

◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

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Minister:	The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner
Music Director:	Alexander Cann
Family Ministries Coordinator:	Meg Chalmers
Office Administrator:	Michelle Millson

◆ **June 17, 2018 - 10:30 a.m.** ◆
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Reception of New Members

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH
◆ SUNDAY, JUNE 17TH, 2018 ◆
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

* indicates a time to stand, if you are able
congregational responses are in **boldface type**

◆ All are welcome for coffee and conversation in the parlour after worship ◆

◆ **GATHERING** ◆

PRELUDE – Voluntary

T. Thomkins

INTROIT – Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring

VU 328

* OPENING HYMN – *Let Us Build a House*

MV 1

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: The Christ-light shines for all people.

**All: The light of Christ shines in us.
Thanks be to God!**

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The church is the place where the broken gather:

**All: let us worship the One who reconciles us
to one another and to God.**

One: The church is the place where all are welcome:

**All: let us worship God who, with forgiving hands,
shapes us into new people.**

One: The church is the place where the lost, the least,
the forgotten, the ignored gather:

All: let us worship God who looks at us with the eyes of love.

PRAYER (said by all)

Holy One:

you anoint us with living water,
so we may go to serve the world
in these troubled days.

You open our eyes
so we will see everyone as our sisters and brothers.

Seed Planter:

you place faith deep within us,
so we can bear witness to your just and loving kingdom.

Gentle Spirit:

when we cannot see the way,
you take us by the hand
so we can step forward in faith.

You fill us with hope,
so we can sing God's joy all of our days. Amen.

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

◆ **WELCOMING OUR NEW MEMBERS** ◆

* HYMN – *Walk with Me*

VU 649

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11

One: The church is a community of people with varied gifts,
united by the Holy Spirit.

We gather to celebrate God's presence,
to discern God's truth,
and to follow the way of Jesus.

By our baptism we are made members of Christ's church.

We exercise this membership
in the denomination to which we belong,
which for us is the United Church of Canada,
and within the context of a local community of faith.

We are now to welcome into this congregation
two who are already members

of the church of Jesus Christ.

Margaret Duff:

On behalf of the Melrose congregation
I present Kenneth and Pamela Holden
whom we welcome into the membership
of this community of faith.

One: Ken and Pam, will you join with us
as together we celebrate God's presence,
live with respect in creation,
love and serve others,
seek justice and resist evil?

We will, with God's help.

(the congregation stands)

One: Dear friends in Christ,
let us pledge to Pam and Ken our support and care.

**All: As your sisters and brothers in Christ,
we rejoice in the gifts you bring to us.
We pledge to you our love and our support.
With God's help, we will together live out
the mission and ministry of Christ's church.**

One: Together, let us profess our faith:

**All: 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. (*the congregation is seated*)

One: In the name of Jesus Christ,
we welcome you both to the privileges and responsibilities
of membership in this congregation.

We give thanks to God for your witness among us.

Let us pray:

God of mercy and love,

you welcome all who turn to you,

and give your Holy Spirit to those who ask.

Grant that Ken and Pam may grow
into the fullness of the stature of Christ.

Equip them with the gifts of your Holy Spirit,
and fill them with faith in Jesus Christ

and with love for all your people
in the service of your realm of Shalom.

All: Amen.

One: Go out into the world in the power of the Spirit.
Pursue justice, faith, love, patience, and humility,
for to this you are called.

All: Amen.

◆ SERVICE OF THE WORD ◆

Reader: Dianne Coons

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE WISDOM OF ISRAEL: 1 Samuel 15: 34-16: 13

One: The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: Mark 4: 26-34

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY: "Chosen by God"

ANTHEM – Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Sky

◆ RESPONSE ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN – *As We Gather at Your Table*

VU 457

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said together)

**Bless, O God, the gifts that we bring this day,
that they may be a sign of our commitment to your realm
and a pledge of our love for you and your world.**

**Multiply our resources,
that your presence and compassion may be known
in all the earth. Amen.**

**A Service for Holy Communion
based on**

"A New Creed" of the United Church of Canada

The Invitation to Communion

One: In the name of the One who said,

“I am the bread of life,”
I invite you to come and eat.
In the name of the One who said, “I am the true vine,”
I invite you to come and drink.
In the name of the One who said,
“Love one another, as I have loved you,”
I invite you to the table of Jesus Christ.

