

Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

the downtown church for a diverse city



'Enter God's gates with Thanksgiving!' Vera Taylor, artist

Thanksgiving Sunday

Sunday, October 13, 2019

We are an Affirming Congregation, offering welcome and companionship to all, regardless of orientation or designation.

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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

♪ (INDICATES A CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - PLEASE STAND IN SPIRIT OR IN FACT)

CARILLON PRELUDE (outside)

ORGAN PRELUDE *Fest Hymnus* Carl Piutti
 Now Thank We All Our God J. S. Bach and G. F. Kauffmann

♪ *Organ introduction: St. George* Colin Hand

♪ PROCESSIONAL HYMN #516 *Come, You Thankful People, Come* St. George's, Windsor

♪ INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Praise be to God, who created the Earth and gives us the harvest's bounty.

All: God provides all that we need.

One: Praise be to God, who surrounds us with love and strengthens us by the Holy Spirit.

All: God's care for us never ends.

One: Praise be to God, who calls us to share the blessings of land and life with the world.

All: God's mission for us is at hand.

One: People of God, let us give thanks.

All: Praise be to God!

One: Let us pray. (all seated)

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

KYRIE ELEISON (ALL) #69 *MORE VOICES* *Kyrie eleison (God have mercy)* Kervin

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

Alleluia, Praise to God (two times)....Praises, high praises, we bring you, O God...

Songs of joy sing out to God (two times)....Dancing and singing, we praise you, O God...

Beat the drums, sing out to God (two times)...Praises, high praises, we bring you, O God...

READINGS Deuteronomy 26: 1-11, Philippians 4: 4-9

ANTHEM *Make a Joyful Noise* William Mathias

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves. We are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good, his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. Amen. (Psalm 100)

GOSPEL READING John 6: 25-34

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

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH TIME

All children and youth are invited to follow their teachers to Sunday School in the Met Centre.

♪ **HYMN #520 *We Plough the Fields***

Wir Pflügen

SERMON

“This Given Day”

The Rev. Karen Bowles

ANTHEM

All People that on Earth Do Dwell

Thomas Tallis

Text at #823 - Scottish Psalter version of Psalm 100

♪ **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 *Grateful*

Charles Davidson, tenor

John Bucchino

♪ **OFFERTORY HYMN #540 (All)**

Stuttgart

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.**

**Grant us time and inspiration, with a vision old and new,
that our goal in all our loving may be reached in loving you.**

♪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 #236 *Now Thank We All Our God*

Nun Danket

♪COMMISSIONING

♪BLESSING (All) #429 (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

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

LEADING IN WORSHIP this morning are **The Rev. Karen Bowles** and **The Rev. Jason Meyers**. Reading the lessons is **Carol Dilks**. The ministry of music is offered by the **Metropolitan Choir** conducted by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, and by the Wayne C. Vance Organ Scholar **Timothy Wisnicki**.

CARRYING THE BANNER IS **Janice Andrews**.

GREETERS are **Muriel Griffith** and **Carol Kitney**.

USHERS are **Eva Breeze**, **Vicki Harris**, **Joseph Curry**, and **Gunn Wongsuwan**.

TODAY'S MUSIC includes organ music by Carl Piutti, J. S. Bach and German Romantic composer Sigfrid Karg-Elert. Piutti was a 19th century German organist and composer and served as organist of the Leipzig St. Thomas Church (Bach's church) in the latter part of the century. This 'Fest-Hymnus' contains the motive 'B A C H' interspersed with the hymn 'Now thank we all our God.' Thomas Tallis was a 16th century English composer, and William Mathias was a 20th century English composer.

Flowers today are in loving memory of our parents by William and Patricia Wright, and in gratitude for the abundance of the harvest and the beauty of Creation.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Thanksgiving Day - Monday, October 14 - Church Closed

Tuesday, October 15

12:10 – 12:30 p.m.	Midday Service of Prayer and Healing	Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	Contemplation Circle	Heritage Room
6:00 p.m.	Visual and Creative Arts Committee meeting	Flanders Library
6:30 p.m.	Open Art Studio and Knitting Circle	MET Centre
7:30 p.m.	Silver Band rehearsal	Sanctuary

Wednesday, October 16

8:30 a.m.	Prayer Breakfast	200 Victoria Street
1:30 p.m.	Met Care Team meeting	Flanders Library

Thursday, October 17

12:10 – 1:00 p.m.	Yoga Church	Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Handbells	Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.	Peace & Social Justice Committee meeting	Flanders Library
7:30 p.m.	Metropolitan Choir	Sanctuary

Friday, October 18

10:30 a.m.	Open Art Studio	MET Centre
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Saturday, October 19

9:00 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Study	Flanders Library
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NEXT SUNDAY: October 20

9:00 a.m.	Communion Service	Founders' Chapel
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 The Rev. Jason Meyers - "Heart Script" Jeremiah 31:27-34, 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5, Luke 18:1-8	
12:15 p.m.	Great Heart	Sanctuary
12:30 p.m.	Lunch & Learn - Sing! with Dr. Patricia Wright	MET Centre

MET CONNECT: Don't miss our weekly e-blast featuring latest worship, community, and program news - sign up through FB or the website (sign up form is at the bottom of the homepage).

