Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

the downtown church for a diverse city



Photo by Rev. Meyers

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Pride Sunday June 28, 2020

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

PRELUDE Pastorale on 'Capetown'

Gerald Bales

.....Therefore give us love

WELCOME

PRIDE CANDLES

OPENING **H**YMN **#565 vs. 1,2,7** Love, Who Made Me in Your Likeness

All Saints

INVITATION TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

One: Creating God,

All: who makes no mistakes,

who surprises us always,

who molded the first person both male and female,

who molded the first non-gendered human

who loves all creation.

One: We celebrate the diversity of your creation in our worship.

All: Help us accept all varieties of gender in ourselves and in others.

One: Help us celebrate those who are different from us

All: That we may learn to love one another as you love us.

One: Let us worship God together. The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Kyrie (ALL) #69 More Voices Kyrie eleison (God have mercy)

Kervin

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Act of Praise (All) #104 More Voices

Trad., Congo

Mungu, ni mwema, mungu ni mwema, mungu ni mwema, ni mwema.

Know that God is good, Know that God is good, Know that God is good, God is good, God is good.

READING Genesis 22:1-14

CHILDREN'S TIME

CHOIR RECOGNITION

Anthem Laudate Dominum (Praise God)

W. A. Mozart

Praise God, all nations; Praise God, all people. For God has bestowed mercy upon us, And the truth of the Lord endures forever. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, and for generations of generations. Amen

Chelsea Van Pelt, soloist; members of The Metropolitan Choir

READING

Matthew 10:40-42

PERSONAL WITNESS

Linda Wright

SERMON

KEEP IT SECRET, KEEP IT SAFE

The Rev. Jason Meyers

Today's sermon uses research from an academic paper written by Bri-anne Swan on the United Church's decision to ordain Gay and Lesbian members in 1988

ANTHEM

Born This Way

Garibay, Germanotta arr. Billingsley

Members of The Metropolitan Choir and guests

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING

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

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,

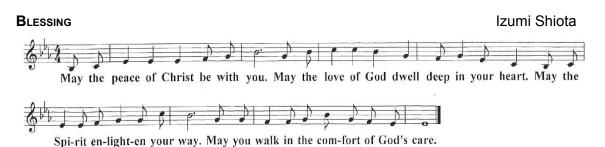
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #642 vs. 1,2,5

Be Thou my Vision

Slane

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION



Postlude Fantaisie sur "O Canada" (Commissioned by Patricia Wright in 2003) Denis Bédard from the Metropolitan recording Look at the World

LEADING IN WORSHIP this morning are **The Rev. Karen Bowles** and **The Rev. Jason Meyers.** The Children's Time is led by **Bailey Fleming** and reading the lesson is **Felicity Johnson**. Lighting the Pride Candles are **Ernie Forsyth**, **Amanda O'Halloran**, **Jeff Laitar**, **Ael Spence**, **Jim Nixon** and **Jay Wagner**. The ministry of music is offered by members of the **Metropolitan Choir** and Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**. Singing the hymns is soprano **Gisele Kulak**.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

The church is closed to the public, but virtual Worship and programming are taking place.

Tuesday, June 30

2:00 p.m. Virtual Coffee Time Zoom/Phone <u>link here</u>

Wednesday, July 1

Canada Day Statutory Holiday

Thursday, July 2

12:00 pm Yoga/Meditation Zoom <u>link here</u>

NEXT SUNDAY: July 5 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

STAY CONNECTED

Full updates around Covid-19 can be found on the homepage at metunited.ca. Past sermons and livestreams are also available under the Worship menu. Sign up for the MET Connect weekly e-newsletter via our homepage for up-to-date news. We're also on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Vimeo.

PASTORAL CARE

Rev. Bowles and Rev. Meyers are connecting with many members and are determining the needs of our community in this challenging time. If you would like a pastoral phone call you can contact Karen at karenb@metunited.ca (416-670-1902) or Jason at jasonm@metunited.ca (416-363-0331 ext. 224).

COMMUNITY SERVICES MINISTRY

The Outreach team continues to respond to the needs of our community physically and spiritually. We are following a model that provides income to small businesses in the downtown core while meeting the needs of the community: **400 prepared meals/week** to the drop-in at All Saints Church prepared by two catering companies, **take-out meals** accessible by funded chits from three restaurants in our community, and soon we will introduce a similar chit system at **local laundromats**. Additionally, our community service workers, Megan and Stephanie, are buying and delivering groceries, providing grocery cards and meeting with folks, taking appropriate precautions.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

A group of dedicated folks is keeping in touch with all those in our community and are continuing to reach out offering help where needed. Tech help is being provided.

