

WELCOME TO METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH



Comfort Ye, My People (Vera Taylor)

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

December 17, 2025 - 5:00pm

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

ORGAN PRELUDE *Rorate coeli*

Jeanne Demessieux, 1921-1968

WELCOME & INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Tonight, we gather as strangers and as friends.
All: We bring with us our longings and our dreams.
One: Tonight, we come to God as we are.
All: In the promise that God will meet us here.
One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

CAROL 61 *Of The Father's Love Begotten (vs. 1,3, 4)*

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

DARKNESS

INTRO *Darkness and the Manger*

CAROL 55 *In the Bleak Midwinter (vs. 1,2,4)*

CRANHAM

READING *Psalm 22*

STONES

PRAYER

VOCAL SOLO *Bist du bei mir*

Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750

Be thou with me and I'll go gladly To death and on to my repose. Ah, how my end would bring contentment, If, pressing with thy hands so lovely, Thou wouldst my faithful eyes then close.

Gisele Kulak, soprano

LIGHT

INTRO *Light*

CAROL 97 *When a Star is Shining*

KINGS WESTON

POEM *Christmas Light*

May Sarton

SEEING THE LIGHT

CAROL 17 *O Ancient Love (vs. 1, 3)*

BEDFORD ABBEY

PRAYER

HOPE

INTRO *Hope*

CAROL 7 *Hope Is a Star (vs. 1-4)*

MOON BEAMS

POEM *Humming in the Darkness*

Henri Nouwen

SETTING DOWN AND PICKING UP

PRAYER

CAROL 58 *Infant Lowly*

W ZLOBIE LEZY

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

BLESSING 423 (*all verses, sung by everyone*) *God be With You till We Meet Again* RANDOLPH

POSTLUDE *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen, op. 122 no. 8* Johannes Brahms, 1833-1897
(*"Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming"*, text at *Voices United 8*)



Leading in worship are **The Rev. Jason Meyers** and **Ael Spence**. The ministry of music is offered by Soloist **Gisele Kulak** and Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Edward Xu**.

CHRISTMAS AT METROPOLITAN

CHRISTMAS EVE - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 4PM

Start a new Christmas tradition with this all-ages service that will begin inside with stories and songs of the season, and end with a tree lighting and hot apple cider outside.

CHRISTMAS EVE BY CANDLELIGHT - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 11PM

O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining. It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth. With the Metropolitan Choir and the sacrament of Communion (where all are welcome), this is always one of most looked-forward-to services of the entire year.

CHRISTMAS DAY - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25, 11AM

A cozy and relaxed Christmas Day service with a choral quartet.

DIRECTORY

Chair of the Official Board: Peter Johnston (boardchair@metunited.ca)
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Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Dr. Jonathan Oldengarm, ext. 226 (jonathano@metunited.ca)
Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholars: Ethan Duan & Edward Xu
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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