

# ◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

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◆ Twitter: @melroseunited ◆

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Artist – Adam Brenner

Photo from - Leicester Arts and Museums Service

Minister:

Music Director:

Family Ministries Coordinator:

Custodian:

Office Administrator:

Rev. Sonia Ireson

Alexander Cann

Meg Chalmers

Kevin Geluch

Michelle Millson

◆ Sunday, January 26, 2020 ◆  
Third Sunday after Epiphany

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH  
◆ SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2020 ◆  
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

◆ **GATHERING** ◆

PRELUDE

INTROIT – Come, Holy Ghost, in Love

A. Whitehead

\* OPENING HYMN – *The Church's One Foundation*

VU 331

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: the light of understanding, the light of compassion, the light of community are all represented by the light that shines out from this candle.

**All: Let that light illumine our lives, our worship, and our way forward, as we gather as God's people.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Feast or fast? Inward or outward?

With lives filled with intention – or overfilled with chaos?

**All: How does Sabbath call us to live?**

One: Who does Sabbath call us to be?

**All: Come, let us worship on this Sabbath day.**

OPENING PRAYER (said by all)

**Loving Creator, help us enfold one another**

**In blankets of loving encouragement,**

**When we falter in the snows of life.**

**Help us assure and affirm each other**

**When we find ourselves lost in the deep of winter.**

**Help us follow your billowy footprints**

**Into sanctuaries of sheltering.  
And your soft light of acceptance. Amen.**

WELCOME AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

\* HYMN – *Fairest Lord Jesus*

VU 341

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

A TIME FOR THE CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

Reader: Phil Farrauto

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 27

VU 754

WISDOM OF ISRAEL – Isaiah 9: 1-4

One: The Word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL – Matthew 4: 12-23

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

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

\* HYMN – *Blessed Jesus At Your Word*

VU 500

SERMON – “Dropping Everything, Have the “Word”, Will Travel”

ANTHEM –Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word

S. D. Wolff

◆ **SERVICE OF THE TABLE** ◆

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said by all)

**Almighty God, who made us who we are, we offer all of ourselves to you. Take our talents, our energy, and our joy, and use us to share your love. Take our mistakes, our regrets and our pain, and use us to bring your healing. Magnify the gifts we offer before you today to spread your peace in the world. Amen.**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

One: The Spirit of God be with you

**All: And also with you**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the God.**

One: Give thanks to our God.

**All: All our thanks, all our praise.**

One: Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!  
Before all that is, You were God.  
Outside all we know, You are God.  
After all is finished, You will be God.  
Archangels sound the trumpets,  
Angels teach us their song,  
Saints pull us into your presence.

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy, God  
Our life, our mercy, our might;  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory  
Save us, we pray, you beyond all.  
Blest is the One who comes in your name.  
Save us, we pray, you beyond all.**

## SHARING IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

(All are invited to share The Peace with one another)

A NEW CREED - said by all

**We are not alone,**

**We live in God's world.**

**We believe in God**

**Who has created and is creating,**

**Who has come in Jesus,**

**The Word made flesh,**

**To reconcile and make new,**

**Who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**To celebrate God's presence**

**To live with respect in Creation,**

**To love and serve others,**

**To seek justice and resist evil,**

**To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,**

**Our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,**

**God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

One: You beyond the galaxies,

You under the oceans,

You inside the leaves,

You pouring down rain,

You opening the flowers,

You feeding the insects,

You giving us your image,

You carrying us through the waters,

You holding us in the night.

