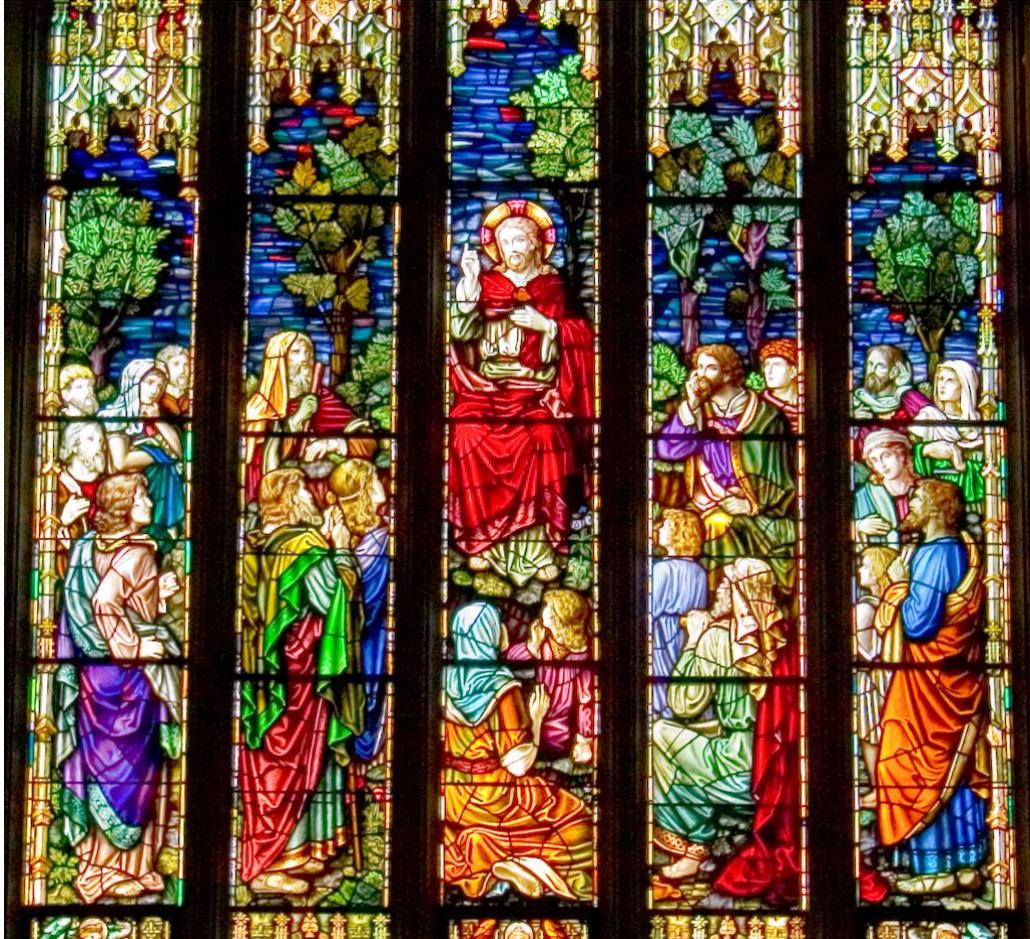


Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

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, February 17, 2019
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

*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:

Paraphrase on a Siciliana of Pasquale Ricci

Ronald Barnes

ORGAN PRELUDE *Praeludium in D Major*

Dieterich Buxtehude

Variations sur un Thème de Clément Jannequin/ Le Jardin Suspendu

Jehan Alain

♪PROCESSIONAL HYMN #228 *Sing Praises to God*

Laudate Dominum

INVITATION TO WORSHIP (Opening liturgy is adapted from Psalm 1)

One: Come with me to choose the road of good advice. Worship is the journey of the good heart.

All: **No scoffing, but delight, meditation, quest, and song. God is in the house. Let all rise in hope.**

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

One: The Psalms begin with the vision of healthy trees. Tall in the sunlight, shelter for birds and animals, close to the watercourse that they might remain fresh and green.

All: **Your gentle spirit begins with creativity and growth. You awaken us to eternal things as you bring us through the cycles of this life.**

One: There is wickedness in the world as well. Chaff blinds the eyes, dirt clogs the pours. Falsehood mars realities, and lies challenge the truth.

