

◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

86 Homewood Avenue ◆ Hamilton, Ontario ◆ L8P 2M4

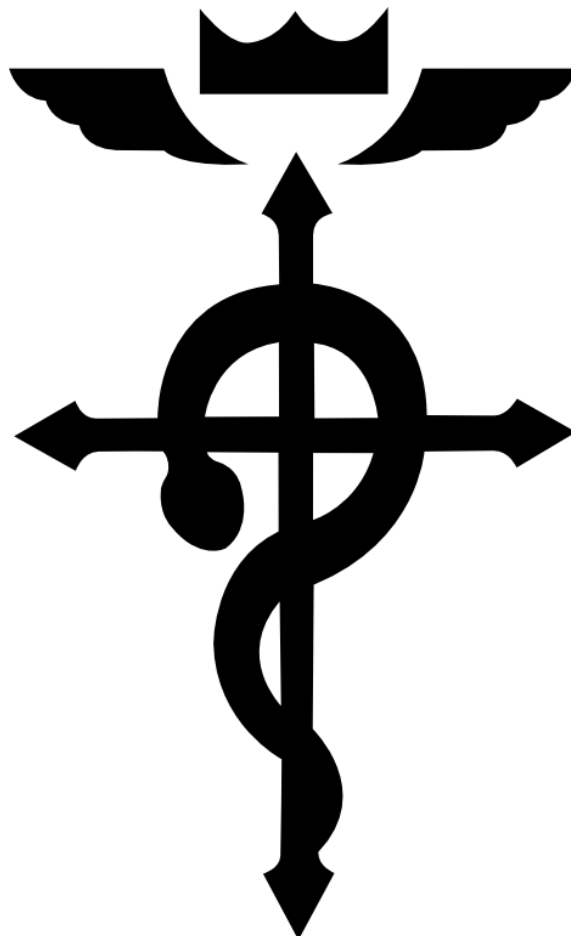
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◆ www.melroseunited.ca ◆

◆ www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch ◆

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Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner

Music Director:

Alexander Cann

Family Ministries Coordinator: Meg Chalmers

Office Administrator:

Michelle Millson

◆ **March 11, 2018 - 10:30 a.m.** ◆

Lent IV

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

◆ March 11, 2018 ◆

LENT IV

* 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 – Air

S. Wesley

INTROIT – Ich bin's, ich sollte bussen

J. S. Bach

Translated from German:

It is I. I should atone,

My hands and feet

Bound in Hell.

The scourges and the fetters,

And all that thou didst endure,

This has my soul earned.

* OPENING HYMN – *Let us with a Gladsome Mind*

VU 234

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: Christ, be our light.

All: Shine in our hearts;

shine in your church, gathered today.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather to share in our love of God.

All: God, open our hearts and let us share your Good News.

One: We gather to share our witness to God's goodness.

All: God, let our lives bear witness through service to your people.

One: We gather to praise God whose love is eternal.

All: God, open our hearts today to sing your praises. AMEN.

PRAYER AND CANDLE FOR LENT IV

All: Jesus, you gave your life for love of us.

Teach us to care for one another with that same selfless love. May our lives witness the joy of serving you and humankind. May our hearts feel the peace of surrendering completely to you, so that we may help to make your kingdom come. Amen.

(three purple candles and one pink candle are lit)

RESPONSE (sung)

MV 67

One: Kyrie eleison,

All: Kyrie eleison,

One: Christe eleison,

All: Christe eleison,

One: Kyrie eleison,

All: Kyrie eleison.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: In the midst of any darkness, God's light is poured out on you. Accept the light and love that is freely offered, and be transformed by its healing mercies.

All: Amen.

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

★ HYMN- *Now Quit Your Care*

VU 109 Verses 1, 2, 5

A TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

◆ SERVICE OF THE WORD ◆

(3)

Reader: Brenda Moulton

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 107 (Parts 1 and 2)

VU 831

WISDOM OF ISRAEL: Numbers 21: 4-9

One: The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: John 3: 14-21

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

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

* HYMN - "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery"

VU 121

SERMON: "Look and Live"

ANTHEM - My Lord, What a Mornin'

H.T. Burkeigh, arr.

◆ **RESPONSE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN -

VU 116, Vs. 1

*Giver of the Perfect Gift, only hope of human race,
hear our prayer our hearts uplift,
gathered at thy throne of grace.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said together)

Holy One, your heart abounds with gifts.

Receive this offering as a sign of our trust in you

**and our intention to live surrounded by your mercy,
inspired by your Spirit,
open to the joy of your presence,
hospitable to one another,
and generous toward your world. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

(followed by the Prayer of Jesus (sung, VU 959)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

*** CLOSING HYMN – *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling***

VU 333

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

CHORAL RESPONSE--Ubi caritas et amor

Cann

Choir: Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est.

All: Where there is charity and love, God is there.

Choir: Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est.

POSTLUDE – Laurentide Waltz

O. Peterson

◆ Melrose Events ◆

◆ Worship Next Week ◆

Next Sunday is the last before Palm Sunday initiates the beginning of Holy Week. The gospel lesson is John 12: 20-33. In John's version of the events that anticipate Jesus' final days, among those who go up to worship at the festival are some Greeks. They find the disciple Philip and they make an extraordinary request: "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." In response to this request, Jesus announces that "the hour has come." What follows is an interpretation of what that "hour" will mean (abandonment, crucifixion, resurrection). The passage raises some interesting questions for us. Is this a suffering Jesus the one that the Greeks really want to see? Is this the Jesus that we want to see? If they were to arrive at our church on any given Sunday asking to meet Jesus, would they?