**All: Your smile on Sarah and Abraham,  
Your hand with Moses and Miriam,  
Your words through Deborah and Isaiah,  
You lived as Jesus among us,  
Healing, teaching, dying, rising,  
Inviting us all to your feast.**

On the night in which he was betrayed,  
Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying;  
Take eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.  
(Bread is broken)

Again, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks,  
And gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
Shed for you and for you and for all people  
For the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
(Cup is raised)

**All: Holy God, we remember your Son,  
His life with the humble,  
His death among the wretched,  
His resurrection for us all:  
Your wisdom our guide,  
Your justice our strength,  
Your grace our path to rebirth.**

One: And so we cry, Mercy:

**All: Mercy!**

One: And so we cry, Glory:

**All: Glory!**

One: And so we cry, Blessing:

**All: Blessing!**

One: Holy God, we seek your Spirit.

**All: Enliven this bread,  
Awaken this body,  
Pour us out for each other,  
Transfigure our minds,  
Ignite your church,  
Nourish the life of the earth,  
Make us, while many, united,  
Make us, though broken, whole,  
Make us, despite death, alive.  
Come Holy Spirit, Come.**

**All singing: Amen, Amen, Amen**

**VU 943**

Our Lord's Prayer (Paraphrased by Richard Bott)

**All:**

**Source of all life,  
Divine Mother and Father of us all,  
May your name be held sacred by all creation.  
May your kingdom and your will be lived here,  
As it is lived by that great communion of saints who have entered  
your Household!  
I ask that what we need -  
What we really need - would be provided.  
I ask that you would forgive me my sins - and - help me to forgive  
the people who have sinned against me.  
Keep me from that which would break me completely.  
Help me to recognize and stand in the face of evil, knowing that you  
hold me safe.  
Yours is the kingdom.  
Yours is the glory.  
Now and forever. Amen.**

\*\* Elements are served by Intinction (dipping the bread into the wine or the juice, hold your hand underneath to catch any drips. The response to the server is "Amen.")

This is not your table, nor mine - All are welcome at the table of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTHEM: O Sacred Feast

H. Willan

COMMUNION HYMN: One Bread, One Body

VU 467

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: (said by all)

**We have shared our holy meal in solidarity with those that come to Jesus' table in friendship,**

**Those who are lost and alone,**

**Those who hide their pain and their tears,**

**Those who call out in anguish and desolation.**

**Christ has been our host, welcoming all who hunger and yearn. May we welcome Christ to our tables at home, at work, or in recreation, let us bring this peace and joy into all aspects of our lives. Amen.**

\* CLOSING HYMN - *Let there be Light*

VU 679

COMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE - Amen, Amen, Amen

VU 973

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 ◆

Next week is Ground Hog Day wherein we try to forecast the upcoming weather for February. It is certainly not science although it is about as good a prediction as many of our weather forecasts. We know to expect fairly bad weather and we have a building desire to have winter finished (with the exception of the ski and outdoor enthusiasts). Shut ins and seniors yearn for daylight, sun, clear sidewalks and spring birds and flowers. Our seasons are God's gifts that give us such a variety of sights, sounds and smells that keep us used to and anticipating change and renewal.

Today's scriptures bring us into seven weeks of Jesus' teachings, beginning with the Sermon on the Mount - supreme blessedness. God blesses the poor, the mourners, the humble, those who seek justice, the merciful, the pure, the peaceful, the persecuted and those who are mocked as followers. We are advised to be happy for a great reward awaits us.

Importantly, we are reminded that in the seasons of our despair, our loss of hope, our feeling overwhelmed, we will be brought through and upheld. We have only to see the pictures of the devastation of foliage from the Australian fires and the side by side pictures of the recovering grass and plants from both the rain and a few days lapse after the fire, to know that recovery is part of God's plan for all of creation. Even in death, we are assured, there is renewal. February is a time of transition, a period of waiting, but under the cold ground covered in snow awaits the seed that will bud and blossom into new life.

◆ **Thank you...** ◆

Thank you to coffee hosts today – Barb and Keith Mann

◆ **Annual Report Deadline** ◆

Please note that all reports and submissions for the annual report is **TODAY** - January 26. This is a firm deadline in order to allow for editing and production of the final report. If you have any questions please check in with Michelle in the church office.


