

# Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

*The downtown church for a diverse city*

*For thousands of years this land has been the traditional home of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. It is still home to Indigenous people from across Turtle Island. We are grateful to work, live and worship on this land.*



**Sunday, December 23, 2018**  
**Fourth Sunday in Advent**

*We hope that you will find in the Worship Service food for faith and a doorway to God. Metropolitan is an **Affirming Congregation**. We welcome people of all sexual orientations to worship and minister among us.*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### CARILLON PRELUDE (10:30 a.m. outside) ending with

*Conditor Alme and Veni Emmanuel*

arr. Roy Hamlin Johnson

### ORGAN PRELUDE *Noël Grand Jeu et Duo*

Louis-Claude Daquin

*In Dulci Jubilo* settings by Johann Michael Bach and Dieterich Buxtehude

*My Soul Magnifies the Lord*

J. S. Bach

*Lo, How a Rose*

Lionel Rogg

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN #61 *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Divinum Mysterium

### INVITATION TO WORSHIP (OPENING LITURGY IS ADAPTED FROM PSALM 80, SELECTED VERSES)

One: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead your dreamers like a flock.

All: **Restore us. Let your face shine that we might be saved.**

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Let us pray. (all seated)

### PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

One: How long will you be disatisfied with your peoples' prayers; too little, too light, too cheap, too full of self?

All: **We have caused and tasted tears, and felt the evils of this life. We have seen our heroes strive for nobler things and thought them fools.**

One: We have lost faith in the goodness of our neighbours, and in the merits of our governance.

All: **Our enemies laugh at us, as people of faith with no hope.**

One: God of Hosts, of the Ages, and of these, our days, restore us with a clean slate and a good road. Give us songs to sing, heartily as we go, a ceremony of carols.

### SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

### ADVENT KYRIE (ALL)



### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: "Come, Almighty, to deliver. Let us, all, your grace receive." The promise of incarnation returns the child to its joy and the earthborn to the heights of heaven. We are restored to God.

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: The fourth Advent candle represents the light of Love. Love is God's autobiography, and Christ is God's signature.

♪(indicates a congregational response - please stand as you are able).

**All: May the warm light of Love flood the world and guide the human journey.**

*(The candle is lit by Li Koo and Mary Moynihan, Joan Mei Jun Koo-Moynihan)*

Family: "Even so, come Lord Jesus."

**SUNG ADVENT RESPONSE (ALL): from Hymn #7**

**Love is a flame that burns in our heart. Jesus has come and will never depart.**

**When God is a child there's joy in our song.**

**The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.**

**ENCOUNTERING THE CHILD WITHIN**

All children and youth are invited to make their way to Sunday School. Please follow the teachers.

**♪HYMN #8 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming**

Es ist ein Ros

**READING AND REFLECTION Micah 5:2-5**

**A CEREMONY OF CAROLS**

Benjamin Britten

The Metropolitan Choir with Janice Lindskoog, harp

Soloists: Gisele Kulak, Chelsea Van Pelt, Valeria Kondrashov

**1. Procession**

Hodie Christus natus est:

Hodie Salvator apparuit;

Hodie in terra canunt angeli;

Laetantur archangeli;

Hodie exsultant iusti dicentes;

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia!

*Today Christ is born;*

*Today the Saviour has appeared;*

*Today the angels sing,*

*The archangels rejoice;*

*Today the righteous rejoice, saying,*

*Glory to God in the highest, Alleluia!*

**2. Wolcum Yole**

Wolcum, Wolcum,

Wolcum be thou heavenè king,

Wolcume, born in one morning,

Welcome, for whom we sall sing!

Wolcum be ye, Stevene and Jon,

Wolcum, Innocentes every one,

Wolcum, Thomas marter one,

Wolcum be ye, good New Yere,

Wolcum Twelfth Day both in fere,

Wolcum seintes lefe and dere.

Candelmesse, Queene of Bliss,

Wolcum bothe to more and lesse.

Wolcum be ye that are here,

Wolcum alle and make good cheer.

Wolcum alle another yere.

**3. There is no rose**

There is no rose of such vertu as is the rose  
that bare Jesu. *Alleluia.*

For in this rose contained was

Heaven and earth in litel space

*Res Miranda (marvelous thing)*

By that rose we may well see

There be one God in persons three,

*Pares forma (of equal form)*

The aungels sungen the shepherds to:

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*Gaudeamus (let us rejoice)*

Leave we all this werdly mirth,

And follow we this joyful birth.

As is the rose that bare Jesu.

*Transeamus (Let us go from wordly  
to Heavenly things)*

**4a. That Yongè Child**

That yongè child when it gan weep

With song she lulled him asleep

That was so sweet a melody

It passéd alle minstrelly.

The nightingale sang also:

Her song is hoarse and nought therto:

Whoso attendeth to her song

And leaveth the first then doth he wrong.