All: **The road is hard, but the inns of grace along the way are bountiful. Lead all your people to walk in good ways and seek good things.**

One: Grant us forgiven, light-bearing, and lively lives.

SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

KYRIE ELEISON (ALL) #69 *More Voices Kyrie Eleison (God have mercy)*

Kervin

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: There is a lamp lit in the window of Heaven. God is at home for us and we are at home in God. Let us live in the light of our forgiven life.

♪ACT OF PRAISE (All)



Glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry be to God on high!



And on earth peace to the peo-ple in whom God is well pleased.

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

READINGS Micah 6:6-8; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

ANTHEM *Antioch (from 'Glory! Five Shape Note Hymns')* arr. by Carol Matthews
Glory Halleluia! I know that my Redeemer lives. What comfort this sweet sentence gives. Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground. The dead's alive and the lost is found. He lives to crush the fiends of Hell. He lives and doth within us dwell. Shout on...He lives to bless us with his love. He lives to plead our cause above. Shout on...He lives all glory to his name. He lives my Jesus still the same. Shout on...

GOSPEL READING Matthew 5:1-11

One: Here then is light: old light from glory, bright light from wisdom, fair light from faithful following. Here is Christ, alive in text and expectation.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Thanks be to God for the light.

ENCOUNTERING THE CHILD WITHIN

All children and youth are invited to make their way to Sunday School, in the Flander's Library.
Please follow the teachers.

♪**HYMN #896** *Blest Are They*

Blest Are They

SERMON "HUSH, CHILD, GOD AIN'T DEAD"
The Rev. Linda Levin

ANTHEM *The Eyes of All* Jean Berger
The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thine hand, and satisfies the desire of every living thing.

♪**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 *Living in the Moment*

Jason Mraz

Charles Davidson, tenor; Benjamin Stein, piano

♪THE OFFERTORY HYMN (All)

Old 100th

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low;
Give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

♪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.**

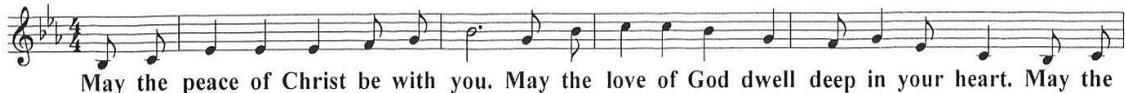
♪RECESSIONAL HYMN #448 *We Know That Christ Is Raised*

Engelberg

♪COMMISSIONING

♪BLESSING (All-please turn toward the centre)

Izumi Shiota



ORGAN POSTLUDE AND CANDLE EXTINGUISHING *Litanies*

Jehan Alain



LEADING IN WORSHIP this morning are **The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea** and **The Rev. Linda Levin**. Reading the lessons is **Michael Connolly**. 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 by Junior Organ Scholar **Timothy Wisnicki**.

CARRYING THE BANNER is **Janice Andrews**.

GREETERS are **Jean Robison** and **Fran Parkin**.

USHERS are **Terry Kelly, Wilbert Ward, Toba Bryant, and Carolyn Pack**

The Rev. Linda Levin is from South Africa, of Jewish heritage. She taught Latin and remedial English in South Africa and London (England), and then studied for ministry at Emmanuel College in Toronto. Ordained in 1979, she served for two years in northern Ontario and 29 years at Runnymede United, Toronto. Linda retired in June, 2011 to form a fundraising group in support of Kenyan women in the slum of Kibera who, out of the love of their hearts, care for AIDS-orphaned children. See www.villageoflovecanada.org. When not working on fundraising for Village of Love, Linda likes to swim, walk, lawn bowl, listen to audiobooks, watch movies and read novels. Her Canadian family consists of a 38 year old son, Adam, and adopted feral cat, Scruffers. You are invited: Our next Village of Love fundraiser is a "Square Dance for Square Meals" on Saturday, April 6, at Runnymede United Church. No need for a partner or to know how to dance! Enjoy roots entertainment, wine bar, vegetarian chili supper and loaded spuds, and a fabulous silent auction. Tickets \$30 (supper \$20; dance \$10). Call Linda 416-766-7265, or go to www.villageoflovecanada.org/square.

