

# ◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

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◆ [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, January 13, 2019** ◆

**The Baptism of Jesus**

**MELROSE UNITED CHURCH**  
◆ SUNDAY, JANUARY 13, 2019 ◆  
THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

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

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◆ **GATHERING** ◆

PRELUDE

INTROIT -The Lone Wild Bird

Traditional

\* OPENING HYMN - Songs of Thankfulness and Praise VU 101

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: In the beginning, at creation,  
the Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep.

**All: In the waters of the flood, God cleansed the earth  
and humankind.**

One: God caused the waters to part so that Israel  
could cross from slavery to liberation.

**All: God formed Jesus in the waters of Mary's womb.**

One: Jesus taught us how to live by washing his disciples'  
feet in water.

**All: Drinking water from a well,  
Jesus met a Samaritan woman, the first person  
to recognize that he was the Christ.**

One: Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, the Christ.

**All: God meant for Jesus to be the firstborn  
in a large baptismal family. Thanks be to God.**

## OPENING PRAYER

One: We gather at the river, Earth-maker,  
to taste that which gives life.  
We come with our friends, Life-giver,  
to hear a Word that is true.

**All: We open our hearts, Pain-bearer,  
as the One we call Living Water  
emerges from the river of your love  
to offer the hope of peace. Amen.**

## WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

### ◆ SERVICE OF THE WORD ◆

\* HYMN - *I Have Called You by Your Name* MV 161

## A TIME WITH CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

Reader: Joanne Hannaford

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM - Psalm 29 VU 756

## THE WISDOM OF ISRAEL - Isaiah 43: 1-7

One: The Word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL - Luke 3: 15-22

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

**All: Thanks be to God.**

\* HYMN - *When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized* VU 100

SERMON: "When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized"

ANTHEM -Loving Shepherd of thy Sheep

P. Ledger

◆ **SERVICE OF THE TABLE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

★ OFFERING HYMN – *Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness*

HB 33 Verse 4

*Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,  
bow down before God, God's glory proclaim  
Gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,  
These are the offerings we lay at God's shrine.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said by all)

**Gracious God, as your Spirit descended upon  
Jesus when he came up out of the waters of the Jordan,  
so may your Spirit descend upon the  
offering of our lives and work,  
to be a blessing to the world  
as Jesus' life and ministry have been a blessing to us. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

(followed by the Prayer of Jesus, VU 916)

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be.  
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed**

**by peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done  
by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

#### REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL COVENANT

**One:** Sisters and brothers in Christ, our baptism is the sign and seal of our cleansing and renewal, of our being grafted into Christ. Through baptism we are made citizens of God's realm. Let us celebrate that freedom and redemption through the renewal of the promises made at our Baptism.

I ask you, therefore, once again to reject evil, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church, the faith in which you were baptized:

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**All: We do.**

**One:** Do you turn to Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, trusting in his grace and love?

**All: We do.**

**One:** Will you be Christ's faithful disciples, obeying his Word and showing his love?

**All: We will, with God's help.**

*(Any who wish are invited to come to the font, to dip their hand in the water to symbolize the renewal of their baptismal blessing or to affirm God's blessing)*

★ CLOSING HYMN – *O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word*

VU 84

## 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 ♦**

Next week will be the first of several Sundays that focus on the Apostle Paul's first letter to the Christian congregation in Corinth. No city in Greece was more favourably situated for land and sea trade. With a high and strong citadel at its back, Corinth lay between the Saronic Gulf and the Ionian Sea. Crowning the Acrocorinth was the temple of Aphrodite, the goddess of love, whose worshippers (much to Paul's dismay) practiced religious prostitution. Paul had received disturbing information from several sources concerning the state of the church at Corinth. Factions had developed and Paul was also concerned about moral laxness. It was clear that this congregation was gifted, but it was immature and in Paul's opinion unspiritual and doctrinally unsound. In the passage assigned by the lectionary to this Sunday (I Corinthians 12: 1-11), Paul reminds the congregation that the Spirit's gifts are diverse and particular but in each case they are energized by one and the same Spirit. In the end, the gifts, the ministry and the empowering of a Christian community for service all belong to God.

