

# WELCOME TO METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH



Our Celtic Cross in the Chancel, donated by Linn Holness in memory of her mother

## SEASON OF CREATION 4 | WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY October 5, 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

Variations on Wondrous Love  
Variations on an Old Folk Song

Samuel Barber, 1910-1981  
Amy Beach, 1867-1941

*~ We are gathered in Christ ~*

## WORDS OF WELCOME

♪ PROCESSIONAL HYMN 317 *I Bind Unto Myself Today*

ST PATRICK'S BREASTPLATE

## INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: We come as guests invited to a table of love.

**All: We come to celebrate with friends and neighbours.**

One: Jesus Christ, our Friend and Saviour, invites us to gather.

**All: We gather with Jesus' friends around the world.**

One: Come and worship with hearts full of God's praise and promise.

**All: We worship God in gladness, for God's faithfulness endures forever.**

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** *(Sung by All)* **More Voices 67**

John Bell

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

## 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.

*~ We encounter the Word ~*

## READING

**Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4**

The wicked surround the righteous

**ANTHEM** O *Radiant Dawn*

James MacMillan

O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal Light, Sun of Justice: Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. Amen.

**GOSPEL****Luke 17:5-10**

Faith the size of a mustard seed

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** *More Voices* 120 *My Soul Cries Out***STAR OF COUNTY DOWN****SERMON** *"If only..."*

The Rev. Jason Meyers

**ANTHEM** *Christ be with me*

Stephanie Martin, b. 1962

Naomi Struik, recorder; The text at *Voices United* 318.

*~ We respond with love ~*

**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.*)

## DEDICATION OF OFFERING

### SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*From the Iona Community Worship Book 1991*

## INVITATION

## 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)*

## THE STORY OF THE LAST SUPPER

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT *More Voices 203*

adapted by William Kervin

## PRAYERS OF BLESSING AND INTERCESSION

## AGNUS DEI *St Bride Setting*

John Bell

O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; O Lamb of God, you

5 take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us. *(repeat 3x)*

*(3rd time text)* grant us, grant us, grant us your peace.

## BREAKING THE BREAD, POURING THE CUP

## DISTRIBUTION

*The elements are gluten-free bread and grape juice. Please follow the usher's lead and come to the rails in the front row to kneel (or stand) to receive communion. Please wait for the ministers' invitation to take the bread and cup. If you wish to remain in your pew, a server will bring the elements to you.*

*After taking the elements, if you would like a blessing and anointing with oil on your hand or forehead, there are stations at the end of rows.*

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION *A Celtic Prayer*

Barry Peters, b. 1957

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER



## 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 642 Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

## COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

### BLESSING (sung twice)

Northumbria Community Celtic Daily Prayer Book



May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wher - e - ver He may  
send you. May He guide you through the wild - er - ness, pro - tect you through the  
storm. May He bring you home re - joi - cing at the won - ders He has  
shown you. May He bring you home re - joi - cing once a - gain in - to our doors.

## ORGAN POSTLUDE *Allegro maestoso*, from *Sonata Celtica* Charles Villiers Stanford, 1852-1924



Leading in worship are **The Rev. Jason Meyers**, **The Rev. Mark Aitchison**, and **Ael Spence**. Reading the lessons is **Fran Parkin**. The ministry of music is offered by Wayne C. Vance Carillonneur **Dr. Elisa Tersigni**, Minister of Music **Dr. Jonathan Oldengarm**, Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholars **Ethan Duan** and **Edward Xu**, and the **Metropolitan Choir**. Members of our Care Staff are **Siva Selva** and **Austin Tran**. 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 music is largely Celtic-inspired, anchored by the mighty hymn *St Patrick's Breastplate*. Legend has it that St. Patrick wrote it in 433 A.D. as a prayer for divine protection before he successfully converted the Irish King Leoghaire and his subjects from paganism to Christianity. The tune we associate with these words is also very ancient, although it was adapted to this text only in the 19th century by the great Anglo-Irish composer Sir Charles Villiers Stanford. The Scottish James MacMillan is one the most important living composers in the English choral tradition; *O Radiant Dawn* from the Strathclyde Motets is normally sung during Advent, but is apt to the Season of Creation also. Stephanie Martin's *Christ be with me* sets an excerpt from St Patrick's Breastplate, and was composed for the funeral of Father Harold Nahabedian.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

8:00 p.m. Centring Prayer\*

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7

12:30 p.m. Celtic Communion\*

7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Silver Band

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

12:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study\*

4:00 p.m. Worship Committee

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

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

10:45 a.m. Rimbala\*

12:00 p.m. Noon at Met

1:00 p.m. Knitting Group\*

1:15 p.m. Rimbala\*

5:00 p.m. Wild Church (at 233 Cummer Avenue)

6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir

7:30 p.m. Metropolitan Choir

### NEXT SUNDAY: OCTOBER 12 - Thanksgiving Sunday

10:00 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 Reverend Jason Meyers preaching

Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Philippians 4:4-9; John 6:25-35

11:15 a.m. Sunday School

12:30 p.m. Chapel Chat on getting involved at Met

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### SUNDAY LUNCH TODAY - END OF AN ERA

It is sad but true. The Imperial Pub is closing its doors in November after more than 80 years of pints and deep fried delights (R.I.P. 'Brown Platter'). Today after worship will be our last Sunday Lunch at this Toronto landmark. Let's raise a glass and offer our gratitude to the staff that have hosted our monthly get-togethers these past few years.

### WITH GRATITUDE

Met's Official Board extends its sincerest thanks to Lynn Patterson for gifting to our church the necessary funds for our new electronic sign at the corner of Queen and Church Streets. This sign, which has been on our marketing 'wish-list' for many years, is a significant contribution to our ministry of communication, helping us share all that we do with our downtown community. The response to this sign and the information it offers has been highly favorable. Metropolitan is deeply grateful to Lynn for this act of thoughtful generosity.

### SUMMER MEAL PROGRAM THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Summer Meal Program. We are starting up our indoor Community Meal on October 17. The first Chop Chop meal prep will be on Thursday, October 16.

### NOON AT MET RETURNS THIS WEEK!

On Thursday, October 9, our own Jonathan Oldengarm plays works of CPE Bach on harpsichord!

### WILD CHURCH ON OCT 9

Wild Church lives at the intersection of emerging eco-spiritually and the timeless ways of Jesus. We gather this month for our first nature-based worship service of the season on October 9 at 5pm at the Labyrinth and Garden of The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine 233 Cummer Avenue.

### DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO A MINISTRY OF GOURDS, PUMPKINS AND CORN STALKS?

We are looking for a person (or family) who would like to take on the creative and fun task of decorating for the Thanksgiving service on October 12. If this is you, please get in touch with Rev. Jason.

### NEXT NEW MEMBERS CLASS ON OCT 19

We will be hosting a membership class after worship on October 19th in the Library and on Zoom for people new to the community who are interested in joining as a member. The class will include material on United Church history/theology, the history of Metropolitan, how our church is structured and financed and how you can get involved. Please get in touch with Rev. Jason for more information.

### COFFEE MUGS NEEDED

Do you have extra coffee mugs cluttering your kitchen cupboards? If so, please consider donating them to Met for use in hospitality after services and the Met Community Meal Programs. Mugs may be left in the pantry near the entrance of the church.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:elenap@metunited.ca) or 416-363-0331 ext. 229.



## DIRECTORY

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## Ministry of Music

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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

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