

WELCOME TO METROPOLITAN UNITED CHURCH

Hope, Healing and Beauty in Jesus' name



Prince Edward Island, July 2026 - Photo by Rev. Meyers

HOMECOMING SUNDAY

September 13, 2026

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 Wendat Nation, 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

BAND PRELUDE

Everlasting Love
Be Still and Know
Promises

Keith Manners
Philip Rayment
Sam Creamer

~ *We are gathered in Christ* ~

WORDS OF WELCOME *Small Miracles by Patti Orr*

♪ PROCESSIONAL HYMN 216 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

MIT FREUDEN ZART

♪ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Gathered as God's people,
All: we come to worship together.
One: Called to be followers of Jesus,
All: we come to share our lives together.
One: Challenged to become partners with the Spirit,
All: we will seek peace and hope.
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) *More Voices 67*

John Bell (“Bridget”)

Kyrie eleison - Christe eleison. (*Lord, have mercy - Christ, have mercy.*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

♪ ACT OF PRAISE (All) 870 *from Psalm 148*

ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HOH' SEI EHR

Let all creation bless the Lord, till heaven with praise is ringing. Sun, moon, and stars peal out a chord, stir up the angels' singing. Sing, wind and rain! Sing, snow and sleet! Make music day, night, cold, and heat: exalt the God who made you.

~ *We encounter the Word* ~

READINGS

Exodus 3:1-15

The Divine Name revealed

Revelation 2:12-17

A new name written on a stone

ANTHEM *Jubilate Deo in C*

Words from Psalm 100

Charles Villiers Stanford, 1857-1924

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

Jesus asks “who do you say that I am?”

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

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 335 *At the Name of Jesus*

KING'S WESTON

During the hymn children are invited to meet Ael at the front to go down to Sunday School.

SERMON

“The White Stone”

The Rev. Jason Meyers

ANTHEM *The Size of Your Heart*

Eleanor Daley, b. 1955

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



OFFERTORY ...and All is Well

Paul Lovatt-Cooper

Soloists: Sarah Hemeon, soprano cornet, Dominik Danda, euphonium
Metropolitan Silver Band, directed by Fran Harvey

♪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.

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

♪RECESSIONAL HYMN 325 Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

♪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.

BAND POSTLUDE Moses, Get Down!

Traditional, arranged by Barrie Gott



Leading in worship are **The Rev. Jason Meyers** and **The Rev. Warren McDougall** Reading the lessons is **Andrew Wells**. The ministry of music is offered by Wayne C. Vance Carillonneur **Dr. Elisa Tersigni**, the **Metropolitan Silver Band** directed by **Fran Harvey**, 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 **Mohammad Wahedi**. 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

The Silver Band is delighted to return from our summer holiday to commence our 93rd season. We have chosen some beautiful arrangements of some well known pieces as well as some that will be new to you. *Everlasting Love*, which begins our prelude, was written by British composer Keith Manners and combines the melodies of two modern hymns, "Such Love" and "The Wonder of His Grace" into a powerful reflection. Likewise, Canadian Composer Phil Rayment, who hails originally from Hamilton, Ontario, used the melody of the hymn tune but in this case "Be Still and Know that I am God" hails from the early 20th Century. In *Be Still and Know* he has woven it with his own melody to create a reflection on Psalm 46..."God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in trouble." The final piece on the prelude, *Promises*, is a fun rendition of the old standard "Standing on the Promises."

The Offertory features Sarah Hemeon on soprano cornet and Dominik Danda on euphonium in a lovely duet. Paul Lovatt-Cooper wrote *...and All is Well* for the brass band Posaunenchor Flaach in 2020, with Erich Schmidli (Euphonium) and Andreas Meyer (Soprano). As his inspiration for this soaring duet, he used the words of poet Ella Wheeler Wilcox - "Say you are well, or all is well with you and God shall hear your words and make them true". Our postlude will hopefully help you to continue to feel that wellness of spirit as you go on your way out into the world. Since it is a new funk-style rendition of one of our favourites, please remember that the dance floor is open.

-Fran Harvey, B.Mus, B.Ed, MDE, OCT

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

8:00 p.m. Centring Prayer*

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

12:00 p.m. Celtic Communion at the Chapel at Emmanuel College*

7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Silver Band

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

12:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 8:45 a.m. Thursday Morning Bible Study*
- 10:45 a.m. Rimbala*
- 1:00 p.m. Knitting Group*
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir
- 7:30 p.m. Metropolitan Choir

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 10:30 a.m. Community Meal Program

NEXT SUNDAY: SEPTEMBER 20 - The First Sunday of Creation Time

- 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: Ezek 47:9,12; Revelation 22:1-7; John 7:37-39
- 11:15 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:30 p.m. Chapel Chat on the Season of Creation
- 12:30 p.m. Choristers

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.

SIGN UP FOR THE MUSIC AT MET NEWSLETTER

If you love the quality of music programming that Metropolitan provides to the community, sign up for the newsletter and share it with an arts-loving friend or two! We've got a very good thing going on at Met and want to spread the news far and wide! Sign up for the newsletter metunited.org/pages/music-at-met-newsletter

RETURNING PROGRAMS

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. Note that for Sept 15 and 22, Celtic Communion will be offered at Noon in the Chapel of Emmanuel College and on Zoom.

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 Christopher Hoover, 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. 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.

FAITH AND FOOTBALL WITH THE TORONTO ARGONAUTS

Are you interested in going to an Argos football game with the Met community? The Faith & Football game is September 19th at 3pm. A group from Met is being organized to go. If you would like to join, please email Ael at ael@metunited.ca.

CONGREGATIONAL GATHERING ON MET'S VALUES

Last April, there was a congregational gathering to invite input on Met's core values. On September 27th after the worship service there will be a short congregational gathering to present the five values that have been developed from the input gathered in April. All are most warmly welcomed and encouraged to attend.

ORANGE SHIRT DAY: SEPT 27

On Sunday, September 27th, Met will be observing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in our service. You will be invited to wear orange to worship that day. If you need to purchase an orange shirt, a link to the gift shop of the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto was sent out this week's Met Connect email.

UPCOMING SERVICES

- September 20th - Season of Creation
- September 27th - Orange Shirt Day - Kelly Hashemi preaching
- October 4th - World Communion Sunday
- October 11th - Thanksgiving Sunday
- October 18th - Social Justice Sunday - Matthew Legge preaching
- October 25th - Lester Randall Preaching Fellowship Sunday - John Bell preaching
- November 1st - Anniversary Sunday
- November 8th - Remembrance Sunday

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.



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Conductor, Metropolitan Choristers: Camille Labonté
Wayne C. Vance Carillonist: Dr. Elisa Tersigni
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