

# 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, May 12, 2019**  
**Fourth Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day**

*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)

*Hymn Prelude on "St. Columba"*

Geert D'hollander

### PIANO PRELUDE *Sonatina in A Minor*, 2nd and 3rd Movements

Gurlitt

Eve Gilady, piano

*A Starry Night*

Taranto

Madeleine Gilady, piano

*The Song of Twilight*

Nakada

Anya Lakota, piano

*Mist*

Poole

Elise Lakota, piano

From *Sonata in G Major*

W. A. Mozart

Lexie Landerkin, piano

### ♪PROCESSIONAL HYMN #389 *God Is Here!*

Blaenwern

### ♪INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: In the darkest valley,

**All: At the banquet table;**

One: In the hard work of life,

**All: At the moments of ease;**

One: In our day-to-day reality,

**All: At times set aside –**

One: Like this time, now –

**All: For worship, for listening, for paying attention;**

One: With every step we take:

**All: Goodness and mercy follow us; our cups overflow.**

One: God be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

One: Let us pray. (all seated)

### PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

### SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

### KYRIE ELEISON (ALL) #68 *More Voices*

Guarani song, arr. Sosa

O God have mercy, O God have mercy, O God have mercy, have mercy on us.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we are assured that there is no sin so terrible that God cannot forgive, no hurt so terrible that God cannot heal. God accepts, God forgives, and God sets free. Receive and give thanks for the forgiving love of God.

♪(indicates a congregational response - please stand in spirit or in fact)

♪ **ACT OF PRAISE (All) #59 More Voices**

Yoruba song (Nigeria)

**Alleluia, praise to God (twice); Praises, high praises we bring you, O God.**

**Alleluia praise to God.**

**Songs of joy sing out to God (twice); Dancing and singing, we praise you, O God.**

**Songs of joy sing out to God.**

**Beat the drums, sing out to God (twice); Praises, high praises, we bring you, O God.**

**Beat the drums sing out to God.**

**SPARKLERS AND CHORISTERS** *The Children of the World*

Terre Johnson

If somewhere a child is hungry or isn't tucked in, safe and warm; if somewhere a baby's crying, longing for a parent's arms; that is where the love of Jesus must be shared by you and me, for if we have plenty, love and safety, we must share with the least of these. The children of the world are our children, made by God, just like you and me. The children of the world must be fed and held and loved, for if one of them is hungry, so are we....

**READINGS**

Acts 9:36-43

Last week we heard of Saul. This week we hear a story of Peter. Both will play a prophetic role in the fledgling Jesus movement. We hear of the raising of Dorcas, or Tabitha in Aramaic.

Psalm 23 (KJV)

**ANTHEM** *For the Beauty of the Earth*

John Rutter

Text at Hymn #226 sung by The Metropolitan Mother's Day Choir

**GOSPEL READING** John 10:22-30

The disciples push Jesus to answer the question: "Are you the Messiah?"

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

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.**

**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 #589** *Lord, Speak to Me*

Winscott

**SERMON** "The Proper Place for Hyperbole"

The Rev. Karen Bowles

**ANTHEM** *Touch the Hem of His Garment*

Sam Cooke

Benjamin Stein, soloist

♪ **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**     *You Learn*  
Great Heart

Alanis Morrissette

### **♪FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY** (*"Lasst uns erfreuen", Hymn #217*)

**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 ...**

### **♪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 #399** *God, Whose Love Is Reigning O'er Us*

Lauda Anima

### **♪COMMISSIONING**

### **♪BLESSING (All) #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.**

## **ORGAN POSTLUDE AND CANDLE EXTINGUISHING**



**LEADING IN WORSHIP** this morning are **The Rev. Karen Bowles** and **Linn Holness**. Reading the lessons is **Dorcas Beaton**. The ministry of music is offered by the **Metropolitan Choir** and **Choristers** conducted by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, the **Metropolitan Sparklers** conducted by **Dr. Jennifer Martyn, Great Heart**, conducted by **Benjamin Stein**, the Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Michael Oldaker**, and Junior Organ Scholar **Timothy Wisnicki**. We thank the members of the Choristers who played the piano for today's prelude and the congregation members who joined in our annual Mother's Day Choir.

**CARRYING THE BANNER** is **Ian Mahaffy**.

**GREETERS** are **Muriel Griffith** and **Andrew McGee**.

**USHERS** are **Vicki Harris, Jennifer McDonald, Joseph Curry**, and **Gunn Wongsuwan**.

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

**TODAY: THIS IS US DOING CHURCH: Stories from Toronto's Metropolitan United..** Metropolitan's new stories collection is available for purchase today! Get your copy of **THIS IS US DOING CHURCH: Stories from Toronto's Metropolitan United**. Fifty contributors have produced 73 pieces of prose and poetry that tell of Metropolitan through Arts, Community, Faith, Outreach, and the quest to maintain our formidable Foundations. \$20. **Join our authors for cake after the service as we celebrate this great occasion!** Pick up your copy of our book today!