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

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, February 18

Family Day. Office is closed.

Tuesday, February 19

6:30 p.m.	Open Art Studio	Met Centre
7:00 p.m.	Silver Band rehearsal	Sanctuary

Wednesday, February 20

7:00 a.m.	OOTC Chop Chop Group	Met Kitchen
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Thursday, February 21

7:30 a.m.	Prayer Breakfast	Fran's Restaurant
11:00 a.m.	OOTC Met Luncheon	Met Centre
6:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Handbells	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Choir	Sanctuary

Friday, February 22

10:00 a.m.	Art Program	Met Centre
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Saturday, February 23

8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Study	Flanders Library
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NEXT SUNDAY: February 24 *Seventh Sunday after Epiphany*

9:30 a.m.	Communion Service in the Founders' Chapel "I Am Your Brother" The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea	
9:45 a.m.	Metropolitan Sparklers and Choristers	Met Centre
10:00 a.m.	Library Open (re-opens 12:15 p.m.)	
11:00 a.m.	Morning Service and Church School "We Believe in God" The Rev. Alan Hall Genesis 45:3-11,15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; Luke 6:27-38	
12:15 p.m.	<i>Great Heart</i>	Sanctuary

MINISTRY OF INTEGRATED ARTS

Music at Metropolitan brochures are available in the Narthex and on the Met Connect table. We have five concerts in the winter/spring season, and our next concert is on **Saturday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m.** with Ariel Harwood-Jones, Valeria Kondrashov, and instrumentalists including *Musicians on the Edge* presenting Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* and other Neapolitan masters. Admission is \$20, and tickets are on sale from Muriel Cairns after the service.

Concert date change: Please note that our May 5 concert ("Barbara") with Charles Davidson has been changed to **Saturday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m.**

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

MET CARE invites interested people to join the committee. Our work involves keeping in touch with those who are sick or bereaved or having other problems. We are moving our meeting time to an evening one: 7:00 p.m. in the Flanders Library on the third Wednesday of each month. We hope that this will entice those who are busy in the day to join us! Please contact William Wright (wrightmcawley@gmail.com) for more information.

St. Luke's United Church (S/E corner of Carlton & Sherbourne): **Saturday, February 23, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**, Pride Planning continues with the theme: "Somewhere over the Rainbow-Voice the Love, All Belong". This year marks the 50th Anniversary of Stonewall. RSVP **The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea.**

PANCAKE MARDI GRAS BRUNCH on **Sunday, March 3, at 12:15 p.m.** in the Met Centre. All are welcome! We invite you to join the Lunch Preparation team. Please register at the Met Connect table. We prepare Friday, March 1 and Saturday, March 2 from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. RSVP **The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea.**

WHAT DOES MEMBERSHIP IN METROPOLITAN MEAN? For anyone interested in joining the church and for members who would like to deepen their understanding of membership in the Christian church, four sessions are being offered on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to noon in the Met Centre (March 16, 23 and March 30 and April 6). It is expected that those taking the course will complete all four sessions. RSVP **The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea.**

OUTREACH

MET OUTREACH TOWN HALL: Come and meet with Laura Awosanya, the new manager of community services in the Met Centre **today**. Please bring your coffee and questions, you will leave with more answers and information about the initiatives that are underway in Outreach. A light lunch will be provided.

YOUR HOMEMADE COOKIES ARE NEEDED FOR OOTC - Cookie Bakers make possible a much-loved addition to the Thursday meals. Tins are available in the Narthex and your cookie donations can be returned there. Thank you!

OUT OF THE COLD VOLUNTEERS: We're asking for volunteers to help with early morning food preparation on Wednesdays and also on Thursdays from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. to help with clean-up, dishes, etc. Please contact **Kathy Priestman** at **416-691-5808**.

