

# ◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

86 Homewood Avenue ◆ Hamilton, Ontario ◆ L8P 2M4

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◆ [www.melroseunited.ca](http://www.melroseunited.ca) ◆

◆ [www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch](https://www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch) ◆

◆ Twitter: @melroseunited ◆

◆ Instagram: @melroseuc ◆



Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner

Music Director:

Alexander Cann

Family Ministries Coordinator:

Meg Chalmers

Custodian:

Kevin Geluch

Office Administrator:

Michelle Millson

◆ Sunday, February 17, 2019 ◆

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Featured Window - "Jonah"

**MELROSE UNITED CHURCH**  
◆ **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2019** ◆  
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
FEATURED WINDOW: "JONAH"

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

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◆ **GATHERING** ◆

PRELUDE

INTROIT - Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

W. Willan

\* OPENING HYMN - *Hope of the World*

VU 215

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: The light of Christ has come to us.

**All: Let us celebrate God's abiding love!**

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

**All: Blessed are those who observe God's  
commandments.**

One: Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed  
on righteousness.

**All: Joyful are those whose hearts are filled  
with praise.**

One: Come, let us love the Lord our God.

**All: We come to worship the One who leads us  
in the ways of life.**

OPENING PRAYER (said by all)

**Holy Spirit, guide us as we walk in faith,  
and guard us against the powers  
that would draw us away from your love.**

Prompt us to seek you with our whole heart  
and guide us to walk in your ways,  
that we may carry out the vows  
of the covenant we share.  
May our words and deeds  
bring life and faith to others,  
as we hold fast to the gift of faith.  
Be near us each and every day,  
and bless us with your light,  
that our days may be filled with grace. Amen.

## WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

### \* HYMN – *Whale Did Swallow Jonah*

*Who did, who did, who did, who did,  
Who did swallow Jo, Jo, Jo, Jo?  
Who did, who did, who did, who did,  
Who did swallow Jo, Jo, Jo, Jo?  
Who did, who did, who did, who did,  
Who did swallow Jo, Jo, Jo, Jo?  
Who did swallow Jonah?  
Who did swallow Jonah?  
Who did swallow Jonah down?*

*Whale did, whale did, whale did, whale did,  
Whale did swallow Jo, Jo, Jo, Jo.  
Whale did, whale did, whale did, whale did,  
Whale did swallow Jo, Jo, Jo, Jo.  
Whale did, whale, did, whale did, whale did  
Whale did swallow Jo, Jo, Jo, Jo.  
Whale did swallow Jonah,  
Whale did swallow Jonah,  
Whale did swallow Jonah down.*

## A TIME WITH CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

Reader: Patti Varey

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM – Psalm 1

VU 724

THE WISDOM OF ISRAEL – Jeremiah 17: 5-10

One: The Word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL– Luke 6: 17-26

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

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY: “The Lesson of Blessings and Woes”

ANTHEM – Wade in the Water

arr. M. Hogan

◆ **SERVICE OF THE TABLE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

★ OFFERING HYMN – *Long Ago and Far Away*

MV 195

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said by all)

**Gracious God,**

**as we present these offerings,**

**may we be reminded of the many blessings**

**you have shared with us as individuals,**

**and as a community of believers.**

**May our sharing this day**

reveal our priorities and our promises,  
for we belong to you and offer you our gifts,  
that they may be used  
in mission and in ministry. Amen.

## A City Communion Prayer

### 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.

### 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: Ever creating God, we give you thanks for the gift of nature -  
for scarlet leaves and flowing waters,  
stars and planets and  
satellites whirling through the black skies;  
and we thank you for the gift of cities-  
home to soccer games and symphonies,  
mosaics of cultures and colours  
where people of many faiths worship in peace.