AMONG OUR PEOPLE: Have a milestone, special event or some exciting news to share? We'd like to share our community's highlights through the MET Connect. Email communications@metunited.ca.

MINISTRY OF INTEGRATED ARTS

“SING” LUNCH AND LEARN: Next Sunday, October 20, gather after the service in the MET Centre to learn about congregational song and sing favourite hymns (and new ones) - bring your requests!

KNITTING CIRCLE: (basic supplies provided) A novice or seasoned pro - you are welcome. Ideas for the inaugural fall session include knitting teddy bears, prayer shawls and perhaps even a yarn bomb... and of course, you can knit a scarf as well! Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., in the MET Centre.

OUTREACH

COMMUNICATING WITH VULNERABLE PERSONS TRAINING: On October 20, 2019 has been cancelled. To be rescheduled.

HOUSING AT MET: continues to gratefully accept the following items: unused socks, underwear and hygiene items and 'hot paws'.

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: The committee will meet on Thursday, October 17 at 6.30 p.m. in the Library. New members are cordially invited.

MISSION AND SERVICE: Our Moderator, the Right Rev.Dr. Richard Bott said, " Mission and Service is our Hope, Love,and Gratitude expressed through giving. When we give to Mission and Service we reach out to our neighbours to offer healing and hope in Canada and across the world" As members of the United Church of Canada and Metropolitan congregation we are asked to make Mission and Service giving a regular part of our Christian life.

OUTREACH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: NARTHEX GREETERS: Narthex Greeters are essential to allow our church to be open to the public on weekdays. An open church provides an opportunity for quiet spiritual reflection in an oasis of peace and safety in the city core. Narthex Greeters are available to answer questions about Metropolitan, give brief tours, or connect people with our ministers or services. What is involved? 3 hours per week with another person hosting our visiting hours (Monday – Friday, 12 noon - 3:00 p.m.) Please contact Rev. Jason Meyers for more information.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

AFFIRM GROUP BRUNCH: The Affirm Group is planning to host a brunch on Sunday November 3 at 1:00 p.m. at the Duke of Richmond restaurant, located at the south end of the Eaton Centre. This is a great opportunity for LGBTQ2+ members to meet each other. Everyone who attends Metropolitan is welcome at the brunch. Please RSVP to Jim Nixon at jnixon4411@hotmail.com. We'll meet at coffee hour and walk over to the restaurant together.

SPIRITUAL LEARNING FOR LIFE

FLANDERS LIBRARY: “For the Least of My Brethren: A Centenary History of St. Michael's Hospital” by Irene McDonald tells the story of St. Michael's Hospital, founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1892. The author was closely associated with St. Michael's for more than thirty years. This book is available in our library. The Library is open 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. and 12:15 - 1:00 p.m. every Sunday. You can find the full catalogue through the website.

MIDDAY OFFERINGS: Are you ever downtown at noon? Know anyone who is? Consider coming and telling others about our mid-week spiritual offerings:

Midday Service of Prayer and Healing - Tuesdays 12:10 to 12:30 p.m.

Thursdays - Yoga Church - Thursdays 12:10 to 1:00 p.m.

A calm community for a busy city.

MET PODCASTS: Find expanded podcast versions of the sermon, including meditative music, the weekly Gospel reading, and take-home exercises, on our website. You can also subscribe through iTunes, Spotify, or Google Play.

THE SHARING OF OUR ABUNDANCE

WE ARE WELL ON OUR WAY: Last Sunday we had an update on *Our Third Century Campaign*. We are well on our way to reaching our goal of \$1.5 million with **just over \$1.2 million pledged or received**. Thank you! Work on our carillon is now underway and a very generous gift from the Jackman family will cover a large part of the cost of restoring our park. Many have shared that they will be making a commitment to the campaign but have yet to do so. Without our gifts, the work needed to restore our Sanctuary cannot begin. Thank you again for your tremendous support. ***To God be the Glory.***

REMEMBERING: Thank you for remembering Metropolitan United Church with a gift of any amount in your estate plans.

BROADVIEW MAGAZINE: Formerly known as *The United Church Observer*, this publication connects us as a church family, a unifying voice in these times of change. For a subscription to this inspiring, well-written, and award winning Christian magazine, contact the church office or our congregation's **Broadview** representative Doug Flanders at (416) 769-2746; dougflanders@sympatico.ca.

Being generous with our money is vitally important. You can also be generous with your time, love, attention, and good deeds. Compassion and helping our fellow humans remains so desperately needed in our world today. — Bill and Melinda Gates



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, ext. 55 (officialt@metunited.ca)
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair
Teachers: Karlos Griffith (karlosgriffith@rogers.com), Johnvac Abraham
Library: Marion Lick (library@metunited.ca) and Maureen Maguire (vigrass78@gmail.com)

Community Outreach Ministry

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Outreach and Housing Worker: Megan Carver, ext. 21 (housingworker@metunited.ca)
Community Service Worker: Stephanie Cunti (csw@metunited.ca)

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 26 (patw@metunited.ca)
Wayne C. Vance 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

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