

WELCOME TO METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH



EARTH DAY SERVICE

April 23, 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 the Mississaugas of the Credit, covered by Treaty 13. 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

♪ indicates “please stand as you are able.”

CARILLON PRELUDE (*outside, ending with:*)

Guest Carillonist: Naoko Tsujita

LAUDA ANIMA

ORGAN PRELUDE Voluntary II (1805) - *Andantino - Allegretto*

William Russell, 1777-1813

Voluntary XV (1812) - *Largo - Allegretto*

WORDS OF WELCOME

♪ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN 226** *For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

♪ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: We have come from many places, following different roads.

All: We come hungering for greater understanding.

One: We have come to hear the wisdom of Scripture.

All: We come seeking companions in the faith.

One: We have come to discover the One revealed in the breaking of the bread.

All: We come to grow as disciples of Christ.

One: Come, let us worship God, made known in Christ Jesus.

All: Come with kindness and curiosity to find God's loving spirit.

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Adapted from Chief Seattle

One: Every part of this earth is sacred, every shining pine needle, every sandy shore,

All: every mist in the dark woods, every clearing and humming insect is holy.

One: The rocky crest, the juices of the meadow, the beasts and all the people,

All: all belong to the same family.

One: Teach your children that the earth is our mother.

All: We are part of the earth and the earth is part of us.

One: This we know, the earth does not belong to us;

All: we belong to the earth.

One: This we know, all things are connected.

All: Our God is the same God, whose compassion is equal for all.

One: For we did not weave the web of life; we are merely a strand in it.

All: Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.

One: Let us give thanks for the web and the circle that connects us all.

All: Thanks be to God, the God of all. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

KYRIE *(All) More Voices 69*

William S. Kervin

Kyrie eleison (God, have mercy)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

♪ACT OF PRAISE *(All) More Voices 59 Alleluia, Praise to God*

trad. Yoruba Song

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...

READING

Psalm 81 *VU 796, Refrain I*

God says “with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.”

GOSPEL READING **Luke 24:13-35**

Christ is made known in the breaking of bread.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

LIGHTING THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LANTERN

♪HYMN 460 *All Who Hunger*

HOLY MANNA

SERMON *“Bread and Honey”*

Rev. Jason Meyers

ANTHEM *Thou Visitest the Earth*

Maurice Greene, 1696-1755

Dr. Benjamin Stein, tenor

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 *My Master from a Garden Rose*

Eleanor Daley, b. 1955

♪FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY 217

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia Alleluia

Give thanks to God in love made known:

Creator, Word and Spirit, One. Alleluia ...

♪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 *The God who set the stars in space*

Tune at VU 518: **FOREST GREEN**

1. The God who set the stars in space
and gave the planets birth
created for our dwelling place
a green and fruitful earth;
a world with wealth and beauty crowned
of sky and sea and land,
where life should flourish and abound
beneath its Maker's hand.

2. A world of order and delight
God gave for us to tend,
to hold as precious in his sight,
to nurture and defend;
but yet on ocean, earth and air
the marks of sin are seen,
with all that God created fair
polluted and unclean.

3. O God, by whose redeeming grace
the lost may be restored,
who stooped to save our fallen race
in Christ, creation's Lord,

through him whose cross is life and peace
to cleanse a heart defiled
may human greed and conflict cease
and all be reconciled.

4. Renew the wastes of earth again,
redeem, restore, repair;
with us, your children, still maintain
your covenant of care.
May we, who move from dust to dust
and on your grace depend,
no longer, Lord, betray our trust
but prove creation's friend.

5. Our God, who set the stars in space
and gave the planets birth,
look down from heaven, your dwelling place,
and heal the wounds of earth;
till pain, decay and bondage done,
when death itself has died,
creation's songs shall rise as one
and God be glorified!

