

WELCOME TO METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

PEACE WITH CREATION SEASON OF CREATION 2025



Photo by Dmitry Grigoriev on Unsplash | Season of Creation symbol from seasonofcreation.org

SEASON OF CREATION 1 September 14, 2025

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.” Our services are livestreamed, so please be aware that you may appear on camera. If you have children with you, there is Sunday School and a quiet play area at the back of the sanctuary.

CARILLON PRELUDE

ORGAN PRELUDE *Pastorale, from Pièces en style libre, op. 31*
 Pastorale, op. 19

Louis Vierne, 1870-1937
César Franck, 1822-1890

~ We are gathered in Christ ~

WORDS OF WELCOME

♪ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN 327** *All Praise to Thee*

SINE NOMINE

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Rejoice with me, people of God.

All: God has gathered us in from the wilderness.

One: Rejoice with me, people of God.

All: God has swept away the darkness of the night.

One: Rejoice with me, people of God.

All: Today, there is joy in the presence of the angels.

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 (*All, sung 2x*)

Jacques Berthier



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

♪ **ACT OF PRAISE** (*All, sung 2x*) **More Voices 124** *Glory to God in the Highest* Trinidad Workshop
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

READINGS

Exodus 32:7-14

Moses begs forgiveness.

ANTHEM *Remember not, O Lord, our offences, Z. 50*

Henry Purcell, 1659-1695

Remember not, Lord, our offences, Nor th' offences of our forefathers; Neither take thou vengeance of our sins, But spare us, good Lord. Spare thy people, whom thou hast redeem'd With thy most precious blood, And be not angry with us for ever. Spare us, good Lord. -*From The Litany, Book of Common Prayer, 1544*

GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-10

The parables of the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

A TIME WITH YOUNG PEOPLE (*Children are invited forward to go to Sunday School*)

HYMN 273 *The King of Love My Shepherd is*

ST COLUMBA

SERMON *"Telling the Bees"*

The Rev. Jason Meyers

ANTHEM *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Virgil Thomson, 1896-1989

My shepherd will supply my need: Jehovah is His name; In pastures fresh He makes me feed, Beside the living stream. He brings my wandering spirit back When I forsake His ways, And leads me, for His mercy's sake, In paths of truth and grace. When I walk through the shades of death Thy presence is my stay; One word of Thy supporting breath Drives all my fears away. Thy hand in sight of all my foes, Doth still my table spread; My cup with blessings overflows, Thine oil anoints my head. The sure provisions of my God Attend me all my days; O may Thy house be mine abode, And all my work be praise! There would I find a settled rest, While others go and come; No more a stranger, nor a guest, But like a child at home.

- *From The Psalms of David (1719), by Isaac Watts*

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. *(please be seated)*



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING *(To make a donation, you can use the envelopes in the pews or scan the QR code to the right with your phone.)*

OFFERTORY *Pastorale, from Organ Sonata no. 4*
Matheus Coelho, clarinet

Josef Gabriel Rheinberger, 1839-1901

OFFERTORY HYMN 227

AR HYD Y NOS

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.

For the ploughing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

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.

~ We are sent to offer hope, healing and beauty in Jesus' name ~

RECESSIONAL HYMN 232 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*

HYMN TO JOY

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

BLESSING 423 *(All - please turn toward the centre)*

RANDOLPH

God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.

ORGAN POSTLUDE *Toccata*

Eugène Gigout, 1844-1925

All members and adherents of Metropolitan are encouraged to stay after worship for a congregational meeting to elect members of the Official Board and the Trustees.



Leading in worship are **The Rev. Jason Meyers**, **The Rev. Mark Aitchison**, and **Ael Spence**. Reading the lessons is **Ross Howey**. The ministry of music is offered by Wayne C. Vance Carillonneur **Dr. Elisa Tersigni**, Minister of Music **Dr. Jonathan Oldengarm**, Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Ethan Duan**, and the **Metropolitan Choir**. Members of our Care Staff are **Siva Selva** and **Gerold Mayer**. 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**. Music reprinted with permission under One Licence #707-069. All rights reserved.

MUSIC NOTES

This morning's scripture readings tell us of grace, forgiveness, and unlimited love. In the Old Testament lesson Moses asks for forgiveness—commented on by the great English Baroque composer Henry Purcell's haunting anthem "Remember not, Lord, our offences", excerpted from his *Funeral Sentences*. That forgiveness is found in the gospel reading, when Jesus (the Good Shepherd) tells us of another shepherd who went to every length to find that one lost sheep. Virgil Thomson's tender setting of *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* (Isaac Watts' Christian paraphrase of Psalm 23) is based on an old Southern US folk tune of a simple, modal character reminiscent of a shepherd's flute. At the Offertory, we hear a *Pastorale* by 19th-century Germany's favourite counterpoint teacher, Josef Gabriel Rheinberger, who was Professor of Composition at the Munich Conservatory. The postlude is the rollicking *Toccata* by the reclusive but gifted Parisian Eugène Gigout, who retired from church duties and public performance at an early age to focus exclusively on composition. One of the most "textbook" examples of the French Symphonic toccata in the repertoire, in this elegant work Gigout systematically develops the keyboard figuration over the great tolling theme in evermore complex and virtuosic ways, concluding with cascading scales and a thundering closing cadence.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