◆ Thank you ◆

...to our coffee hosts this week – Cheryl Evans and Patti Varey

◆ Melrose Corner Shoppe ◆

The Melrose Corner Shoppe is bursting with inspiration this Spring. You'll find style, entertainment, home accessories and gifts for every age and taste! New items are added each week so be sure to stop in and browse regularly. All proceeds go to repairing the Stained Glass Windows.



◆ WrapAround Families are in need of... ◆

the following items: 1. Towels and bed linens, 2. Storage totes, 3. Bus tickets, 4. Gift cards for groceries, 5. A replacement cell phone

Thank you in advance! Contact Libby for more information.

◆ Family Ministries Update ◆

March Break – Please let Meg know if you plan on attending on March 14th.

Sunday School Update – The new programming has launched! We still need volunteers, for more info please talk to Meg.

◆ **Social Justice Upcoming Coffee Hour and Fundraiser** ◆

Social Justice and Outreach Committee Welcomes Jeni Hemu to Melrose United church TODAY! Essential Aid and Family Services of Ontario, located on 100 Main Street East, here in Hamilton. She will briefly talk about Essential Aid and then at Coffee Hour meet, greet, and answer questions about the work that Essential Aid provides to families in Hamilton and area.

The Social Justice Committee is asking for donations of the following: diapers, baby formula, baby wipes, baby food and pablum. If you forgot your donations today you can drop them off at the office during building hours.

◆ **Easter and Chancel Flowers and Gifts** ◆



Memorial donations for Easter and Chancel Flowers and Gifts will be accepted until **Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018**. Celebrate the memory of someone special to you and your family with a donation to the Easter and Chancel Flower and Gift Fund. The flowers will be used to decorate the sanctuary on **Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018**, and on other special Sundays throughout the year. Special donation envelopes are available in the narthex and in the sanctuary, with an enclosed paper for writing memorial names.

◆ **Note from the Office** ◆

Michelle will be away from March 12-16 inclusive. For any urgent pastoral care concerns please contact Rev. Philip. For building maintenance concerns the custodial staff will be available during regular building hours.

◆ **Transition Team and Official Board Meeting** ◆

The joint meeting of the Transition Team and Official Board to discuss John Pentland's "Fishing Tips" will take place Saturday, March 24th from 10am-12pm at Margaret Duff and Jim Kraemer's home. For more information contact the office, Margaret or Jim.

◆ **Supper in the Sanctuary** ◆

There will be a potluck supper in the Sanctuary at 6:15pm on **March 29, 2018**. This is an intergenerational celebration of Maundy Thursday. All families and friends of Melrose are welcomed to attend. Come and share in the spirit of the season.

◆ **Social Justice Committee with EcoLocke Churches** ◆

Invite Everyone to...*JUST FOOD (in our Neighbourhood)*

March 24th -6:30pm doors open

Where: St Josephs Roman Catholic Church Parish Hall -240 Herkimer St

Speakers: Russ Ohrt (of Backyard Gardens) & Danielle Boissoneau of Neighbour2Neighbour. Refreshments provided.

A free evening of discussion and understanding food justice and food access in Hamilton. All are welcome

◆ **Easter Sunday Sunrise Breakfast** ◆

Back by popular demand!

April 1st 9am- Parlour

Suggested donation: \$15.00/family

Come and enjoy a wonderful cooked breakfast immediately following Easter Morning Service. And you don't even have to do the dishes!

All Proceeds from the Breakfast will go towards purchasing water conserving toilets for the two remaining bathrooms.

◆ **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.

◆ Remit 6 Voting Results ◆

In follow-up to this Agenda item at our recent AGM, please note that the Board vote with respect to Remit 6: One Order of Ministry was informed by the congregation's input. The results are now in, and the United Church of Canada has announced that this remit was not approved by a majority of the 85 voting presbyteries and 2,137 voting pastoral charges. This was the final remit question to be considered by pastoral charges.

Cheryl Evans, Chair of Melrose Official Board

MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday – March 12

Melrose Office Closed		Building open as normal
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Big Book	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium

Tuesday - March 13

Melrose Office Closed		Building open as normal
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 - March 14

Melrose Office Closed		Building open as normal
Duet Club Rehearsal	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
Melrose Fun!	9:00 a.m.	Aud., Kitchen., Sanct.
Siva Yoga	10:30 a.m.	Norman Slater Room
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area

Thursday - March 15

Melrose Office Closed		Building open as normal
Early Years Workshop	9:15 a.m.	Parlour
Melrose Bible Study	10:00 a.m.	Chapel
Early Years Workshop	10:30 a.m.	Parlour
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
RSCDS Dancing	1:30 p.m.	Norman Slater Room
English Country Dancing	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Melrose Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.	Chapel
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour

Friday – March 16

Melrose Office Closed		Building open as normal
Bookmobile: HPL	10:00 a.m.	Parking Lot
Wedding Rehearsal	6:00 p.m.	Sanctuary

Saturday - March 17

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Sunday – March 18

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