

Welcome to Metropolitan United Church

the downtown church for a diverse city



Carving of the disciples in Met's communion table.

May 16, 2021 **Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*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

CARILLON PRELUDE *A Little Prelude and Fugue*

John R. Knox

ORGAN PRELUDE *Petite Suite*

Gerald Bales

Introduction, Intermezzo, Finale

*To God on High be Thanks and Praise
Prelude*

J. S. Bach

J. N. Lemmens

WORDS OF WELCOME

OPENING HYMN #218 *We Praise You, O God*

Kremser

- 1 We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
 in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
 We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
 we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.
- 2 We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
 through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
 When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
 but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.
- 3 With voices united our praises we offer
 and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
 Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,
 to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

INVITATION TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

One: To know the warmth of love,

All: To have the assurance that someone cares,

One: To be confident of our worth,

All: To be bold to love in return,

One: To be washed over with grace,

All: To be accepted as we are:

One: This is to know God.

All: Then let us worship God together.

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray. *(please be seated)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND SILENCE FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

KYRIE #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

ACT OF PRAISE (All) #59 More Voices

Yoruba song (Nigeria)

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

Alleluia praise to God.

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

Songs of joy sing out to God.

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

Beat the drums, sing out to God.

READING

Acts 1:15–17, 21–26

Matthias is elected as an apostle

EPISTLE

1 John 5:9–13

The testimony of God

RESPONSE

More Voices #115 Behold, Behold, I Make All Things New John Bell, Iona Community

Behold, behold, I make all things new, beginning with you and starting from today.

Behold, behold, I make all things new, my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.

GOSPEL

John 17:6–19

“May my joy be made complete in them.”

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

CHORISTERS ANTHEM

Hand Me Down My Silver Trumpet Spiritual arr. Jean Ashworth Bartle

CHILDREN’S TIME

HYMN

More Voices #320 I Have Called You by Your Name

Kelly

- 1, I have called you by your name, you are mine; I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.
- 2 I will help you learn my name as you go; read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus’ body, given long ago.
- 3 I know you will need my touch as you go; feel it pulsing in creation’s ebb and flow,
Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus’ robe, then let it go.
- 4 I have given you a name, it is mine; I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.

SOLO

The Call

R. Vaughan Williams, arr. Stein

From *Five Mystical Songs* on poems by George Herbert

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 AND OFFERING

DEDICATION OF OFFERING

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.

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 #569 *You Call Us Out*

Thornbury

1 You call us out to praise you, the God who gave us birth,
to gather in communion, and treasure your whole earth;
we are your living story, to hear and to be heard;
we praise your name, who writes us, the author and the word.

- 2 For varied hues and textures, new patterns, still you search,
to weave your seamless garments, the fabric of your church;
our tattered faith you cherish, reclaim from wear and moth;
we praise your name, who twines us, the weaver and the cloth.
- 3 The church that speaks forgiveness, confesses its own need;
the church that feels its hunger, finds grace to care and feed;
our famished world is crying, its future filled with dread;
we praise your name, who fills us, the baker and the bread.
- 4 The church that offers healing, discerns its wounds and loss;
the church that faces dying, shares life beyond the cross;
to people torn and broken, your mercy is revealed;
we praise your name, who loves us, the healer and the healed.
- 5 Our feeble voices struggle, to sing your justice clear;
the world has sunk in silence, each discord echoes fear;
one voice alone is ragged, together we are strong;
we praise your name, who breathes us, the singer and the song.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE *Fanfare*

J. N. Lemmens

LEADING IN WORSHIP are **The Rev. Karen Bowles** and **The Rev. Jason Meyers**. The reader is **Doug Flanders** and delivering the Children's Message is **Alana Martin**, Children and Youth Animator. The ministry of music is offered by Minister of Music **Dr. Patricia Wright**, Carillonneur **Roy Lee**, members of the **Metropolitan Choristers** with guest trumpeter **Fran Harvey**, soprano **Gisele Kulak**, and tenor and lutenist **Benjamin Stein**.