You have loved cities with names like  
Nineveh, and Babylon, and Jerusalem.  
Your prophet Jeremiah reminded the Hebrew exiles  
to seek the welfare of the city, and  
Your servant Paul worked with Priscilla and Aquila  
in Corinth and Ephesus to spread the Good News.  
Through the years you have surrounded cities with love and  
mercy even as they have faced challenges of  
poverty and pollution that threaten the life you have given  
them. And so with people around the world:  
from Toronto to Tokyo, and Bangkok to Bucharest,  
from Anchorage to Avignon, and Saint John to Santiago,  
we raise our voices in praise:

**All: (singing) *Holy, holy, holy. Hosanna in the highest!* (VU 951)  
*Let all creation praise and pray:  
Save us, Holy God!***

*One: We give you thanks for Jesus, born in the village of Bethlehem,  
raised in the town of Nazareth,  
his last days spent in the city of Jerusalem.  
We remember how he brought hope and healing to all he  
met.  
He taught us the importance of love at any cost and  
spoke of God's realm where empires would be turned upside  
down and peace and justice would reign.  
The authorities crucified him outside the city walls,  
But you raised him from the dead,  
and in his resurrection, you assured us  
that nothing can separate us from your love.  
On the night before he died,  
Jesus sat at table with his friends  
in an upper room just outside Jerusalem.  
He took bread, gave you thanks,  
broke the loaf and passed it around the table saying ...*

“take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me.”

When the meal was over, he took the cup saying ...

“this is the new covenant, sealed in my blood  
whenever you do this, remember me.”

We remember Jesus in this way now,  
and with people through the ages,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All:** *(singing) Christ has died, is risen,* (VU 951)  
*will come again to meet us,*  
*And walks with us the way of love,*  
*Holy Kin(g)dom, come!*

### Prayer for the Spirit

One: God of mystery and promise,  
Fill us with an awareness of your Spirit,  
and grant us faith and perseverance  
to work for the day when everyone will find food and shelter  
and we can live together in the new Jerusalem,  
your Holy City of justice and peace.  
As we eat and drink together,  
make us one with Christ and one in Christ,  
a sign of his transforming presence in the world.

**All:** *(singing) Holy, holy, holy. Amen, we pray, with longing.*  
(VU 951)

*Let all creation cry, Amen! Holy kin(g)dom come!*

### The Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you all.

**All:** **And also with you.** (we share the peace with one another)

### Intercessions

One: Let us pray. Let us pray for those who hunger in this land:  
whose only kitchen is a soup kitchen,  
whose only food may be what others don't want,  
whose diet depends on luck, not on planning. *[pause]*  
Lord, feed your people using our skills and conscience,  
and eradicate from our politics and private lives  
the apathy to hunger which comes from over-eating.  
Let us pray for the hungry and the fed.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

One: Let us pray for the hungry in other lands,  
whose economies, burdened by debt,  
cannot respond to human need:  
or where fields are farmed for our benefit  
by low-wage workers courted by starvation. *[pause]*  
Lord, feed your people –  
even if rulers must cancel debt,  
and shareholders lose profit,  
or diners restrict their choices –  
in order that all may be nourished.  
Let us pray for the hungry and the fed.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Let us pray for those hungry for justice,  
who document inequalities, demonstrate against tyranny,  
distinguish between need and greed,  
And are sometimes misrepresented or persecuted in the  
process. *[pause]*  
May their labour not be in vain  
and may we be counted in their number.  
Let us pray for the hungry and the fed.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

One: So, in the presence of the Bread of Life  
who refused food for himself  
in order to nourish others,  
we deepen our devotion by singing his words: (VU#959)...  
*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your*



*kingdom come, your will be done on earth as 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 for ever.*

*The Sharing of the Elements*

One: The bread of life shared with you.

The cup of the New Covenant shared with you.

Come, for the meal is ready!

*The Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion*

One: We give you thanks, creating God,  
that you have blessed us at your table  
and nourished us with hope.