## READING AND REFLECTION Hebrews 10:5-10

### 4b. Balulalow

O my deare hert, young Jesu sweit  
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit,  
And I sall rock thee to my hert,  
And never mair from thee depart.

But I sall praise thee evermoir  
With sanges sweit unto thy gloir;  
The knees of my hert sall I bow  
And sing that richt Balulalow.

### 5. As dew in Aprille

I sing of a maiden that is makeleès:  
King of all kings to her son she ches.  
He came al so stille there his moder was,  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the grass.  
He came also stille to his moders bour,

As dew in Aprille that falleth on the flour.  
He came also stille there his moder lay  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the spray.  
Moder and mayden was never none but she:  
Well such a lady Goddes moder be.

### 6. This little Babe

This little Babe so few days old  
Is come to rifle Satans fold.  
All hell doth at his presence quake,  
Though he himself for cold do shake;  
For in this weak unarmèd wise  
The gates of hell he will surprise.  
With tears he fights and wins the field,  
His naked breast stands for a shield;  
His battering shot are babish cries,  
His arrows looks of weeping eyes;  
His martial ensigns Cold and Need,  
And feeble Flesh his warriors steed.

His camp is pitchèd in a stall,  
His bulwark but a broken wall;  
The crib his trench, haystalks his stakes,  
Of shepherds he his muster makes;  
And thus, as sure his foe to wound,  
The angels trumps alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight,  
Stick to the tents that he hath pight;  
Within his crib is surest ward,  
This little Babe will be thy guard;  
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,  
Then flit not from this heavenly boy.

### 7. Interlude (Harp Solo)

#### 8. Spring Carol

Pleasure it is to hear iwis, the Birdès sing, the  
deer in the dale, the sheep in the vale,  
the corn springing.  
God's purveyance for sustenance, it is for  
man. Then we always give him praise, and  
thank him than.

The appil takè been,  
Ne haddè never our lady  
A ben hevenè queen.  
Blessed be the time  
That appil takè was.  
Therefore we moun singen,  
Deo Gracias! Deo Gracias!

#### 9. Deo Gracias

Deo Gracias! Deo Gracias! (*Thanks be to God!*)  
Adam lay ibounden, bound in a bond,  
For thousand winter thought he not too long.  
And all was for an appil,  
An appil that he tok,  
As clerkès finden written in their book.  
Ne had the appil takè been,

#### 10. Recession

Hodie Christus natus est:  
Hodie Salvator apparuit;  
Hodie in terra canunt angeli;  
Laetantur archangeli;  
Hodie exsultant justi dicentes;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia!

**ASCRPTION OF GLORY:** These are the tidings of God. If you would touch the sacred, touch it here. The truth is in the words, and the power in the inspiration.

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Thanks be to God.**

♪**HYMN #46** *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

Gentle Mary

♪**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.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OUR COMMON LIFE**

**OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND WORK**

**OFFERTORY SOLO** *The Virgin's Slumber Song*

Valeria Kondrashov, mezzo-soprano

Max Reger

♪**THE OFFERTORY HYMN #540 (All)**

Stuttgart

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.**

**Grant us time and inspiration, with a vision old and new,  
that our goal in all our loving may be reached in loving you.**

♪**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. (all seated)

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**LORD'S PRAYER (all)** (*Voices United*, p. 921)

**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 #35     *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

In Dulci Jubilo

♪COMMISSIONING

♪BLESSING (All) #429 – (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 AND CANDLE EXTINGUISHING *In Dulci Jubilo*

J. S. Bach



LEADING IN WORSHIP this morning are **The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair** and **The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea**. Reading the lessons is **Fran Parkin**. The ministry of music is offered by the **Metropolitan Choir** conducted by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, the Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Michael Oldaker**, and Junior Organ Scholar **Timothy Wisnicki**.

CARRYING THE ADVENT TORCH is **Ian Mahaffy**.

GREETERS are **Doug Flanders** and **Carol Kitney**.

USHERS are **Toba Bryant**, **Roy Tomlinson**, **Kenneth Younie**, and **Gunn Wongsuwan**.

All are welcome to share in coffee and conversation after the service.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

### Monday, December 24     *Christmas Eve*

5:00 p.m. Christmas at Queen

Front Steps

"Hope Is a Star"     The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea

***See the Living Nativity on our steps with live animals.***

11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion Service

"Miracle of Permanence"     The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair

Isaiah 9:2-7; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

### Tuesday, December 25     *Christmas Day*

11:00 a.m. Christmas Day Worship Service

"Day of Delight"     The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair

Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-4; John 1:1-14

### Sunday, December 30     *First Sunday after Christmas*

9:30 a.m. Communion Service in the Founders' Chapel

"A Great Light"     The Rev. Dr. Kari Tolppanen

11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service

"Touch of Destiny"     The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair

I Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

**METROPOLITAN CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS:** In honour of our 200th anniversary we have commissioned a special pewter ornament of the church available in the Narthex for \$20 each.