Have you been  
thinking about  
joining Melrose?  
become a member!

*Melrose  
United  
Church*

A number of people have expressed  
interest and we are planning to receive  
members at a service in the  
coming months. Membership includes  
perks like coffee, fellowship, spiritual  
guidance, a gymnasium in the  
basement and more.\*\*  
If you are interested  
please connect with the  
church office or Rev.  
Sonia Ireson.

**\*\*membership is totally not required for any of this.  
It might make it more fun though.**

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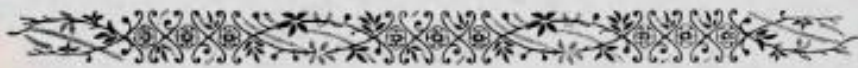


JOIN US ON

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# **Women in Touch**

## **POTLUCK DINNER**



**FEBRUARY 12**

**6:15 PM**

**CHURCH PARLOUR**

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BRING A DISH TO SHARE AND  
ENJOY AN EVENING OF  
FELLOWSHIP

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**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Melrose United Church**  
**86 Homewood Avenue**

**MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR****Monday – January 27**

Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Parlour
Bowling	1:30 p.m..	Bowling Alley
Brownies, Guides	6:00 p.m..	Auditorium, Gym

**Tuesday - January 28**

<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Parlour</b>
Locke Street BIA Annual Meeting	6:00 p.m.	Chapel
Bach Elgar Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Bowling Alley

**Wednesday - January 29**

Duet Club of Hamilton	9:30 a.m.	Parlour
Mindfulness Group	5:30 p.m.	Parlour
Pilates	6:30 p.m.	N. S. Room
Pickup Basketball	7:45 p.m.	Gym

**Thursday - January 30**

Mother Goose	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
R.S.D.C.S. Class	1:00 p.m.	N.S. Room
Daycare Yoga	2:15 p.m.	Parlour
Bowling	1:30 p.m.	Bowling Alley
English Country Dancing	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Yoga Evening Group	7: 00 p.m.	N.S. Room
<b>Melrose Choir Practice</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Bowling Alley

**Friday - January 31****Saturday - February 1****Sunday - February 2**

<b>Melrose Choir Practice</b>	<b>9:50 a.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
<b>Melrose Worship</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>

## ◆ Micah House Update ◆

Our church and social justice committee has supported this important ministry for many years. Please read the latest update from Micah House below.

# Micah House

-winter 2020-

**"Welcoming newly arrived refugee claimants to Hamilton with God's love."**

**One Thousand Achieved** - we have been eager to hit this mark for some time and we finally crossed the threshold. Mid-December we received our 1000th resident! We are grateful to God for continuing to build this ministry, and for His faith in us to carry out His mission. So much to be thankful for!

Friends, we still turn away far too many people for lack of space, and we will never be content with that. Thank you for your continued faithful support and encouragement as Micah House explores expansion opportunities. It took us 13 years to get to 1000. Together, let's make sure we get to 2000 much, much quicker.



⇔ Boxes of winter clothing donated by the grade five and eight classes at Hillfield-Strathallan College (pictured).

- 1006 people served since May 2006.
- 107 people served in 2019. Operated at 101% occupancy.
- 2019 budgeted gifts from individuals \$62,400
- 2019 received from individuals \$65,794
- 2019 budgeted gifts from churches \$33,100
- 2019 received from churches \$29,000

February 28-29 - *True City 2020 Conference.*

April 2 - Micah House Annual Townhall Meeting (AGM).

May 9 - Micah House *disc golf tournament* in Caledonia.

October 3 - *Ride for Refuge* (bicycle fundraising event).

November 9 - *Fundraising Banquet* (its a Monday!).

**"Living in Micah House is like to live in your own house with rules that you have to follow, but with the feeling that you are safe sharing the house with other families, that in the meantime become your family too." - Jorge**

-- [www.micahhouse.ca](http://www.micahhouse.ca) --

**905-296-4387**