STAFF

Administrative staff are working remotely and are available by phone/email - don't hesitate to be in touch.

DONATIONS DURING THIS TIME

The work of Metropolitan continues. While we cannot collect offerings in person, there remain easy ways to contribute - through our <u>Canada Helps page</u>, or by mailing in envelopes and/or cheques to the church.

You can also arrange for pre-authorized remittance for regular giving (PAR) from your bank account, or credit card - just <u>download and fill out a form</u> via the website. If you have any questions, please contact Elena Pejcinovska, Financial Manager at <u>elenap@metunited.ca</u> or 416-363-0331 ext. 229.

BROADVIEW MAGAZINE—TIME TO SUBSCRIBE, TIME TO RENEW!

Thank you for subscribing to *Broadview* magazine. Formerly known as The United Church Observer, the revamped format has been highly successful and the magazine continues to be a great read.

June is our *Broadview* subscription renewal month at Metropolitan when subscriptions come due on our congregation's group subscription plan at the bargain rate of **\$25 per year**. Anyone who receives the magazine may renew as follows:

- Online at <u>www.metunited.</u>ca by clicking on the Donate tab at top
- E-transfer to donations@metunited.ca
- Contacting Elena in the church office at 416-363-0331, ext. 229 or elenap@metunited.org for renewal by credit card
- Mail to the church at 56 Queen Street E., Toronto, ON M5C 2Z3

Given that the church building is currently closed due to the pandemic, please let Doug Flanders, our congregation's *Broadview* representative know at <u>dougflanders@sympatico.ca</u> or 416-769-2746 if you wish to renew or not. For renewals, thank you for getting your subscription payment to the church as you can and before the end of this calendar year. If you could afford a few extra dollars beyond \$25, your "over and above" gift would help cover the cost of the gift subscription to *Broadview* that Metropolitan automatically gives to each new household.

A number have received the magazine this past year as a gift from the church because you were a recent new member. We encourage you to continue with a paid subscription of your own.

If you have already renewed, thank you!

And if you would like to subscribe to this thoughtful, well-written, award-winning magazine, let Doug Flanders know.

Thank you!

The Official Board of Metropolitan United Church deeply appreciates your financial gifts. We strive to honour our donors' wishes at all times. When gifts are designated for a specific purpose and the need for that purpose has been fulfilled, your Board will redirect surplus gifts to the closest alternative or the area of greatest need. Thank you again for supporting Metropolitan.



DIRECTORY

Intentional Interim Lead Minister: The Rev. Karen Bowles, ext. 227 (karenb@metunited.ca)
Minister of Congregational Care: The Rev. Jason Meyers, ext. 224 (iasonm@metunited.ca)

Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 226 (patw@metunited.ca)

Voluntary Associate Minister: The Rev. Bruce Misener, ext. 255 (officiant@metunited.ca)

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

Chair of the Official Board: Kenneth Younie (chair@metunited.ca)

Children & Youth Ministries Animator: Bailey Fleming (bailey@thegoproject.ca)

Teachers: Karlos Griffith (karlosgriffith@rogers.com), Johnavac Abraham

Library: Marion Lick (library@metunited.ca) and Maureen Maguire (vigrass78@gmail.com)

Community Outreach Ministry

Outreach and Housing Worker: Megan Carver, ext. 221 (housingworker@metunited.ca)
Community Service Worker: Stephanie Cunti, ext. 241 (csw@metunited.ca)

Ministry of Music

Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 226 (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

Director of Administration: Jane Tuomi, ext. 222 (janelt@metunited.ca)
Office Administrator: Sheela Taylor, ext. 210 (sheelat@metunited.ca)
Financial Manager: Elena Pejcinovska, ext. 229 (elenap@metunited.ca)
Technical Administrator: Vinoth Thanganadan, ext. 223 (vinotht@metunited.ca)
Communications Specialist: Charles Davidson (communications@metunited.ca)
Property Manager: Frank Cairns, ext. 231 (frankc@metunited.ca)
Custodians: Nadan Kandiah, Puvi Kanagalingam ext. 232

56 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON M5C 2Z3
Tel. 416.363.0331 Fax. 416.363.7586
Email: metunited@metunited.ca

WANTER W VOUNTY ON THE PARTY

