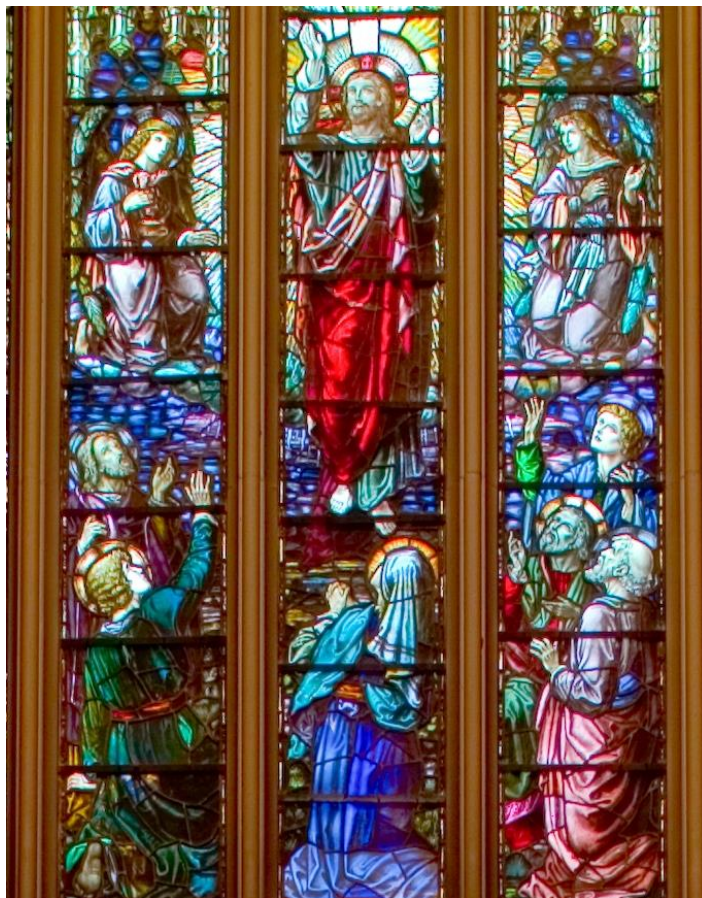


Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

The downtown church for a diverse city



Sunday, June 2, 2019

Ascension Sunday/Sacrament of Communion

Food for faith and a doorway to God.

An Affirming Congregation.

We welcome people of all orientations to worship and minister among us.

For thousands of years this land has been the traditional home of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and 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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

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

Crown Him with Many Crowns

arranged by Beverly Buchanan

ORGAN PRELUDE *Prelude and Fugue in G Major*

"Cantilène" from *Suite Brève*

J. S. Bach
Jean Langlais

♪ PROCESSIONAL HYMN #327 *All Praise to Thee*

Sine Nomine

♪ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: The work of the Creator is visible.

All: Let us respond with praise.

One: The example of Jesus is apparent.

All: Let us respond with obedience.

One: The wind of the Spirit is blowing.

All: Let us respond with joy.

One: The word of God is calling.

All: Let us worship in spirit and in truth.

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.

♪ 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 1:1-11

The beginning of the Book of Acts recounts the story of Jesus in precis form ending with the Ascension.

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

Ephesians 1:15-23

The writer asserts his hope and prayer for the community in Ephesus receiving this letter.

ANTHEM *I Will Not Leave You Comfortless*

William Byrd

I will not leave you comfortless, Alleluia. I will come again to you, and your heart shall rejoice.

GOSPEL READING Luke 24:44-53

Jesus' last words in Luke.

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 #190** *The Head That Once Was Crowned*

St. Magnus

SERMON

“Heaven Gazing”

The Rev. Karen Bowles

♪**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 “With Verdure Clad” from *Creation*

Gisele Kulak, soprano

F. J. Haydn

COMMUNION HYMN #461 *Bread of the World*

Rendez à Dieu

♪**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

One: Lift up your hearts.