TODAY

1:00 p.m. Outreach Committee (Zoom)

2:00 p.m. Taddle Creek Wild Church (Zoom)

ABOUT TADDLE CREEK WILD CHURCH

Our next service is coming up today at 2pm on Zoom. Taddle Creek Wild Church is a community ministry of Met that lives at the intersection of emerging eco-spiritually and the timeless ways of Jesus. For more info, contact Rev. Jason Meyers or visit the [webpage](#).

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Zoom links can be found in MET Connect and at metunited.ca

Wednesday, May 19

8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Bible Study (Zoom)	
11:30 a.m.	Hospitality Tent	McGill Square Park
12:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study	
1:30 p.m.	Met Care Team (Zoom)	

Thursday, May 20

10:00 a.m.	Pre-Board (Zoom)
6:00 p.m.	Peace and Social Justice Committee (Zoom)
8:00 p.m.	Evening Communion (Zoom)

Saturday, May 22

8:00 a.m.	Saturday Bible Study (Zoom)
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NEXT SUNDAY: May 23 - Day of Pentecost

The Rev. Karen Bowles preaching

11:00 a.m.	Online Worship Service
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FROM THE REV. KAREN BOWLES

"May 2021 is to be my final month with Metropolitan - my time with you was always to be limited by the interim nature of the position and by my anticipated retirement. I am pleased to say that it is very difficult to leave this community and I would not have it any other way." We will celebrate Karen's ministry with us next Sunday, May 23. More info in next week's Connect.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - JUNE 6

Met's AGM will take place on Zoom on Sunday, June 6th from 1:30-3:00 p.m. The meeting details and Annual Report will be available soon through the Met Connect weekly email.

SAVE THE DATE - FARMERS' MARKET LAUNCHES ON JUNE 13

The launch of "The Met Market" is fast approaching! We are busy recruiting farmers and vendors, creating marketing materials and working on volunteer roles and responsibilities. More details to follow, but for now, please put Sunday, June 13 in your calendar as the first market date. The Met Market will run each Sunday from 10am to 2pm through to the Fall.

THE MET APP

"There's an app for that!" You can follow our programming, view the livestream and chat, register for events, make a donation, and much more through our new app. Use your phone or tablet to download the app through [this link](#). You can also find more details and instructions on our site, [here](#).

RINGING THE CHANGES

Metropolitan is in the process of major change both to its historic building and to its ministerial leadership. Our ministry and outreach in downtown Toronto will continue, however, as we bring our third century of witness to Toronto and to the world. Thank you for your ongoing annual financial support. Thank you for also remembering our church with a gift in your estate plans. Every gift, regardless of size, will help our church in future. For information, please contact Doug Flanders at (416) 769-2746; email dougflanders@sympatico.ca

A legacy — It's ours to leave.

CONTINUED GIVING



A new, easy way to donate! Focus your smartphone's camera on the QR code to the left and you'll be directed to our giving page. Thank you for supporting the ministries of Metropolitan United Church.

Sign up for the MET Connect weekly newsletter [here](#)
Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) & [YouTube](#)



DIRECTORY

Chair of the Official Board: Kenneth Younie (boardchair@metunited.ca)
Intentional Interim Lead Minister: The Rev. Karen Bowles, ext. 227 (karenb@metunited.ca)
Minister of Congregational Care: The Rev. Jason Meyers, ext. 224 (jasonm@metunited.ca)
Minister of Music: Dr. Patricia Wright, ext. 226 (patw@metunited.ca)
Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. G. Malcolm Sinclair (malcolms@metunited.ca)
Context in Ministry Student: Timothy Wisnicki
Children & Youth Ministries Animator: Alana Martin (alana@thegoproject.ca)
Teachers: Karlos Griffith (karlosgriffith@rogers.com)
Library: Marion Lick (library@metunited.ca) and Maureen Maguire (vigrass78@gmail.com)



Community Outreach Ministry

Outreach and Housing Worker: Megan Carver, ext. 221 (meganc@metunited.ca)
Outreach and Community Service Coordinator: Stephanie Cunti, ext. 241 (stephaniec@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, ext. 228 (charlesd@metunited.ca)
Property Manager: Frank Cormier, ext. 231 (property@metunited.ca)
Custodian: Puvi Kanagalingam, ext. 305

56 Queen Street East, Toronto, ON M5C 2Z3

Tel. 416.363.0331 Fax. 416.363.7586

Email: metunited@metunited.ca