♪ 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 *Tuba Tune in D Major*

Craig Sellar Lang, 1891-1971



We are grateful to members of Met's **Green Team** and the **Peace and Social Justice Committee** for their support in shaping this service. Leading in worship are **The Rev. Jason Meyers, Jim Harbell, Donna Lang, Dorcas Beaton and Amy McClelland**. Reading the lessons is **Debbey Van Beek**. The ministry of music is offered by Guest Carillonnist **Naoko Tsujita**, 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 & WORSHIP NOTES

The elegantly-tuneful legacy of Mozart shines through the organ works of the tragically short-lived **William Russell**. Composer and orchestral musician at Sadler's Wells and Covent Garden, he also held several church positions. The Voluntary is a typically English genre for the organ, usually consisting of a slow and fast movement. Russell's second movements are always either fugal (as in II) or florid and lyrical (as in XV). A century older than Russell, **Maurice Greene**'s writing shows the influence of Henry Purcell in another characteristically English genre, the verse anthem, in which "verses" are sung by a soloist in alternation with "refrains" sung by the full choir. *Thou visitest the earth* is one of the most memorable ear-worms of 18th-c English church music! Toronto composer **Eleanor Daley**'s tender setting of Gordon Ellsworth Young's poem aptly combines themes of gardening, Easter and Resurrection—a perfect fit with today's Earth Day service. **C.S. Lang**'s *Tuba Tune* is a rollicking melody that puts the Met organ's crowning glory, the high-pressure Tuba stops (a kind of broadly-scaled trumpet tone) into the spotlight.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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

MONDAY, APRIL 24

8:00 p.m. Centring Prayer*

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Silver Band

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

8:45 a.m. Celtic Morning Prayer (Zoom/Chapel)

12:00 p.m. Zoom Bible Study*

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

8:30 a.m. Breakfast Bible Study*

12:00 p.m. Footcare Clinic

12:00 p.m. Noon at Met

4:00 p.m. Chop Chop

6:00 p.m. Kids Bedtime Stories*

6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

7:30 p.m. Metropolitan Choir

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

9:00 a.m. Footcare Clinic

9:30 a.m. Summer Breakfast Program

12:30 p.m. Art and Computer Lab

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

8:30 a.m. Saturday Bible Study*

NEXT SUNDAY: APRIL 30 - Fourth Sunday of Easter | Volunteer Sunday

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 - Jim Harbell preaching; Readings: Acts 2:41-47; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10
11:15 a.m. Sunday School
12:30 p.m. Prayer Covenant

COMMUNITY NEWS

LUNCH & LEARN/HYMN FEST TODAY

Following service today, Donna Lang will lead a Lunch & Learn on how to create your own pollinator garden (even on a balcony!). Then at 3:00 p.m. is our Hymn Festival, where massed choirs, brass quintet, and organ combine with joyful congregational singing! Presented in collaboration with the choir of Yorkminster Park Baptist and the Hymn Society, the event is also the grand finale of a Music United weekend conference.

VOLUNTEER SUNDAY

Interested in learning more about Met and how you can become involved? Come out next Sunday, April 30 for Volunteerism Sunday, when at coffee hour representatives from the Met's four pillars will explain all that we do and the many opportunities for you to take part in the life of the church.

DOORS OPEN WEEKEND: CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Could you help out on Doors Open Weekend, May 27 and 28, providing assistance in set-up and/or welcoming visitors to Met? Please fill out our Volunteer Availability form at bit.ly/DoorsOpenMet. Please contact Frank Cormier with any questions at frankc@metunited.ca.



CONTINUED GIVING

Scan the QR 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](#) 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)
Minister of Congregational Care and Outreach (SME): Jim Harbell, ext. 223 (jimh@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 Community Service Coordinator: Stephanie Cunti, ext. 241 (stephaniec@metunited.ca)

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Dr. Jonathan Oldengarm, ext. 226 (jonathano@metunited.ca)
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: Dr. 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, Siva Selva, Daniel Goggin, ext. 320

56 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON M5C 2Z3

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