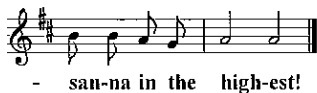
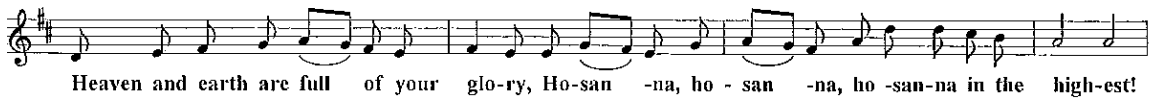
All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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)

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT (Congregation and choir)



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.

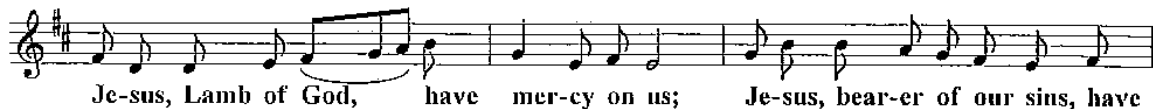
Give us this day our daily bread,

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.

AGNUS DEI (Congregation and choir)



DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Communion at Metropolitan United Church. Communion will be served by "Intinction" (dipping the wafer into the chalice), at the front of the nave. Those wishing to receive communion may leave their pews by the centre aisle and return by the side aisles. Those in the front will come forward first, with others following in sequence, row by row. Servers will come to those in the balcony. Please follow the direction of the ushers. If you wish to remain seated, a server will come to you.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: *Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor; Draw Near and Take; When at This Table (More Voices #199)*

♪ 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

Hymne d'Action de Grâce "Te Deum"

Jean Langlais



LEADING IN WORSHIP this morning are **The Rev. Karen Bowles** and **The Rev. Jason Meyers**. Reading the lessons is **Kenneth Younie**. 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 **Leesa Kopansky** and **Chris Hoover**.

USHERS are **Toba Bryant**, **Jennifer McDonald**, **Kenneth Younie**, and **Ed Oikawa**.

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

WELCOME to **The Rev. Jason Meyers** as he begins his ministry at Metropolitan!

TODAY Community Services will be having their next quarterly town hall meeting after the service in the Met Centre. Please bring your coffee and questions. A light lunch will be provided.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: The congregation will be saddened to learn of the death of long-time member, Harry Ryckman, on Wednesday May 29. The **Memorial Service** for Harry will be held in our Sanctuary on **Monday, June 3**, at **2:00 p.m.** with visiting at 1 p.m. A past-chair of the Worship Committee, Harry and his wife, Marg Metcalfe, chaired the Needlework Group which made the banners and paraments that enrich the beauty of Metropolitan's sanctuary and worship services.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, June 3

10:00 a.m.	Art Program	Met Centre
2:00 p.m.	Memorial Service for Harry Ryckman	Sanctuary

Tuesday, June 4

6:30 p.m.	Open Art Studio	Met Centre
7:00 p.m.	Silver Band rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 p.m.	Transition Team Meeting	Flanders Library

Wednesday, June 5

6:00 p.m.	Taizé Service and Labyrinth Walk	Sanctuary
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Thursday, June 6

8:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast

Fran's Restaurant

Friday, June 7

10:00 a.m. Art Program

Met Centre

12:00 p.m. Carillon Concert

Front Park

Saturday, June 8

8:00 a.m. Breakfast Bible Study

Flanders Library

NEXT SUNDAY: June 9 *Pentecost Sunday/Outdoor Service and Picnic* *Blessing of the Animals*

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

The Rev. Walter Ridley

"The Language of Heaven"

10:00 a.m. Library Open (re-opens 12:15 p.m.)

11:00 a.m. Morning Service and Church School

"Bring the Fire" The Rev. Jason Meyers

Genesis 11:1-9, Acts 2:1-21; John 14:9-17

12:15 p.m. *Great Heart*

Sanctuary

12:30 p.m. Church Picnic

Front Park

MINISTRY OF INTEGRATED ARTS

SUMMER CARILLON RECITALS - Hear our historic 54-bell carillon before the repairs begin! Free noon recitals will be held in our front park on Friday, June 7 with Jonathan Lehrer from Vancouver; Friday, June 21 with Mateusz Olechnowicz and Naoko Tsujita, University of Toronto student carillonneurs; and Friday, June 28 with Andrée-Anne Doane from St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal.