The Peace

One: Let us greet one another in the name of Christ:
“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: God be with you

All: And also with you

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: It is truly right that we thank you, and we praise you,
God Most Holy, Creator of All! For ...

All: We are not alone, we live in your world!

One: We live in your world, we live in your creation –
in all of its wonder, in all of its life.

**All: We believe in You,
who has created and is creating!**

One: In your love, with your Word, by your Spirit,
you brought all things into being.
In your love, with your Word, by your Spirit,
you bring all things into being.
With that creation, you live, entangled and entwined,

with all people, all places, all things.

Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with with all that is:

All: (singing) *O holy, holy holy God*

MV 203

O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above

Bear witness to your grace.

Hosanna in the highest heav'n,

Creation sings your praise.

And blessed is the One who comes

And bears your name always!

One: In so many ways, in so many times and places,
you spoke your words, calling us into deeper covenant with
you, calling us back into your love.

Through prophets and priests, grandparents and children,
teachers and preachers and voices in the wilderness,
you called us, again and again.

And then, in Jesus - the Word made Flesh -
we encountered you in a new way.

**All: *We believe in You, who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new.***

One: In his love, through his life, his death and his resurrection,
Jesus, Christ, brought all creation, all of us,
into right relationship with you, again and forever.

All: (Singing) *Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,* MV 204

Christ will come again!

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

One: Spirit of the Creator, Spirit of the Christ,
Holy Spirit, Love Divine - you live in us and with us,
turning our lives and your world
upside down - with hope, with wonder, with challenge,
with love!

**All: We believe in You, we trust in You
who works in us, and others, by the Spirit.**

One: We do trust in You because life, even at the best of times,
can be chaotic. At the most difficult times,
all we can do is trust in You. We trust in your Love,
shown over and over again, throughout all time, all space.

All: You call us to be the Church.

One: And so, as disciples of Christ, we live with respect in
Creation.

**All: Help us to live with even more respect,
Creator of All.**

One: We love and serve others.

All: Help us to love and serve with all we are.

One: We seek justice and resist evil.

**All: Help us to do more than stand and wait.
Help us to act rightly in the face of wrong.**

One: We proclaim Jesus,

All: crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

The Words of Institution and Prayer for the Spirit

One: On the night that he was taken to what would be his death,
on a cross, Jesus gathered with his disciples for a meal of
remembrance, a meal of hope, and a meal of challenge.
As the disciples gathered, he served them, washing their
feet.

As the disciples ate, he taught them, helping them to
understand what would come.

As the disciples raged and disbelieved,
he loved them, even knowing he would be betrayed,
even knowing he would be abandoned.

**All: And his judgment, was to love them - every single one,
no matter what. That is our hope!**

One: He took bread, broke it, and gave thanks to You,

God of all creation. Then he gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my body, given for you. Each time you eat bread, remember me."

All: In life, in death, in life-beyond-death

One: He took wine, poured it, and gave thanks to you, God of all Creation. Then he gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take this, all of you, and drink it. This is my promise, in my life's blood, that sins are forgiven. Each time you drink wine, remember me."

All: God is with us. We are not alone!