8:00 p.m. Centring Prayer*

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

12:30 p.m. Celtic Communion*

6:00 p.m. Official Board

6:00 p.m. Silver Band Executive

7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Silver Band

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

12:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study*

7:00 p.m. Met Care

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

8:45 a.m. Thursday Morning Bible Study*

10:45 a.m. Rimbala*

1:00 p.m. Knitting Group*

1:15 p.m. Rimbala*

6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

7:30 p.m. Metropolitan Choir

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

10:30 a.m. Summer Community Meal Program

NEXT SUNDAY: SEPTEMBER 21 - The Second Sunday of Creation Time

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 32:14-18; Psalm 113; Luke 16:1-13

11:15 a.m. Sunday School

12:30 p.m. Chapel Chat - "To Live with Respect in Creation"*

COMMUNITY NEWS

SIGN UP FOR THE MET CONNECT EMAIL

Are you signed up for Met Connect? Every Friday the Met Connect email update lands in your inbox with important news from the Met community. If you haven't signed up, please visit our website at metunited.ca or email communications@metunited.ca.

RETURNING PROGRAMS AT MET

Centring Prayer: Mondays at 8:00 p.m. on Zoom

Centring Prayer is a method of Christian meditation that places a strong emphasis on interior silence and the centring of oneself on the presence of God.

Celtic Communion: Tuesdays at 12:30pm in the Chapel and on Zoom

Under candlelight, we sing, pray, and take the sacred elements together in supportive community.

Wednesday @ Noon Bible Study on Zoom

A mid-week opportunity for reflection and discussion of scripture with a focus on the main preaching text for the upcoming Sunday. Led by Rev. Jason Meyers.

Thursday Morning Bible Study: 8:45 a.m. on Zoom

Led by Rev. Cora Krommenhoek, the Thursday Morning Bible Study is an open and informative consideration of one or two of the Scriptures for the following Sunday.

Rimbala: Thursdays at 10:45 a.m. and 1.15 p.m. in the Chancel Room and on Zoom

Led by Dr. Daniel Rubinoff, Rimbala combines live, improvised music with simple and fun movement activities to help seniors improve balance, mobility and memory.

Hybrid Knitting: Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Learning Room and on Zoom

A ministry of yarn and conversation. All knitters, stitchers, and crocheters of all skill levels are most welcome to join.

EAST LAWN OFFICIAL OPENING - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Stay for bit after the service on Sunday, September 28th, to help us officially open the East Lawn of Met! We will have members of the local community, the government, and Met all helping us celebrate our newly revitalized green space. And later that same day ...

CANADA'S FAVOURITE HYMN - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 3.00 pm

Canada's Favourite Hymns, as chosen by vote, performed by The concert will feature, Bass-baritone Daniel Lichti as MC and Special Guest Joey Niceforo, former original member of The Canadian Tenors and Destino, Canada's Largest Pipe Organ, and the Metropolitan Silver Band. Free-will offering to support our Refugee Program.

CONTINUED GIVING

Scan the QR code to be directed to our online giving page. You can also send an e-transfer to donations@metunited.ca, or mail in envelopes and/or cheques to the church. If you would like to arrange a pre-authorized remittance for regular giving (PAR) from your bank account or credit card, please contact Elena Pejcinovska at elenap@metunited.ca or 416-363-0331 ext. 229.

DIRECTORY

Chair of the Official Board: Joseph Curry (boardchair@metunited.ca)
Minister of Worship & Faith Formation: The Rev. Jason Meyers, ext 224. (jasonm@metunited.ca)
Minister of Pastoral Care: 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 (officiant@metunited.ca)
Voluntary Associate Minister: The Rev. Warren McDougall (officiant2@metunited.ca)
Children & Youth Coordinator: Ael Spence (ael@metunited.ca)
Nursery Attendant: Johnavac Abraham
Library: Marion Lick and Maureen Maguire (library@metunited.ca)
Seniors Support Worker: Allen Mathewkutty (allenm@metunited.ca)



Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Dr. Jonathan Oldengarm, ext. 226 (jonathano@metunited.ca)
Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar: Ethan Duan
Metropolitan Choir Lead Singers: Noelle Slaney, Gisele Kulak, Valeria Kondrashov, Michelle Simmons, Alexander Cappellazzo, Alain Paquette, Ian Speck, Matheus Coelho, Parker Clements
Director, Great Heart Youth Ensemble: Dr. Benjamin Stein
Conductor, Metropolitan Choristers: Alessia Signorella
Wayne C. Vance Carillonist: Dr. Elisa Tersigni
Director, Metropolitan Silver Band: Fran Harvey



Administrative Ministry

Executive Director: Dr. David Harrison, ext. 222 (davidh@metunited.ca)
Office & Communications Administrator: Elisabeth Beattie, ext. 210 (elisabethb@metunited.ca)
Financial Manager: Elena Pejcinovska, ext. 229 (elenap@metunited.ca)
Property Manager: Frank Cormier, ext. 231 (frankc@metunited.ca)
Custodians: Puvi Kanagalingam, Siva Selva, Mohammad Wahedi, Gerold Mayer, Austin Tran **ADD Krissy**, ext. 320

56 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON M5C 2Z3

Tel. 416.363.0331 | Email: office@metunited.ca



[@MetropolitanUnitedChurch](https://www.youtube.com/MetropolitanUnitedChurch)



[/MetUnited](https://www.facebook.com/MetUnited)



[/MetropolitanUnitedTO/](https://www.instagram.com/MetropolitanUnitedTO/)