

# 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 19, 2019**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

*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)

*Wondrous Love*

setting by Ellen Dickinson

### ORGAN PRELUDE

*Concerto IV (Adagio, Allegro, Adagio) after Taglietti*  
*Three Short Hymn Settings*

Johann Walther  
Gerald Bales

♪ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN #512** *Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

Abbot's Leigh

### ♪ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Jesus gave the Great Commission to his disciples to "Love one another, as I have loved you."

**All: Christ tells us to love one another, as he loves us.**

One: How does Christ love?

**All: With forgiveness, compassion and strength.**

One: How are we to love?

**All: With forgiveness, compassion and strength.**

One: How are we loved?

**All: With forgiveness, compassion and strength.**

One: God be with you.

**All: And with your spirit.**

One: Let us pray. (all seated)

### PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

### PRAYER RESPONSE (FROM HYMN #376)

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD, FALL AFRESH ON ME.

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD, FALL AFRESH ON ME.

MELT ME, MOULD ME, FILL ME, USE ME.

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD, FALL AFRESH ON ME.

### 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.**

**READINGS**

Acts 11:1-18

No issue was more debated by this Jesus movement than the criterion for membership. Here we hear of a confrontation between Peter and the church in Jerusalem.

Revelation 21:1-6

**ANTHEM** *Praise God*

Attributed to Samuel Stanley

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise Him all creatures here below, praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!

**GOSPEL READING** John 13:31-35

A new heaven and a new earth.

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 #372** *Though I May Speak*

O Waly Waly

**SERMON**

**“Love Actually”**

**The Rev. Karen Bowles**

**ANTHEM** *River of Dreams*

Joe Sealy/ Dan Hill arr. Benjamin Stein

River of hope, take me some place where I can be free as a bird lost in the breeze. River of dreams, help me to forget my suffering, sweep me away, river of hope, river of dreams. I get that feeling sometimes I can take right off and fly so high! It's like my feet can't touch the ground, no matter how I try. Can somebody give me the strength to find joy in every day? Let my spirit soar free on a river of hope and of dreams.

♪ **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

from “A Song of Faith”

We sing of a church  
seeking to continue the story of Jesus  
by embodying Christ’s presence in the world.

We are called together by Christ  
as a community of broken but hopeful believers,  
loving what he loved,  
living what he taught,  
striving to be faithful servants of God  
in our time and place.  
Our ancestors in faith  
bequeath to us experiences of their faithful living;  
upon their lives our lives are built.  
Our living of the gospel makes us a part of this communion of saints,  
experiencing the fulfillment of God’s reign  
even as we actively anticipate a new heaven and a new earth.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OUR COMMON LIFE

### OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND WORK

OFFERTORY MUSIC    *Wir eilen* from Cantata #78

J. S. Bach

We hurry with weak yet eager steps, O Jesus, O master, to you for help. You faithfully look for the sick and straying. Ah, hear, as we raise our voices to pray for help! May your gracious countenance give us joy!      Gisele Kulak, soprano; Valeria Kondrashov, mezzo-soprano

## ♪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.

♪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

*Paeon*

Kenneth Leighton



LEADING IN WORSHIP this morning is **The Rev. Karen Bowles**. Reading the lessons is **Cole Sadler**. 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 BANNER is **Ian Mahaffy**.  
GREETERS are **Jean Robison** and **Fran Parkin**.  
USHERS are **Terry Kelly**, **Wilbert Ward**, **Jennifer McDonald**, and **Carolyn Pack**.

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

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, May 20  
Metropolitan United Church is closed for Victoria Day Holiday

Tuesday, May 21

6:00 p.m.	Visual & Creative Arts Committee meeting	Flanders Library
6:30 p.m.	Open Art Studio	Met Centre
7:00 p.m.	Silver Band rehearsal	Sanctuary

Thursday, May 23

7:30 a.m.	Prayer Breakfast	Fran’s Restaurant
6:30 p.m.	Music at Met Concert rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Choir	Sanctuary

Friday, May 24

10:00 a.m.	Art Program	Met Centre
10:00 a.m.	Pre-Board meeting	Flanders Library

Saturday, May 25

8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Study	Flanders Library
9:30 a.m.	Doors Open begins	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Music at Metropolitan <i>Praise and Protest</i> Concert	Sanctuary

## **NEXT SUNDAY: May 26 *Sixth Sunday of Easter***

<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	Communion Service in the Founders' Chapel The Rev. Ken Moy "Opening the Heart"	
<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>11:00 a.m.</b>	Morning Service and Church School "Headlines" The Rev. Karen Bowles Acts 16:9-15; Revelation 21:10, 22-27, 22:1-5; John 14:23-29	
<b>12:15 p.m.</b>	<i>Great Heart</i>	Sanctuary
<b>1:30 p.m.</b>	Metropolitan Silver Band Concert	Sanctuary

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

**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:** 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 it off at the community services office or with someone from the care services.

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

**FLANDERS LIBRARY:** The new name of “The United Church Observer” is “**Broadview**”. This is its 4th name in a 190-year history of the magazine. One of the articles you may read in the June issue of “Broadview” is “Faith in Numbers”, the interview with Robert P. Jones, founder of the Public Religion Research Institute (PRRI) in Washington, D.C. 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](#)).

## ***FAITH THROUGH ACTION***

**OUR THIRD CENTURY CAMPAIGN:** Thank you for returning your campaign commitment form as soon as possible. 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.

**GIFTS OF SECURITIES:** A gift of securities — stocks, bonds, mutual funds — is an easy and effective way to support *Our Third Century* campaign. You receive a tax receipt for the full value of the securities and you pay no capital gains on the securities given. Please call Doug Flanders at (416) 769-2746; email: [dougflanders@sympatico.ca](#) ***A legacy — It's ours to leave.***

**A NEW NAME. A NEW FUTURE:** “**Broadview**” is the new name for our United Church Observer magazine. Focusing on faith, ethics and social justice issues, and matters related to the United Church, the magazine hopes to reach more readers beyond the United Church. Metropolitan's group subscription plan for “Broadview” comes up for renewal soon. Is it time for you to try something different and yet the same? A subscription to Broadview may be just right for you.

*Being generous in spirit is a wonderful way to live. — Pete Seeger*

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



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Cover Photo: Stained glass window, located in the Narthex.  
"By love serve one another."