* CLOSING HYMN – *Hail to God's Own Anointed* VU 30

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

CHORAL RESPONSE – *Hallelujah, amen!* VU 974

Amen, Amen! Hallelujah, amen! (2x)

POSTLUDE – Processional W. Mathias

◆ Melrose Events ◆

◆ Worship Next Week ◆

Next Sunday will mark our first “summer” experience of worship in the beautiful (and air-conditioned) Melrose chapel. As the final installment of an arc of stories from the biblical book of First Samuel, the familiar and encouraging story of David’s defeat of the Philistine “giant” named Goliath (1 Sam 17: 1a, 4-11) will offer us food for thought. About five years ago, Canadian journalist and author Malcolm Gladwell used this biblical tale as the basis for his own book, “David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants.” His premise is that major disadvantages often turn out to be the keys to the triumph of underdogs against Goliath-like opponents or situations. In the biblical story it is, ironically, Goliath who proves to be a huge underdog against the power of God once David places his own youthful confidence into divine hands. It is easy to understand why we like this story so much. At times when we face an enormous giant (sickness, family breakups, financial disaster, addiction, shame) the same God who protected and provided for David and the people of Israel will protect and provide for us.

◆ JUNE 17TH - CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP ◆

When the Interim Ministry period began at Melrose four goals were articulated for the Transition Team and the Interim Minister:

- Help to bring healing to the congregation
- Help to restore morale within the congregation
- Help to establish good governance behavior within the congregation
- Work with the whole congregation to establish common mission and values

While excellent progress has been made on the first three of those goals, the Transition Team needs your help and your input with the fourth. The Team met productively with the Official Board in the spring and now it's the turn of the congregation as a whole to shape Melrose's *identity and mission* as the community journeys together into its future. A light lunch will be provided (yes, we know it's Father's Day – bring Dad!).

◆ **New Members** ◆

And now for some good news ... two lovely persons are planning to be received into full membership of our Melrose congregation TODAY! If anyone else would like to look into joining you can speak to Rev. Philip about the opportunity to enter fully into the life and work of our community.

◆ **Garage Sale Update** ◆

Garage sale raised \$1535.00. Fantastic work everyone!

◆ **Observer Renewals and New Subscriptions** ◆

If you would like to renew or subscribe to the United Church Observer please let the church office know. The cost is \$25 per year. All subscriptions are due by August 1.

◆ **Summer Scripture Readers** ◆

We now have a full roster of summer readers. Thank you from Carolyn Duff. I will send reminders to you from Nova Scotia. Please, readers, make sure that Michelle, in the Church Office, has your up-to-date email address.

◆ **WrapAround Request** ◆

Wraparound is currently helping two families that are looking for one or two bedroom pet friendly apartments in Hamilton. Please contact Libby Cook if you have any helpful information. Thank You!

◆ **Corner Shoppe Update** ◆

Please note – the Melrose Corner Shoppe is temporarily closed until later this month for restocking and organizing.

Thank you – the Melrose Corner Shoppe Volunteer Team

WIT - Women In Touch potluck dinner

Wednesday June 20th at 6:30 pm

in the Melrose church parlour

"POTLUCK PROGRAMME"

Bring an idea to share

or

Just come & enjoy!!

◆ **Birthday Wishes** ◆

A couple exciting birthdays happened in our church family recently – make sure to send wishes to Flo L. and Doreen M. next time you see them!



◆ **The Prayer Bear Ministry...** ◆

... at Melrose is sponsored through a generous gift in loving memory of Easton Carter Strongman, the infant son of Adam and Jessica Strongman, who died in 2013. If you know of anyone in need of some Prayer Bear cheer, you are invited to take one of the bears from the table near the south (right hand) sanctuary door. Please fill in the Prayer Bear registry book also located on the table so that we have some information about the bear's new home.

MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday – June 18

EarlyON Drop In	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
Quilting	12:30 p.m.	Auditorium

Tuesday - June 19

EarlyON Drop In

Wednesday - June 20

Pilates	6:30 p.m.	Norman
Women In Touch	6:30 p.m.	Slater Room
Dinner		Parlour

Thursday - June 21

EarlyON Drop In	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
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Friday – June 22

Bookmobile: HPL	10:00 a.m.	Parking Lot
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Saturday - June 23

Tom Schilling Master Class	7:00 p.m.	Chapel
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Sunday – June 24

Amici Music School	9:30 a.m.	Parlour
Melrose Worship	10:30a.m.	Chapel