

◆ 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

◆ April 29, 2018 - 10:30 a.m. ◆

Fifth Sunday of Easter

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

◆ April 29th, 2018 ◆

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

* 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 - Dance of the Blessed Spirits from *Orpheus*

C. Gluck, arr. A. Moore

INTROIT - O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

VU 170, v. 1

* OPENING HYMN - *Praise God for This Holy Ground*

MV 42

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: The light of Christ is in the world.

All: God's Resurrection love burns in our hearts.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather in the name of the living Christ to worship God.

All: God is in this place and calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.

One: God's love is for you and for all people everywhere.

**All: That we may share God's love and life,
may we be renewed in the refreshing Spirit of the living
Christ.**

One: The living Christ is with us.

All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

OPENING PRAYER (said by all):

Wondrous Vinegrower, you make all things new
in water and Word,
feeding your people with love, joy, and peace.
Lead us today and every day
to the font of new beginnings.
Teach us to love what you have commanded
and to prune what does not nourish your creation,
in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

★ HYMN- *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus*

VU 357

A TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

Reader: Barb Bloemhof

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 22

VU 746 (Part Three)

SCRIPTURE: Acts 8: 26-40

One: The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: John 15: 1-8

One: This is the Good News of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

★ HYMN - *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

VU 663

SERMON: "Do You Understand what You Are Reading?"

◆ **RESPONSE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN – *Now the Green Blade Rises* VU 186 Verse 1
*Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain,
love lives again, that with the dead has been:
love is come again, like wheat arising green.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said together)
**Through our offerings, O God,
give your loving Spirit to a world in need of comfort.
Make our many gifts one offering for the world;
in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

PRAYER OF LAMENT FOR THE TORONTO VAN ATTACK
VICTIMS

*“We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed,
but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken;
struck down, but not destroyed” ... 2 Corinthians 4*

CLOSING HYMN – “How Can We Sing a Joyful Song?” Tune: O
Waly Waly (VU 372)

1. *How can we sing a joyful song?
O God, our sorrows hem us in.
When pain and grief seem all too strong,
how can we sing a joyful hymn?*

2. *The world around finds songs to sing
of laughter, mirth and happiness,
but these sound false and even sting
when what we feel is deep distress.*
3. *And yet, O God, we dare to sing
for in our grief, we're not alone.
You love this world and entered in
by sending us your only Son.*
4. *You sent us hope – Emmanuel!
O God-with-us, you bore our pain.
And so we sing, for all is well!
In Christ, we will be whole again.*

COMMISSIONING & BLESSING

One: Go now, and love one another,
because love is from God.
Proclaim God's salvation to every generation.
Remain in Jesus Christ,
and like branches of a vine, draw your life from him.
And may God the vine grower tend you and make you fruitful;
may Christ Jesus abide in you and give you life;
and may the Holy Spirit cast out all fear and fill you with God's
love.

All: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

CHORAL RESPONSE – *Hallelujah, amen!*

VU 974

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

POSTLUDE –

Allein Gott in der Hoh sei Ehr (We honour only God on high)

J.S. Bach

◆ **Melrose Vision** ◆

To respond to God's call by being a people of faith who open our hearts and minds to the true power and love of Jesus Christ. To live our faith by providing within our changing community a welcoming environment which encourages all people to care for and accept one another.

◆ **Newcomers and Visitors** ◆

Welcome to Melrose United Church!

Please feel free to fill in the form in the Welcome Binder located by the Name Tag boxes which are located on the tables by the east doors on each side of the chancel steps.

◆ **Melrose Events** ◆

◆ **Worship Next Week** ◆

Easter season worship at Melrose will continue next Sunday ("Music Sunday") with our fine choir taking centre stage in an offering of Mozart's lovely *Missa Brevis* in C, K. 220 (the "sparrow" mass), conducted by our Music Director, Alexander Cann and supported by guest singers. This work is sometimes called a *missa brevis et solemnis* because, while it has short and simple structure, it is also festively scored. It was possibly first performed on April 7, 1776 as an Easter mass setting at the cathedral in Salzburg. The nickname is derived from violin figures in the Hosanna which sound like a bird chirping. The work will be performed at Melrose, as it originally was, as the music accompanying the celebration of Holy Communion.

◆ **Thank you** ◆

...to our coffee hosts this week -
Shari Saunders, Linda Saunders and Kathy Ross.

◆ **Did you notice???** ◆

Check out our new (and very practical) change tables located in the washrooms next to the church parlour.

