

# 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 24, 2019**  
**Seventh 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:

*Invention Metropolitan*

James (Bud) Slater (1927-2019)

~ In memory of Metropolitan's Carillonner Emeritus ~

### ORGAN PRELUDE From *Sonata IV in B-flat Major*

Felix Mendelssohn

*Allegro Con Brio/Andante Religioso/Allegretto*

*There Is a Balm in Gilead/Swing Low*

arr. Joe Utterback

### ♪PROCESSIONAL HYMN #313 *God, Whose Almighty Word*

Moscow

### INVITATION TO WORSHIP (Opening liturgy is adapted from Psalm 37)

One: God rescues the righteous. God gives refuge in times of trouble.

**All: How lovely are your dwellings, O Lord of Hosts.**

One: May worship be a refuge and a stimulant; a place to be safe, and a place to be alive for inspiration and ministry.

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray.

### PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

One: You are the giver of eternal values. The good things do not fade away forever, but rise and shine.

**All: Though we weep over the cruelty of some and find ourselves fascinated by the sheer gall of others, they shall all be swept away like chaff.**

One: You call us simply to trust in you, and to do good, that our ways may be clearer and our lives truer.

**All: You call us to commit to you afresh in our souls, that light may be upon us and in us. You promise us noonday life, when all good things walk the streets and smile.**

One: You ask us to display the patience of trust and the assurance of conviction.

**All: We offer you these things, asking of you clean hearts and fresh support from your great spirit. Without you we can do nothing, but with you all things are possible.**

### SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

### KYRIE ELEISON (ALL) #69 *More Voices*

Kervin

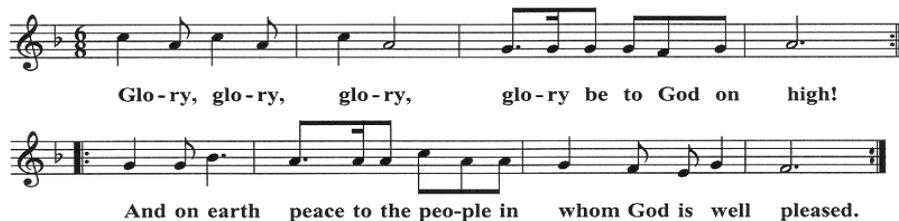
*Kyrie Eleison (God have mercy)*

### 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.

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

## ♪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.

**READINGS** Genesis 45:3-11,15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

**ANTHEM** *Hymn to Freedom* Oscar Peterson, arr. Paul Read  
When every heart joins every heart and together yearns for liberty, that's when we'll be free.  
When every hand joins every hand and together work at liberty, that's when we'll be free. Any  
hour, any day, the time soon will come when we will live in dignity, that's when we'll be free.  
When everyone joins in our song and together singing harmony, that's when we'll be free.  
Metropolitan Choir and *Great Heart*

**GOSPEL READING** Luke 6:27-38

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 Flanders Library.  
Please follow the teachers.

♪**HYMN #498** *God, Who Has Caused To Be Written*

Causa Divina

**SERMON** "WE BELIEVE IN GOD"  
The Rev. Alan Hall

**ANTHEM** *I Sought the Lord* Hubert Bird  
I sought the Lord, and afterward I knew He moved my soul to seek Him, seeking me; it was not  
I that found, O Saviour, true, no, I was found of Thee. Thou didst reach forth Thy hand and  
mine enfold; I walked and sank not on the storm-vexed sea, 'twas not so much that I on Thee  
took hold, as Thou, dear Lord, on me. I find, I walk, I love, but O, the whole of love is but my  
answer, Lord, to Thee; for Thou wert long beforehand with my soul, always Thou lovedst me.

## ♪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 MUSIC** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

The Metropolitan Handbells

arr. Dan R. Edwards

### ♪**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 #504** *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*

Repton

### ♪**COMMISSIONING**

### ♪**BLESSING (All-please turn toward the centre)**

Izumi Shiota



May the peace of Christ be with you. May the love of God dwell deep in your heart. May the



Spi-rit en-light-en your way. May you walk in the com-fort of God's care.

## **ORGAN POSTLUDE AND CANDLE EXTINGUISHING**

*Allegro Maestoso e Vivace* from *Sonata IV in B-flat Major*

Felix Mendelssohn

**LEADING IN WORSHIP** this morning are **The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea** and **The Rev. Alan Hall**. Reading the lessons is **Heather Walsh**. 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 **Carol Kitney** and **Deborah Davis**.