**All: Send us out in the Spirit of Christ  
to be neighbours and gardeners,  
loving, tending,  
and working for peace and justice  
on your sacred streets and your good earth.  
Amen.**

\*Communion Prayers by the Rev. Dr. Nancy Hardy

\* words to the Sanctus and Acclamation by the Rev. Dr. W.S. Kervin

★ CLOSING HYMN – *O Love, How Deep*

VU 348

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

CHORAL RESPONSE – *May God's Sheltering Wings* MV 214

*May God's sheltering wings, her gathering wings protect you.*

*May God's nurturing arms, her cradling arms sustain you,*

*and hold you in her love,*

*and hold you in her love.*

POSTLUDE

## **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.

### **♦ Worship Next Week ♦**

The gospel lesson for the seventh Sunday after Epiphany is challenging. At first glance, it looks as if Jesus is asking his disciples to become doormats – turning the other cheek or handing over a tunic when someone asks for a cloak. It's unlikely that Jesus intended his disciples to be doormats since he himself was not one. Rather he seems to be offering a way of life in which the poor and powerless can act from a position of strength – to take an initiative that confronts opponents and which leaves the wrong where it belongs. Their dignity does not depend on how others treat them. He does not, however, suggest that this is in any way an easy option, but a radical alternative. It's easy enough to be kind to those who love us and are good to us; the challenge for Christians is to go further and to cultivate qualities of compassion, forbearance and forgiveness even when we are far from feeling these things. Easier said than done – but the harmony and perhaps even the very future of our world depend on human beings figuring out how to do it.

### **♦ Celebrating our stained glass windows in Worship ♦**

2019 marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of our beautiful sanctuary designed by renowned Scottish architect John Gibb Morton, who used the ruin of Melrose Abbey as his creative

inspiration – hence our church name. In honour of the anniversary, and in anticipation of our forthcoming celebration weekend in late March, elements of worship on each of the forthcoming Sundays will feature themes from one of the glorious stained glass windows that adorn the sanctuary walls.

◆ **2018 Tax Receipts are now available** ◆

Help the office save on mailing costs and pick yours up today!

◆ **Melrose Office Closed from February 16-February 24** ◆

From February 16 to February 24 the Melrose office will be closed. The custodial staff will be in the building as normal and able to assist with property related issues. Messages left on the office voicemail and sent to the office email will not be checked or responded to. During this time please contact contact Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner for pastoral care issues and Kevin Geluch for building related issues.

◆ **Prayer Shawl and Outreach Ministry** ◆

Saturday February 23rd at 9:30 in the church parlour.

Come & join us. Wool, knitting needles, crochet hooks and patterns supplied.

Coffee, tea & a light snack are also provided.

◆ **Greening our Sacred Space** ◆

Each month we receive an update on the number of trees our solar panels have "saved" through our carbon offset.

In **January 2019** we offset **5 trees**



◆ **Upcoming World Day of Prayer Service** ◆

Friday evening, March 1st 7:00pm, Melrose will be hosting World Day of Prayer, a global, ecumenical movement of Christian women joined together to observe a common day of prayer.

This year, the writing country is Slovenia: "Come - Everything is Ready".

◆ **Everyday Skeptics - Lenten Study** ◆

*Announcement from Hamilton Presbytery Resource Centre:* With Lent on the horizon, now's the time to get set for your personal or church Lenten Devotions and Study. "Everyday Skeptics: devotions for spiritual growth" is from the United Church Publishing House, 2018. How do the prophets influence our spiritual formation and our actions as church today – wrestle with such questions through daily scripture, reflections and prayers.

Please call or email to order "Everyday Skeptics: devotions for spiritual growth" for \$14.95 [hampresresource@gmail.com](mailto:hampresresource@gmail.com) 905-318-5289.

◆ **Let's Celebrate!** ◆

Help us celebrate our personal milestones as we prepare to celebrate the 90th of our Church building. Over the next few weeks, please sign the birthday calendar during coffee hour, on your birthdate. We are not asking for the year, just the date. Thank you.

◆ **Corner Shoppe Update** ◆

As spring slowly approaches and you are thinking about spring cleaning, please remember the Corner Shoppe for your donations of household items, art, books and more. We look forward to passing them on to others for their enjoyment and use. Donations can be left inside the auditorium behind the door marked for that. Thank you for your ongoing help and support.

