

◆ 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

◆ **Sunday September 2, 2018** ◆
10:30 a.m.

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH
◆ SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2018◆

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

◆ All are welcome for lemonade and
fellowship on the patio after worship ◆

◆ **GATHERING** ◆

PRELUDE

* OPENING HYMN – *We Praise You, O God*

VU 218

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: The light of Christ has overcome the darkness.

All: Let all creation sing with joy!

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the majesty of the mountain
and in the thunder of the waterfall,

All: we can see God's glory.

One: In the call of the loon
and the reflection of trees in still waters,

All: we can see Christ's mercy.

One: In the rush of the river and the soaring of the eagle,

All: We can see the Spirit's power.

One: We come to worship the One who has the power
to grant mercy and forgiveness.

**All: We come to give God thanks and praise
and to offer ourselves
as God's faithful servants.**

OPENING PRAYER (said by all)

Gracious God:

**we have traveled through many waters
to reach this place,**

but share one baptism;

**we arrive from different backgrounds and traditions,
yet share one faith;**

**we are, each of us, unique and precious to God,
and are members of one Body;**

**we have different dreams and doubts,
yet our hearts beat with one hope;**

we are graced with different gifts,

so we may offer them in service to one Lord.

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

* HYMN – *Congregational Choice*

Reader: Barb Bloemhof

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM – Psalm 15

VU 736

EPISTLE – Ephesians 3: 14-21

One: Herein is wisdom.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL – John 6: 1-13

One: Herein is good news.

All: Praise be to God.

HOMILY: “One Bread, One Body”

MUSICAL REFLECTION

◆ SERVICE OF THE TABLE ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

* OFFERTORY HYMN – *Let Us Break Bread Together*

VU 480

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said together)

All: These gifts, O God, are given

with our hearts, our hands, our spirits.

**Accept them as Christ accepted all who came,
we pray.**

Bless them and multiply them to your use.

Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

<p>Labour Sunday Communion <i>Methodist Rite</i></p>

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.

God, giver of every good thing,
we bring to you
bread and wine for our communion
lives and gifts for your kingdom,
all for transformation through your grace and love

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: We praise you, gracious Creator
our maker and Sustainer.

You created the heavens and the earth
and formed us in your own image.

Though we sinned against you,
your love for us was constant;
you sent your Son Jesus Christ
to be the Saviour of the world.

Sharing our human nature,
he was born of Mary
and baptized in the Jordan.

He proclaimed your realm, by word and deed,
and was put to death upon the cross.

Your raised him from the dead;
you exalted him in glory;
and through him you have sent your Holy Spirit,
calling us to be your people,
a community of faith.

And so, with angels and archangels

and all choirs of heaven,
we join in the triumphant hymn:

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

MV 203

The Words of Institution

One: Holy God, we praise you
that on the night in which he was betrayed
our Saviour Christ took bread
and gave you thanks.
He broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'
After supper, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying,
'Drink from it, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for all people
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.'
Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
and proclaiming his eternal sacrifice,
we offer ourselves to you in praise and thanksgiving
as we declare the mystery of faith:
He is our risen Lord 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!*

Prayer for the Spirit

One: Send down your Holy Spirit,
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us the body and blood of Christ.
Unite us with him for ever
And bring us with the whole creation to your eternal realm.

**All: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ
by the power of the Holy Spirit
we worship you in songs of everlasting praise
Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.**

**All: (singing) *Amen, amen, O Holy One!
Hosanna and Amen!
Amen, amen, O Holy One,
Hosanna and Amen!***

MV 205

The Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: and also with you. (all are invited to share the Peace)

Intercessions

One: At this time, we also remember all with whom you would
have us share your feast. We pray for all who are in sorrow
or in pain, all who are ill or alone. We pray for all whose who
suffer loss through natural disaster or human wrongdoing,
those who are constricted by fear and anxiety. We pray for
ourselves and for our church that we may always strive for
justice, mercy and peace in the name of the one who taught

us to pray together ... *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 and the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Fraction and the Sharing of the Elements

One: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All: Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

All (singing)

(VU 940)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*(our communion today will be received by intinction. If you are able, please come forward beginning with the back row. You are invited to kneel or stand at the rail, pick up a piece of bread from the tray, dip it in the cup and consume it immediately, returning to your seats by exiting from the door at the front of the chapel and returning through the other door via the corridor. The **pink ceramic** chalice contains **grape juice**, the **silver metal chalice** contains **wine**. If you are unable to come forward, we will gladly come and serve you in the pew)*

The Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

**All: God of glory we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands
the bread of heaven.**

**Strengthen us in our life together
that we may grow in love
for you and for each other;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

★ CLOSING HYMN - *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

VU 481

CHORAL BLESSING - *Peace Be with You*
Peace be with you, peace forever,
peace be with you my friends.
Till we meet again, may God be with you.
Peace, peace, peace.

MV 215

POSTLUDE

◆ Melrose Events ◆

◆ Locke Street Volunteer Recruiting time! ◆

Pick a shift to sell jams/preserves, set up or tear down on Sept 8th.

All that is required is a smile of welcome!

Available Shifts are: noon-2pm and 2pm-4pm.

If you can donate two hours of your time, please contact the church office or Gwyneth (gwynxag@gmail.com)

◆ Washroom Renovations Fundraising ◆

So much progress has happened! Consider popping down to see all the hard work!

◆ Upcoming WrapAround Event ◆

Former Pastor Andrew Hawkins will be presenting **September 12 (6:30pm-8:00pm) @ Melrose United Church on Relational Ministry-WrapAround** and his work through NeighbourLink in Chatham-Kent. Refreshments and Donut Monster Donuts will be served. RSVP to Shalem Mental Health Network-WrapAround Services at 905-528-0353 or at office@shalemnetwork.org. For more info check out www.shalemnetwork.org

◆ Fall Volunteering ◆

Summer is a wonderful time of rest for our congregation but before we know it fall programming will be back in action! Many of our committees and groups are always looking for more help. If there is a ministry or program you are interested in volunteering with let the office know and they will connect you with the right person.

◆ Re-Imagine Conference ◆

Our social justice team is excited to be partnering with the Re-Imagine Conference coming to Locke Street this fall. Melrose will be providing space for this event on October 19-20.

Our imagination for what it means to be the Church in Canada is changing...dramatically! It's time to gather together with groups from across the country who are practicing what it means to be a life giving presence in, with, and for the neighbourhood.

Start collaborating beyond the usual fix-the-church conversations. Join with hundreds of neighbourhood practitioners who are reimagining local economies, re-engaging the land and built environment, and recovering a deeper sense of equity and civic voice.

<https://www.reimagineconference.ca/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/reimaginecon/>

Twitter: @reimaginecon

A decorative border of watercolor autumn leaves in shades of green, yellow, orange, and red surrounds the central text.

Join us

SEPTEMBER 16

RALLY

SUNDAY

post church
Kraft Dinner and Cookies

**Let's kick off the church year
together!**