The Faith-Hub Network needs volunteers. Metropolitan is working with three other faith-based organizations (St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica, The Cathedral Church of St. James, and Fontbonne

Ministries, Sisters of St. Joseph) to form outreach programs to help our common downtown core community that we can do better if we do them together. This spring we will be initiating a second phase of "Circles of Support" for people feeling vulnerable in the community. This empowerment based program places the participant in a circle of volunteers brainstorming and problem solving with them on a piece of their journey. We are looking for volunteers. The commitment is one day training on Saturday March 9, and then a commitment to apply that training in a meeting with the participant, a facilitator and the other volunteers about every 2 weeks for six months (April through Sept/Oct). Please speak to Laura Awosanya (lauraa@metunited.ca) or Dorcas Beaton or Jennifer MacDonald (co-chairs of outreach) if you are interested.

SPIRITUAL LEARNING FOR LIFE

FLANDERS LIBRARY: You can find several books of Bart D. Ehrman in our library. One of them is 'Truth and fiction in The Da Vinci code: a historian reveals what we really know about Jesus, Mary Magdalene, and Constantine.' Ehrman is the author of 30 books. His books have been translated into 27 languages. The Library is open 10:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:15-1:00 p.m. every Sunday.

THE FILM "INDIAN HORSE": moved to **Sunday, March 10, at 12:15 p.m.** in the Met Centre. The film centres on Saul Indian Horse, a young Canadian First Nations boy who survives the Indian residential school system to become a star ice hockey player. One of the film stars, Edna Manitowabi, was a guest speaker last October at Metropolitan. **RSVP The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE (Harbour Light Salvation Army, 160 Jarvis Street): **Friday, March 1, 2019, 2:00 p.m.** Service created by the women of Slovenia. Theme: "Come - Everything is Ready". As we read the words of the women of Slovenia, "we are giving voice to the experiences and concerns of real women. Their words become our words, their prayers become our prayers." Contact Pamella Fraser/Maureen Maguire for more information

WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER: Join us on Sunday, March 24 at 12:15 p.m. in the Heritage Room. We will gather daily in pairs at a predetermined time, beginning on Sunday, March 24 to Saturday March 30 12:15 p.m. for our week of guided prayer, a retreat in everyday life. This year's theme is "Abundant Life". **RSVP The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea.**

FAITH THROUGH ACTION

RENEW! RESTORE! REJOICE! OUR THIRD CENTURY CAMPAIGN

The Official Board and your Campaign Steering Committee are delighted to share with you that **Paul and Sandra Hellyer** have graciously agreed to be Honorary Chairpersons of Metropolitan's "Our Third Century Capital Campaign". We thank them for their generous support of our congregation in so many ways and for their deep commitment to the success of our Campaign.

PREPARING FOR AN EXCITING FUTURE: Metropolitan is preparing for its future. Comprehensive renovations to the north end of our church building have started. Funding for these renovations comes from our financial reserves and a large mortgage. The rest of our facilities - the carillon, sanctuary and park - will be renewed through our gifts to Our Third Century Capital Campaign. Together we can and we will set the stage for a viable, exciting future of ministry and witness in downtown Toronto.

*We should give as we would receive, cheerfully, quickly, and without any hesitation;
for there is no grace in a benefit that sticks to the fingers. – Seneca*

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 Congregational Care and Development: The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea, ext. 24
Voluntary Associate Minister: The Rev. Bruce Misener (officiant@metunited.ca)
Teachers: Karlos Griffith (karlosgriffith@rogers.com), Johnvac Abraham
Library: Marion Lick (library@metunited.ca) and Maureen Maguire (vigrass78@gmail.com)
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair

Community Outreach Ministry

Manager of Community Services: Laura Awosanya, ext. 43 (lauraa@metunited.ca)
Outreach and Housing Worker: Megan Carver, ext. 21 (housingworker@metunited.ca)

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 26 (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.ca)

Office: Sheela Taylor, ext. 10 (sheelat@metunited.ca)

Financial Manager: Elena Pejcinovska, ext. 29 (elenap@metunited.ca)

Property Manager: Frank Cairns, ext. 31

Custodians: Nadan Kandiah, Puvi Kanagalingam, ext. 39/40

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To hear the sermon: www.metsermons.com
www.metunited.ca



Cover: Sermon on the Mount,
East Transept