MUSIC AT METROPOLITAN announces its 2019-20 season of concerts. A flyer outlining most of the concerts is available in the Narthex. The brochure with full information will be available sometime in the summer.

THIS IS US DOING CHURCH: Sales of the second printing are brisk. Don't miss out! The sales desk will be open on **June 2, 16, and 23** only, and the cost is \$20.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

ANNUAL OUTDOOR SERVICE AND PICNIC, BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - On **Sunday, June 9** we celebrate the wonder of God's creation with our outdoor service, BBQ church picnic, Blessing of the Animals ceremony, and music from the Metropolitan Silver Band. Bring your pet to be blessed. Please bring a mayonnaise-free salad or dessert (but not in your finest china) and a lawn chair.

USHERS NEEDED: We need one more usher for our ushering team. You would be committing yourself to being present one Sunday a month: namely the third Sunday of each month. Please speak to William Wright (416-576-7228) about this if you are interested.

OUTREACH

COMMUNITY SERVICES: will be having their next quarterly town hall meeting **today** after the service in the **Met Centre**. 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.

PRIDE PARADE – Sunday, June 23, 2019: You can join us by boarding the bus at **10:00 a.m.** at **St. Luke's United**, travelling to Rosedale Valley Road. Or later at **1:30 p.m.** on Bloor Street and Jarvis. Please wear purple attire.

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 -- please drop them off at the community services office or with someone from the care services.

SPIRITUAL LEARNING FOR LIFE

FLANDERS LIBRARY: The Library will be closed during the summer in July and August. Do not forget to come to the library and choose books to read in the summer. Famous "The Chronicles of Narnia" books, written by C.S. Lewis, are among the books you may read with your children and grandchildren during the summer. 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](https://www.instagram.com/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 and thank you again for your continuing interest and financial support. Commitments continue to arrive. Your gifts will enable us to start work on our carillon this fall; work on our sanctuary and park will follow thereafter. Your church is *deeply* grateful. **To God be the Glory!**

A SUMMER PROJECT? Each Christmas, our Out of the Cold ministry gives toques, scarves and mitts as gifts to our guests. OOTC would appreciate any donation of knitted or crocheted items. It is miserable to be cold. Your handwork could change that for someone who is. Please leave your items in the Church Office and thank you for your help.

BROADVIEW: When you read *Broadview* (formerly *The United Church Observer*), you will find conversations about things that matter. *Broadview* has engaged Canadians for 190 years. Its award-winning journalism focuses on issues of faith, justice, and contemporary living. For those who already read *Broadview*, it is time to **renew your \$25 subscription**. If you would like to **begin a subscription** you may subscribe or renew via the offering plate (mark your gift "*Broadview*"), by contacting Doug Flanders at (416) 769-2746; dougflanders@sympatico.ca or on line at www.metunited.org, Donate, Fund, Broadview. It's a good read and well worth a try.

"MONEY is a person's personal energy reduced to portable form. Money can go where you cannot go; speak languages that we cannot speak; lift burdens that we cannot touch; save lives that we cannot help in person". (*Harry Emerson Fosdick*) Thank you for remembering the church in your estate plans. Your future gift can make a world of difference. For information, please contact Doug Flanders at (416) 769-2746; dougflanders@sympatico.ca **A legacy — It's ours to leave.**



DIRECTORY

Intentional Interim Lead Minister: The Rev. Karen Bowles, ext. 27 (karenb@metunited.ca)
Minister of Congregational Care: The Rev. Jason Meyers, ext. 24 (jasonm@metunited.ca)
Voluntary Associate Minister: The Rev. Bruce Misener (officiant@metunited.ca)
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair
Teachers: Karlos Griffith (karlosgriffith@rogers.com), Johnavac Abraham
Library: Marion Lick (library@metunited.ca) and Maureen Maguire (vigrass78@gmail.com)

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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

Director, Metropolitan Silver Band: Fran Harvey

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To hear the sermon: www.metsermons.com

www.metunited.ca



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Cover photo is the Ascension window in the West Transept.