## ***MINISTRY OF INTEGRATED ARTS***

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS!** Give the gift of Metropolitan Music. Following the service, our various CDs will be for sale for the price of \$10.

**DONATIONS NEEDED:** The Visual and Creative Arts Committee is accepting donations of wool and yarn, knitting needles, patterns or other supplies. If you should find yourself with extra, please consider dropping it off in the church office. *Thank you.*

**METROPOLITAN SILVER BAND NEW CD RECORDING:** is now available. Pick up your copy of *Sacred Brass* - the band's new CD that features all your sacred brass band favourites. Also available is the recent *Amazing Grace*, and of course our jolly Christmas CD - *Silver Christmas*. Available in the Narthex after the service.

## ***CONGREGATIONAL CARE***

**CHRISTMAS AT QUEEN –** On **Monday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m.** You are invited to the outdoor pageant with a living nativity and live animals. Apple Cider will be served. All are welcome.

**NEXTGEN:** Let's reconnect at the Imperial Pub for a beer & bible night on **January 21 at 6:00 p.m.** RSVP with Rebecca at ([schoenhardtrebecca@gmail.com](mailto:schoenhardtrebecca@gmail.com)).

## ***OUTREACH***

**OUT OF THE COLD VOLUNTEERS:** We're asking for volunteers to help with early morning food preparation on Wednesdays and also on Thursdays at noon to help with clean-up, dishes, etc. Please contact **Kathy Priestman** at **416-691-5808**.

**COOKIE BAKERS** make possible a much-loved addition to the Thursday Out of the Cold meals. Tins will be left in the Narthex Sunday mornings; cookie donations may be left there.

## ***SPIRITUAL LEARNING FOR LIFE***

**FLANDERS LIBRARY:** One of the books you may read on Christmas is "The Joy of Christmas", a collection of three Christmas novellas written by Melody Carlson. The Library is open from 10:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:15-1:00 p.m. every Sunday.

## ***FAITH IN ACTION***

**OUR CHRISTMAS THANK OFFERING:** Throughout the year on special occasions, we are invited to make an additional gift to support our many ministries and programs here at Metropolitan Church. Thank you for your prayerful and generous support. Our gifts enable hearts to be moved and lives to be transformed. Your donation can be provided as follows:

- Online giving: Go to [www.metunited.ca](http://www.metunited.ca). Click "Donate Now"
- Credit card donations: Call Elena at the church office at (416) 363-0331, ext. 29
- Mail your cheque to Metropolitan United Church, 56 Queen Street East, M5C 2Z3
- Use the Christmas Offering envelope placed in the pews for your cheque or cash offering

**Scented Products** can aggravate health problems for some people. Please avoid the use of perfume or other scented products. Thank you for your cooperation.

## DIRECTORY

**Minister of the Congregation:** The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair, ext. 27  
**Minister of Congregational Care and Development:** The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea, ext. 24  
**Church School Teachers:** Karlos Griffith ([karlosgriffith@rogers.com](mailto:karlosgriffith@rogers.com)), Johnvac Abraham  
**Library:** Marion Lick ([library@metunited.ca](mailto:library@metunited.ca)) and Maureen Maguire ([vigrass78@gmail.com](mailto:vigrass78@gmail.com))

### *Community Outreach Ministry*

**Manager of Community Services:** Laura Awosanya ([lauraa@metunited.ca](mailto:lauraa@metunited.ca))  
**Outreach and Housing Worker:** Megan Carver, ext. 21 ([housingworker@metunited.ca](mailto:housingworker@metunited.ca))

### *Ministry of Music*

**Minister of Music:** Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 26 ([patw@metunited.ca](mailto:patw@metunited.ca))  
**Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar:** Michael Oldaker  
**Junior Organ Scholar:** Timothy Wisnicki  
**Metropolitan Choir Lead Singers:** Gisele Kulak, Chelsea Van Pelt, Valeria Kondrashov, Chris Taeyoung Kim,  
Charles Davidson, Benjamin Stein, Nicholas Higgs, John Schneider  
**Director, Great Heart Youth Ensemble:** Benjamin Stein  
**Conductor, Metropolitan Sparklers:** Dr. Jennifer Martyn  
**Carillonneur:** Roy Lee  
**Carillonneur Emeritus:** James Slater  
**Director, Metropolitan Silver Band:** Fran Harvey

### *Administrative Ministry*

**Director of Administration:** Jane Tuomi, ext. 35 ([janelt@metunited.org](mailto:janelt@metunited.org))  
**Office Administrator:** Jaclyn Kumer, ext. 10 ([jacik@metunited.ca](mailto:jacik@metunited.ca))  
**Financial/Membership Administrator:** Elena Pejcinovska, ext. 29 ([elenap@metunited.org](mailto:elenap@metunited.org))  
**Property Manager:** Frank Cairns, ext. 31  
**Custodians:** Nadan Kandiah, Puvi Kanagalingam, ext. 39/40

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