshua Duncan Lee**, and tenor section lead **Dr. Benjamin Stein**. Our sound and livestream technicians are **Paya Dehghani** and **Nishaanth Siva**. Metropolitan's livestreaming equipment was made possible thanks to the generosity of **Wayne C. Vance**.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Centring Prayer (Zoom): Mondays at 8:00 p.m.

A gentle time of silent prayer to become aware of God's presence in our lives.

Zoom Bible Study: Wednesdays at Noon

A weekly consideration of the scripture passages and attending commentary.

Breakfast Bible Study (Zoom)

Thursdays at 8:30 a.m.

Saturday Bible Study (Zoom)

Saturdays at 8:30 a.m.

Taddle Creek Wild Church

Monthly nature-based service taking place outdoors on Sunday afternoons.

COMING SOON: Celtic Morning Prayer

Starting in January, we will gather on Wednesday mornings on Zoom and in-person in the chapel for a short service of prayer, scripture, song and silence in the Celtic tradition - stay tuned for our start date.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 2 - OFFICE CLOSED

8:00 p.m. Centring Prayer*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Silver Band

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

- 12:00 p.m. Zoom Bible Study*
- 7:00 p.m. Congregational Care

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

- 8:00 a.m. Chop Chop
- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast Bible Study*
- 12:00 p.m. Footcare Clinic

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

- 9:00 a.m. Footcare Clinic
- 9:30 a.m. Winter Breakfast Program
- 12:00 p.m. Art and Computer Lab

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

- 8:30 a.m. Saturday Bible Study*

NEXT SUNDAY: JANUARY 8 - Baptism of the Lord/First Sunday After The Epiphany

- 9:30 a.m. Choristers
- 10:00 a.m. Library Open (re-opens 12:15 p.m.)
- 10:30 a.m. Nursery
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - The Rev. Jason Meyers preaching
Readings: Isaiah 42:1-9; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17
- 11:15 a.m. Sunday School

COMMUNITY NEWS

NOON AT MET RETURNS IN FEBRUARY

Our renowned midday concert series starts up again on Thursdays in February, this time in partnership with the Glenn Gould School of Music, and the Laureat and Musical Oasis series of the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. February's artists include February 2: soprano Hannah Crawford, (prizewinner at the COC Centre Stage competition); February 9: organist Jonathan Oldengarm (works from the H.A. Fricker collection); February 16: organist Joshua Duncan Lee (Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar); February 23: soprano Veronika Anissimova (section lead here at Metropolitan United).

MUSIC AT MET CONCERTS IN THE NEW YEAR

Sunday, February 19 at 3:00 p.m.

In the first edition of an exciting new joint venture, the Trinity Bach Project partners with Music at Met to present an Epiphany cantata of J.S. Bach, plus other choral masterpieces in a sacred concert.

Prayers, spoken Word and music, presented together on Transfiguration Sunday. Freewill donation requested at the door.

Good Friday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m.

The Metropolitan Festival Choir, together with soloists and period-instrument orchestra, present G.F. Handel's monumental *Brockes Passion*. Stay tuned for ticket info and further details.

Sunday, April 23 at 3:00 p.m.

We will be hosting a Hymn Festival, with massed choirs, brass quintet, and organ – and lots of congregational singing. Bring your friends and family, and sing the great hymns of the faith with joy and vigour! Presented in collaboration with the Hymn Society, the event is also the grand finale of a Music United weekend conference. Freewill donation requested.

METROPOLITAN CHOIR, CHORISTERS AND GREAT HEART

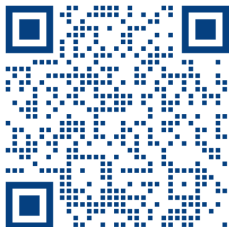
Details regarding fall 2023 Metropolitan (adult) Choir auditions will be forthcoming in the spring. We're also seeking singers and instrumentalists for Choristers (kids' choir) and Great Heart (youth band). These groups meet each Sunday either before or after the service. An excellent educational opportunity, 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 (Great Heart).

THE FLANDERS LIBRARY WELCOMES YOU

Please drop by the Flanders Library downstairs, open each Sunday before and after worship, and explore the thousands of titles in our catalogue! You can browse the online catalogue through the link on the Library page at metunited.ca/library.

STOCKINGS SUCCESS

Thank you for your generous donations towards our Third Annual Christmas Stockings campaign. Funds were raised for close to 150 stockings, distributed at the Winter Meal Program on December 23.



CONTINUED GIVING

Scan the code 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

Connect with us on YouTube, Facebook & Instagram

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



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