◆ **Thank you...** ◆

Thank you to coffee hosts this month *Cheryl Evans and Patti Varey*

### ◆ A Time for Reconciliation and Forgiveness ◆

Wednesday, February 20, 7:30 pm. When the Transition Team presented its report to the congregation this past October, the Team acknowledged that there was still some work to do on the first of the stated goals for the period of interim ministry: *Helping to bring healing to the congregation.* Conflict, as we know, can be destructive in any congregation or organization. Even once many aspects of conflict have been dealt with it is not quite enough to leave it at that, especially when such conflict involved the end of a pastoral relationship. Healing – deep healing – needs to draw on spiritual resources as well. The Transition Team will provide an opportunity for such healing on the evening of February 20<sup>th</sup>. This time of sharing will be excellently facilitated by Judith Johnson, a former Minister of Congregational Development for Hamilton Conference. The intention is both to provide a safe context for all voices to be heard and also to encourage the kind of reconciliation and forgiveness that will, in turn, provide a healthy foundation for developing a new pastoral relationship here at Melrose.

### ◆ Upcoming Concert Series ◆

Melrose will be hosting a concert series for Lent to raise funds for the organ repairs. A concert will be held on March 17, 24, 31, and April 14 during the afternoon. Additionally a special evening concert and reception will be held on April 6. More details will be coming in the next few weeks but if you are able to volunteer as a building custodian or usher for any of those dates please let the office know.

**MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**Monday – February 18**

Melrose Closed: Family Day

**Tuesday - February 19**

Martial Arts Class	6:00 p.m.	Norman Slater Room
Ancaster U12 Soccer	6:30 p.m.	Gym
Bach Elgar Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium, Sanctuary
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour
Pick up Basketball	7:45 p.m.	Gym

**Wednesday - February 20**

Duet Club	9:30 a.m.	Parlour
Siva Yoga	10:30 a.m.	Norman Slater Room
Pilates	6:30 p.m.	Norman Slater Room
West Hamilton U12 Soccer	7:00 p.m.	Gym
<b>Transition Team Meeting</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Parlour</b>
Bach Elgar Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary

**Thursday - February 21**

Parent Child Mother Goose Class	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
<b>Melrose Bible Study</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
Carpet Bowling	12:30 p.m.	Bowling Alley
RSDCS Dancing Class	1:30 p.m.	Norman Slater Room
English Country Dancing	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
<b>Melrose Choir Practice</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour

**Friday – February 22**

Bach Elgar Rehearsal	5:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
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**Saturday - February 23**

Prayer Shawl and Outreach	9:30 a.m.	Parlour, Kitchen
Bach Elgar Concert	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary

**Sunday – February 24**

<b>Melrose Choir Practice</b>	<b>9:40 a.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
<b>Melrose Worship</b>	<b>10:30a.m.</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
Tom Schilling Master Class	7:00 p.m.	Chapel

SHALEM MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK presents:

# WrapAround Facilitator Training

**Training:** Saturday, March 16, 2019 9:30 am - 3:30 pm  
Friday, March 29, 2019 6 pm - 9 pm  
Saturday, March 30, 2019 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

**Location:** Melrose United Church  
86 Homewood Ave, Hamilton, ON L8P 2M4

**Cost:** \$80.00  
(includes cost of manual, and workshop materials)  
With the completion of all sessions totalling 15 hours, plus five hours of live coaching in the community, participants will receive a WrapAround facilitator certificate through Wrap Canada.

**Trainer:** Beth Corrigan and Mary Charles  
Contact us for more information if the cost is a barrier.

WrapAround at Shalem Mental Health Network is part of a growing support movement which is being developed in numerous communities throughout Hamilton and across Ontario. We seek to support volunteers in our communities as they reach out to individuals and families.

WrapAround is an effective long-term planning process used by communities to assist individuals and families who are facing a multitude of challenges in their lives. Two trained WrapAround Facilitators work with an individual or family to identify their strengths and people who could be a team of supports to them. After a plan is developed, the WrapAround facilitators guide the individual/family and support team through the WrapAround process with the goal of improving the life of the WrapAround participants.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Send payment to: Shalem Mental Health Network  
875 Main Street East, Hamilton, ON L8M 1M2

**For more information and to register, please contact our office at  
905-528-0353 or [elske@shalemnetwork.org](mailto:elske@shalemnetwork.org) or [www.shalemnetwork.org](http://www.shalemnetwork.org)**