All are invited to attend the **Visitation at 10:00 a.m.** and **Service at 11:00 a.m.** for **Neil Gilson** on Monday, May 13 in our Sanctuary.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, May 13		
10:00 a.m.	Art Program	Met Centre
Tuesday, May 14		
5:30 p.m.	Trustees Meeting	Flanders Library
6:30 p.m.	Open Art Studio	Met Centre
7:00 p.m.	Congregational Care Committee meeting	Met Centre
7:00 p.m.	Silver Band rehearsal	Sanctuary
Wednesday, May 15		
1:30 p.m.	Met Care Committee meeting	Flanders Library
Thursday, May 16		
8:00 a.m.	Prayer Breakfast	Fran's Restaurant
6:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Handbells	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Choir	Sanctuary
Friday, May 17		
10:00 a.m.	Art Program	Met Centre
Saturday, May 18		
8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Study	Flanders Library

**NEXT SUNDAY: May 19 *Fifth Sunday of Easter***

<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	Communion Service in the Founders' Chapel The Rev. Dr. Karen Bowles	
<b>9:45 a.m.</b>	Metropolitan Sparklers and Choristers	Met Centre
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Library Open (re-opens 12:15 p.m.)	
<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Refugee Committee meeting	Heritage Room
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	Morning Service and Church School "Love Actually" The Rev. Karen Bowles Acts 11:1-18; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35	
<b>12:15 p.m.</b>	<i>Great Heart</i>	Sanctuary

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

**DOORS OPEN AMBASSADOR:** Mark the date and join the team for Doors Open Toronto 2019 on **Saturday, May 25** and **Sunday, May 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** There will be three shifts available to help out: Mornings 9:30 a.m. to noon; Early Afternoon noon to 3:00 p.m.; Late Afternoon 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Doors Open Toronto will shine the spotlight on the First Nations, Next Gen and the Arts. Metropolitan has been the site of Arts, hosted the Toronto Urban Native ministry for over 10 years, while welcoming Next Gen people over the years. **RSVP Lisa Hems**, Chairperson of the Doors Open Steering Team at [hemslisa@gmail.com](mailto:hemslisa@gmail.com). **There is also a sign up sheet at the MetConnect Table.**

**DOORS OPEN CONCERTS:** Our final Music at Metropolitan concert will be on **Saturday, May 25 at 7:30 p.m.** Benjamin Stein and guests, including members of the Metropolitan Choir, present **Praise and Protest: Jazz, Blues, and Gospel Challenges and Affirmations**. Admission is \$20/10 ages 18 and under.

**METROPOLITAN SILVER BAND** presents a free concert for Doors Open on **Sunday, May 26 at 1:30 p.m.**

## ***CONGREGATIONAL CARE***

**NEW DIRECTORY:** There will be a new directory coming out in September 2019. Someone will be in the Narthex for the next two weeks with a draft copy. **Sunday, May 26** will be the last chance for people to check their information. Please stop by to ensure your address and telephone number are up to date. Or send your information by email to: [murielcairns39@gmail.com](mailto:murielcairns39@gmail.com).

**MET CARE:** We are a group of 8 people who meet regularly to keep in touch with those in our congregation who may need special care. We would be pleased if someone else wished to join this committee. We meet on the third Wednesday afternoon of each month, September – June. Contact William Wright ([wrightmcawley@gmail.com](mailto:wrightmcawley@gmail.com)).

## ***OUTREACH***

**COMMUNITY SERVICES** Community Services will be having their next quarterly town hall meeting on June 2 after the service. Please bring your coffee and questions, you will leave with more answers and information about the initiatives that are underway in Outreach-Community Services. A light lunch will be provided.

**HYGIENE KITS** - As we move towards engaging vulnerable individuals on the streets, we need your assistance with the collection of items for the hygiene kits. Your travel soaps, lotions, shampoo, tooth brush or toothpaste would be appreciated to assist us in preparing packages to be handed out on the streets. This form of outreach engagement allows the housing worker a point of entry to a conversation with a vulnerable individual. If you have any items please drop them off at the community services office or with someone from the care services.

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

**FLANDERS LIBRARY:** “Tao Science: The Science, Wisdom, and Practice of Creation and Grand Unification” is the latest in our book collection, written by Dr. and Master Zhi Gang Sha, creator of Soul Mind Body Healing System. This book was co-authored with Dr. Rulin Xiu, quantum physicist. The Library is open 10:00-11:00 a.m. and 12:15-1:00 p.m. every Sunday.

## ***COMMUNICATIONS***

**MET HAS NEW SOCIAL ACCOUNTS:** Vimeo (Metropolitan United) and Instagram ([@metropolitanunitedto](#)). Please follow, and of course stay up to date through the main Metropolitan United page and Met United Music on Facebook, in addition to our website. Have a photo from an event, meeting or service perfect for Instagram? Email it to ([communications@metunited.ca](mailto:communications@metunited.ca)).

## ***FAITH THROUGH ACTION***

**FORMALIZE IT!** Are you new to Metropolitan Church? Are you using the green visitor envelopes for your weekly offering or putting money directly on the plate? Please consider formalizing your giving to Metropolitan by using a box of weekly offering envelopes or arranging to give by bank deduction. It will be easier for you and you will also receive a tax receipt for all your gifts at year end. Please call Elena at (416) 363-0331, ext. 29 and thank you for your support.

**ARE YOU WILL-ING?** Thank you for remembering Metropolitan United Church with a gift in your will. You may direct your bequest of any amount to a program or ministry of your choice. Help us build the Metropolitan of the future with your will-ing financial support. To explore opportunities, contact Doug Flanders: (416) 769-2746; email: [dougflanders@sympatico.ca](mailto:dougflanders@sympatico.ca) ***A legacy — It's ours to leave.***

**OUR THIRD CENTURY CAMPAIGN:** Thank you for returning your campaign commitment form as soon as you can. Your church remains deeply grateful for your generous support. Thanks to our gifts, work to repair and restore our magnificent carillon should begin this fall.

*Our greatness is not what we have. It's what we give. — Anonymous*

**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

Intentional Interim Lead Minister: The Rev. Karen Bowles, ext. 27 ([karenb@metunited.ca](mailto:karenb@metunited.ca))

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)), Johnavac 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

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, Puvu Kanagalingam, ext. 39/40

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To hear the sermon: [www.metsermons.com](http://www.metsermons.com)

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