◆ **It's time to go for GOLD!!!** ◆

Case for Kids to support Wesley

Urban Ministries is coming! Join us on June 3 for a walk run or ride to end child poverty. Each year we have achieved silver pacesetter status as a team (\$1000 in donations). This year we are going for GOLD! Let's raise over \$2500! To participate get a form in the office or talk to Rev. Philip.

◆ **A special Thank you...** ◆

The office has received a number of thank you notes and cards over the past weeks for the Easter flowers that were delivered after the Easter service on April 1. To see the cards check in at the office. Let's continue to make those who are not able to join us at regular worship services feel a part of our community!

◆ **Music Sunday Coffee Hour** ◆

The **Melrose Chancel Choir** is hosting May 6th! This will be a "tuxedo" event. served by our special waiters as you dine treats! All donations to coffee hour will go towards the cost of hiring a Harpist for our Candlelight Service.



coffee hour on
Be prepared to be
on appetizers and

◆ **WANTED: Information Technology Assistance for the Melrose Office** ◆

We could use occasional advice and assistance with our office IT. Our computers, telephone PBX, printer, router and modem sometimes have a mind of their own, or it seems that way to us. We don't have major problems (that we know of), but there is definitely room for some improvement in the network and for some backup

when things do go bad. If you think that you can help us, please contact Michelle Millson in the office or speak with Ralph Moulton.

◆ **Melrose Corner Shoppe - Thinking "Green" for Earth Day** ◆

Let's count the ways The Melrose Corner Shoppe is "Green";

 **REDUCES** land-fill and re-cycling waste by re-selling books and re-purposing household items every month

 **REUSES** packing paper, bags, tags, giftbags and cards as well as all the lovely stock on the shelves

 **RECYCLES** everything in The Shoppe to a new home or to charity organizations (when the stock is changed)

Did you spot all TWELVE ways The Shoppe is "GREEN"?!

◆ **Melrose Garage Sale** ◆

Join us on May 26th @ 8am for our indoor garage sale!

We need the following:

1. Donations of gently used toys, furniture, household items
2. Volunteers to assist setting up the garage sale on May 25th
3. Volunteers to run the garage sale on May 26th
4. Volunteers to take the left over items to various receiver stores

Patti and Gwyn are happy to accept donations **BUT PLEASE DO NOT** bring the items to the church until after May 14th. Items can be picked up (if you are unable to bring them to church-contact Gwyn. Let's make this event a huge fundraising event for the church!

◆ **Prayer Shawl Ministry** ◆

Please note: APRIL 28TH CANCELLED AND MAY 26TH RESCHEDULED TO JUNE 2ND

Due to conflicts in schedules, the next Prayer Shawl will not occur until Saturday June 2nd 9:30 am in the Melrose parlour.

Come & join us. Wool, knitting needles, crochet hooks and patterns supplied. Come enjoy coffee, tea & a light snack.

◆ Washroom Renovations Fundraising ◆

We are renovating the washroom along the lower corridor, located directly below the office. This washroom is used by people from the Norman Slater room, the gymnasium and the bowling alley, as well as by others. It will also be used this summer by the STEM camp that is using our auditorium. We plan to install a new floor, new toilets and new light fixtures, and we will probably also replace the counter and sinks. We will also be repainting the room. The cost is estimated to be \$10,000, including an allowance for contingencies.

Please consider making a donation to help cover the cost of this project. Please mark any donations as being for washroom renovations. We already have funds for two toilets, raised through the Easter breakfast.

If you wonder whether it needs renovations, please go take a look at this circa 1930s room!

◆ 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 – April 30

Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Brownies, Guides	6:00 p.m.	Gym, Norman Slater Room

Tuesday - May 1

Yoga Class	7:00 p.m.	Norman Slater Room
Bach Elgar Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Auditorium
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour

Wednesday - May 2

HPL: Locke Street Storytime	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
Siva Yoga	10:30 a.m.	Norman Slater Room
Pilates	6:30 p.m.	Norman Slater Room

Thursday - May 3

Early Years Workshop	9:15 a.m.	Parlour
Melrose Bible Study	10:00 a.m.	Chapel
Early Years Workshop	10:30 a.m.	Parlour
English Country Dancing	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
West Hamilton Soccer	7:30 p.m.	Gym
Melrose Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.	Chapel
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour

Friday – May 4

Bookmobile: HPL	10:00 a.m.	Parking Lot
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Saturday - May 5

Parking Lot Repairs	10:00 a.m.	Parking Lot
Acoustic Blend Café	7:30 a.m.	Auditorium, Kitchen

Sunday – May 6

Melrose Choir Practice	9:40 a.m.	Chapel
Melrose Worship	10:30a.m.	Sanctuary