**USHERS** are **Alan Cotterill**, **Sarah Cotterill**, **Roy Tomlinson**, and **Kenneth Younie**.

For the 11:00 a.m. service today, **The Rev. Alan Hall** is calling us to remember who we are: a church firmly grounded in scripture and theology. His sermon is entitled "We Believe in God". The Rev. Alan Hall serves at the General Council as the Executive Officer for Ministry and Employment (VP HR) with responsibility for the credentialing, oversight, and discipline of ministry personnel as well as being the senior staff officer for the pension and benefits plans of the denomination. Prior to this he served in pastoral ministry for twenty-six years.

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

**TRANSITION TEAM** – during this time of change, we appreciate the work of our Transition Team, any of whom will be happy to speak with you about your ideas and concerns: Deborah Davis, Linn Holness, Joe Landon, Jim Nixon and Laird Orr.

We are saddened to learn about the death of our Carillonneur Emeritus, **James (Bud) Slater** on Sunday, February 17. In 1954 James, on the advice of Bob Donnell, approached Leland Richardson at the University of Toronto's carillon and asked for carillon lessons but was referred to Stanley James, the Carillonneur at Metropolitan United Church in Toronto. Mr. James was most receptive and started teaching James carillon fundamentals on the 23 bells that the Metropolitan had at the time. In 1957, James was appointed Assistant Carillonneur at Metropolitan and held that position until 1962 when he and the incumbent, Stan James, exchanged duties. James Slater retired in 1997 and was honoured by Metropolitan Church with the title "Carillonneur Emeritus" in recognition of his 35 years of service.

## ***CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS***

### **Monday, February 25**

**10:00 a.m.** Art Program

Met Centre

**7:30 p.m.** Music Committee

Flanders Library

### **Tuesday, February 26**

**6:30 p.m.** Open Art Studio

Met Centre

**7:00 p.m.** Silver Band rehearsal

Sanctuary

### **Wednesday, February 27**

**7:00 a.m.** OOTC Chop Chop Group

Met Kitchen

**5:30 p.m.** Board Meeting

Met Centre

### **Thursday, February 28**

**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, March 1**

**9:00 a.m.** Mardi Gras Pancake Brunch Prep

Met Kitchen

**10:00 a.m.** Art Program

Met Centre

**Saturday, March 2**

**8:30 a.m.** Breakfast Bible Study

Flanders Library

**NEXT SUNDAY: March 3 *Transfiguration Sunday***

**9:30 a.m.** Communion Service in the Founders' Chapel  
"Down from the Mountain"  
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  
"Glimpses of Glory"

The Rev. Kerri Hagerman

**Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; Luke 9:28-36**

**12:15 p.m.** *Great Heart*

Sanctuary

***MINISTRY OF INTEGRATED ARTS***

***Music at Metropolitan*** presents its next concert 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***

**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.**

**ASH WEDNESDAY: March 6,** join us for a Service at noon in the Founder's Chapel with Dr. Mastandrea and Dr. Patricia Wright.

**LENTEN SERIES: March 13** Part 1, **March 20** Part 2, **March 27** Part 3 from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the Narthex. "The story of the twelve apostles - What happened to Jesus' inner circle of Followers?" This is a 3 part mini series 30 minute episode, Q & A with 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.**

**MET CARE** is in need of younger members. We are changing our meeting time to the third evening of each month. If you would like to be part of this caring community please speak to William Wright or email him [wrightmcawley@gmail.com](mailto:wrightmcawley@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 from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. to help with clean-up, dishes, etc. Please contact **Kathy Priestman** at **416-691-5808**.

**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!

**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](mailto:lauraa@metunited.ca)) or Dorcas Beaton or Jennifer MacDonald (co-chairs of Outreach) if you are interested.

## **SPIRITUAL LEARNING FOR LIFE**

**FLANDERS LIBRARY:** 'The Canadian Nightingale: Bertha Crawford and the Dream of the Prima Donna' by Jane Cooper is one of the books added to our books collection last year. 'The Canadian Nightingale' describes the life of Bertha Crawford, a Canadian singer who found unprecedented success on the opera stages. The Library is open 10:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:15-1:00 p.m. every Sunday.

**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 Pamela Fraser/Maureen Maguire for more information.

**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.**

**WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER: March 24 to March 30.** A retreat in everyday life. Theme: "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. Plans for our Campaign continue apace. Stay tuned and thank YOU for your prayerful support.

**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](mailto:officiant@metunited.ca))

**Minister Emeritus:** The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair

**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, ext. 43 ([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.ca](mailto:janelt@metunited.ca))

**Administrative Assistant:** Sheela Taylor, ext. 10 ([sheelat@metunited.ca](mailto:sheelat@metunited.ca))

**Financial Manager:** Elena Pejcinovska, ext. 29 ([elenap@metunited.ca](mailto: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](http://www.metsermons.com)

[www.metunited.ca](http://www.metunited.ca)



**Cover Photo: Taken by The Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea**