

◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

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Music Director:	Alexander Cann
Family Ministries Coordinator:	Meg Chalmers
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◆ **Sunday, September 22, 2019** ◆
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH
◆ SUNDAY, SEPTMEBER 22, 2019 ◆
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

◆ **GATHERING** ◆

PRELUDE

INTROIT – Come, I Pray Thee (Brother Richard's Prayer)

W.H. Anderson

* OPENING HYMN – *For the Beauty of the Earth*

VU 226

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: We light the Christ candle to remind us of God's wonderful
works around us and within us.

All: Thanks be to God!

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Here we are, feet dancing with excitement,
toes tapping joy,
shoes stomping with the rhythm of creation.

All: Here we are, marching in the light of God

One: It must also be said,
there are times when we come –
shuffling along the way;
when we come stumbling a little,
out of sync,
unsure of our footsteps,

All: yet we come, marching in the light of God.

One: Here we are,
a gathering of people
a congregation
a church
joining with all of creation
in praise and thanksgiving

All: for we are marching in the light of God.

OPENING PRAYER (said by all)

**Spirit of holiness,
move in creation;
breathe life;
gather us into love.**

**May we know your presence woven through this time.
Be in our dance as we join creation's song:
when we forget the steps, guide our feet;
when we lose our path, recall us to your way;
when we stumble, lift us into joy.**

**God, our Creator,
our Redeemer,
our Sustainer,
be with us now
as always.
Amen.**

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

A TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

Reader: Phil Farrauto

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE WISDOM OF ISRAEL: Genesis 13: 1-17

One: This is the Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

* HYMN - *Touch the Earth Lightly*

VU 307

REFLECTION: *"Walk Lightly upon Me"*

RESPONSIVE LITANY

Voice One: Jesus the Christ said "Yet not one of them [sparrows] will fall to the ground apart from [God]." (from Matthew 10:29)

Voice Two: The bob white quails are scarce in the land.
Even as meadowlarks and bobolinks lose their homes,
barn owls no longer swoop through the night sky.
God sees a little sparrow fall.
We must share this Earth with all of creation.

All: We will walk lightly on the Earth.

Voice 1: Jesus the Christ walked with his friends across a field of ripening grain, feeding their hunger. (based on Mark 2:23)

Voice 2: Hickory nuts spill from their husks;
puff balls burst from the earth;
an abundance of elderberries tug blossom heads
downward: a harvest of plenty for all God's creation.
We must remember that the abundance is for sharing.

All: We will walk lightly on the Earth.

Voice 1: Jesus the Christ said "Consider the lilies of the field."
(from Matthew 6:28)

Voice 2: Daffodils spread across an abandoned lot
while wild flowers reclaim the roadside;
persistent dandelions push through a sidewalk crack
and dogtooth violets claim a woodlot floor.
Fragile, created grace;
gifts to treasure;
proclamations of hope.
The earth can bloom again.

All: We will walk lightly on the Earth.

**The earth, O Lord, is full of your steadfast love;
you have established the earth and it stands fast.
Keep my steps steady, according to your promise.**
(from Psalm 119:64*a*, 90*b*, 133)

ANTHEM - Praise

A. Rowley

◆ **RESPONSE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

One: We remember the gifts of creation, a world abundantly blessed.

We remember the life of Christ, lived in joy and given in love.

We live within the abundant grace of God;
how can we respond but with offerings of love?

Our offering will be received.

OFFERING

★ OFFERING HYMN – *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

VU 541

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said by all)

**Living God, you are the heart of life,
pattern within the chaos
and breath to the clay.**

**You established a universe,
created the planet Earth and
called us to tend the earth as your co-creators.**

**With hands and feet,
heart and life**

may we be doers of your word.

Bless our offering

and guide our spending of it

that we might bring hope for a new day of justice and peace.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

(followed by the Prayer of Jesus, VU 914)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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.**

★ CLOSING HYMN – *Praise with Joy the World's Creator* VU 312

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

CHORAL RESPONSE – *Let Us, O God, Depart in Peace* VU 961

Let us, O God, depart in peace,

who in your name are gathered here.

Disclose the brightness of your face,

and be forever near.

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 guest book in the narthex. After service we join together in the church parlour for refreshments and fellowship. Kids are welcome to hang out in the Children's corner at the front of the church during service and join the children's programming in the auditorium after Children's Time.

Children are also always welcome to stay in the sanctuary for the entire service if they choose.

♦ Worship Next Week ♦

Join us next week for a service led by Rev. Bert Radford.

♦ Thank you... ♦

Thank you to coffee hosts this month Denise and Phil Farrauto.

♦ Wesley Urban Ministries Dinner on Sept 29th ♦

We are scheduled to serve dinner at Wesley! We need 6 volunteers to help prep and serve the dinner. We also need donations of Chocolate Chip Cookies. If you are willing to bake 3-4 dozen cookies for this event, please have them ready in the kitchen on Sept 29th. This year please bring the cookies **IN SEALABLE PLASTIC BAGS - NO TINS PLEASE.** *The bags*

allow us to not have to worry about returning tins. Thanks! ☺
Please talk to Penelope Ferrie or Gwyneth Xagoraris or Sharon Jones if you can volunteer between 3pm-5pm.

◆ **Special Visit from Hamilton Presbytery Resource Centre** ◆
Hamilton Presbytery Resource Centre will be here both before and after worship on Sunday, October 6th with a selection of books, children's books, boxes of cards, and serviettes. Purchases may be made with credit card, debit, cheque or cash.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Saturday September 28th at 9:30 in the church parlour.
Come & join us. Wool, knitting needles, crochet hooks and patterns supplied.
Coffee, tea & a light snack.

WIT - Women In Touch potluck dinner

Wednesday October 9th at 6:15 pm

in the Melrose church parlour

Our guest this evening is

Deborah Mensah

director of "Save The Mothers"

(savethemothers.org)

◆ **Coffee Hour TODAY- HURRICAN DORIAN RELIEF** ◆

The Social Justice Committee will be collecting funds during coffee hour in support of this cause. Please see this excerpt from the United Church Website:

Hurricane Dorian, a powerful category 5 hurricane, landed in the Bahamas in early September 2019 and left a trail of destruction. The slow-moving storm destroyed thousands of homes and left approximately 60,000 people without shelter.

As the scale of the destruction unfolds, The United Church of Canada is accepting funds to help with relief and reconstruction efforts, working with global partners the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas (MCCA) and ACT Alliance (ACT).



A road is flooded during the passing of Hurricane Dorian in Freeport, Grand Bahama, the Bahamas on September 2, 2019.

Credit: AP Photo/Tim Aylen

◆ Quilting ◆

Do you like to quilt? Have a project you started but would like some help with? The third Monday of each month (next date October 21) a group of quilters meet in the church parlour from 1-4pm. Bring your project and supplies. All are welcome!

◆ Appointment of a New Minister ◆

A congregational meeting was held on July 23rd, at which the congregation unanimously approved the appointment of Rev. Sonia Ireson as the next minister of Melrose United Church, effective October 1st. Some of you may know Rev. Ireson, as she was part of our congregation many years ago, and in fact Melrose was the sponsoring congregation for her initial candidacy to ministry in the United Church. She preached her first sermon as a summer student in our chapel, and is clearly delighted to be returning to the Melrose family. She comes highly recommended, with an impressive reputation as an effective team player, collaborator, peace maker, and change agent, with strong administrative and pastoral care skills. More information about Sonia and the terms of her appointment are available in the attached draft meeting minutes. I know we all look forward to formally welcoming her back into the Melrose family. Many thanks to the Melrose Search Committee team: Margaret Duff, Sylvia Chitty, Bob Ross, James Young, and Catherine Urbanek for their excellent work on our behalf!

Cheryl Evans,
Chair, Melrose Official Board

◆ Opportunity at Emmanuel United Church ◆

STEWARDSHIP BUZZ! -- Steps to take right now!

Clergy, church leaders, treasurers, trustees other interested people.

Come and be inspired and get that ball rolling!

Do you want your congregation to be more vital, sustainable and abundant?

(Me too!)

Does coaching around Whole Year Stewardship sound good to you?

(I hope so!)

October 9, 2019 - 6-8:30 pm -- Emmanuel United Church

871 Upper Ottawa St, Hamilton

Free food if you register by Friday October 4 at noon!

Join **Dave Jagger, Stewardship & Gifts Officer**, for a Round-table discussion about Whole Year Stewardship that will take us into the future and find out what are those steps.

Register by Friday October 4 at noon for your free meal

Please contact Emmanuel United 905-389-4150 or email

euchamilton@gmail.com

◆ Worship and Emergency Pastoral Care Schedule ◆

Emergency Pastoral Care:

Please contact the office for more information

September Worship:

September 29: Rev. Bert Radford

As always – if you require or know of someone who requires pastoral care please contact the church office.

∞ Thank you to our guest lay leader – Margaret Duff ∞

A Message from your soon-to-be new Minister
And a Request for support of Fund-Raising
For Wayside House

Hello to you all:

The days of summer are slipping by and I trust it has been a pleasantly eventful one for each of you.

I am enjoying an 11 week stay on my birth province of Prince Edward Island and will be heading home September 15. I am looking forward to meeting you all and am already preparing material for our October and November Sundays together.

Request –

I would like to bring to your attention a pet project I am passionate about.

My friend, Regan Anderson is the Chief Executive Officer of Wayside House, a non profit residential treatment facility for men battling addiction.

On Saturday, October 5 I will be walking at Pier 4 in their first ever Walk 4 Wayside to help raise funds to assist in increasing capacity of beds and decrease wait times to their program.

If you have had a member of your family who has been ensnared by addiction as I have, you will understand how important it is to fight this form of mental illness.

I would ask if you would be willing to pledge a monetary commitment to help me help them raise the funds to meet their goals.

If you are interested in supporting this important community service, please let Michelle know in the office. Tax receipts will be provided by Wayside House and payment may be received up until October 31st.

Thank you for your consideration and your support.

Blessings

Rev. Sonia Ireson

<u>MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR</u>		
Monday – September 23		
Brownies/Guides/Pathfinders	6:00 p.m.	Gym, N.S. Rm, Auditorium
Tuesday - September 24		
Martial Arts Class	6:00 p.m.	N.S. Room
Bach Elgar Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Locke Street B.I.A.	7:00 p.m.	Chapel
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Bowling Alley
Wednesday - September 25		
Duet Club of Hamilton Rehearsal	9:30 a.m.	Parlour
Mindfulness Group	5:00 p.m.	Parlour
Pilates	6:30 p.m.	N. S. Room
Thursday - September 26		
R.S.D.C.S. Class	1:00 p.m.	N.S. Room
English Country Dancing	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Yoga Evening Group	7:00 p.m.	N.S. Room
Melrose Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.	Chapel
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Bowling Alley
Friday - September 27		
Saturday - September 28		
Prayer Shawl Ministry	9:30 a.m.	Parlour, Kitchen
Sunday – September 29		
Melrose Choir Practice	9:50 a.m.	Chapel
Martial Arts Class	11:00 a.m.	Norman Slater Room
Melrose Worship	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Wesley Dinner (offsite)	2:00 p.m.	Offsite
Duet Club of Hamilton Concert	2:30 p.m.	Sanct.,Aud., Parlour, Kit.