◆ **2019 Offering Envelopes Now Available!** ◆

If you have yet to pick up your 2019 Offering envelopes they are now available in the church office. If you would like envelopes but do not currently have a number assigned please contact the office. Also, if you would like to switch from envelopes to PAR the church office can assist with the process.

◆ **Annual Report is coming...** ◆

If you are required to submit a report for the annual Melrose report you will have received a reminder email earlier this week. Please remember to send in all reports by **Sunday January 20<sup>th</sup>**.

◆ **Next Steps: Congregational Survey** ◆

As you know, the United Church of Canada (UCC) is undergoing significant restructuring effective January 1st, with changes to many of its processes. We have now been able to clarify some important aspects related to moving out of Interim Ministry, which will occur at the end of June, 2019. As part of the UCC's new pastoral relations process, what was formerly a Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) report is replaced by a Community of Faith profile. Responsibility for this lies with "the governing body of the community of faith", which in the case of Melrose is the Official Board. The Board understands that key to developing that profile is broad consultation with the congregation regarding our future direction and what we are looking for in a search process. To that end, the Official Board strongly encourages all who are connected to Melrose to provide us with input and complete a congregational survey. This survey will be able to be completed electronically and returned to the church office via email, or in paper format and either mailed to the office or returned to a survey drop box which will be located in the auditorium.

The survey will be available starting Sunday, December 23rd, and the deadline for response is January 20th. In addition, there will be opportunities for "fireside chats" with the Board after the church

service on January 20th and 27th. If you have any questions, please feel free to connect with any member of the Board, or contact me directly by email: [cheryl.rn@sympatico.ca](mailto:cheryl.rn@sympatico.ca).

Many thanks and Merry Christmas everyone!

Cheryl Evans, Chair, Official Board

◆ **Last Chance** ◆

If you haven't submitted a recipe for the cook book, and you wish to do so, you must ACT NOW! Sunday Jan 20th will be the final date we will accept recipes. Please either write out your recipe by hand and get it to the church office, or email it to [recipesformelrose@gmail.com](mailto:recipesformelrose@gmail.com)

◆ **A special thank you** ◆

A message from the administrator at the Dundas Retirement Home stated: "I want to thank you for all your help the residents were given your presents today and loved them all. Could not of been done without your help. Thank you so much. "

The social justice team thanks for all the soap, facecloths and socks, razors and clothing! The car was filled over twice with wrapped gifts for the seniors at Dundas Retirement Home. We had leftovers that were shared between Interval House, Helping Hands and the Aboriginal Women's Centre. So thanks to all folk at Melrose! Truly a **GIVING** Church.

Check the facebook page out for pictures of the presents.

Also thanks to Nicola and Chris for providing wonderful carol leadership on Christmas Day to the seniors in the Home! It was a **GREAT** Christmas Day!!

◆ **Paul G. Philp Memorial Service** ◆

A service and reception to honor the late Paul G. Philp was held at Melrose on Wednesday January 9<sup>th</sup>. Paul was a member of the Melrose community prior to their move to Southhampton, Ontario several years ago. The obituary notice is posted in the hallway outside the church office. A special thank you for all the hard work by the Melrose team of volunteers led by Jeff Ogino.

◆ **Let's boost our online presence!** ◆

Do you have any fun Melrose news to share?!? Let the office know! The office staff are always looking for ideas for content to share on our social media and website. Keep the office informed of upcoming events and news. Let's all stay informed! Another great part of keeping our online content current is we can easily share info with family and friends. Please send any content to [melrose@melroseunited.ca](mailto:melrose@melroseunited.ca).

Thanks!

◆ **Thank you...** ◆

Thank you to coffee hosts this month *Barb and Keith Mann*.

◆ **Reminder...** ◆

There is a M&P meeting in the chapel and a Worship Committee Meeting the auditorium after worship.

**MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**Monday – January 14**

Carpet Bowling	12:30 p.m.	Bowling Alley
LeapYear Education	5:30 p.m.	Parlour, Kitchen
Brownies and Guides	6:00 p.m.	Gym, Norman Slater Room
<b>Melrose Official Board</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>

**Tuesday - January 15**

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	7:00 p.m.	Parlour
Pick up Basketball	7:45 p.m.	Gym

**Wednesday - January 16**

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>Melrose Resource Management Committee Meeting</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Parlour</b>

**Thursday - January 17**

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
Kirkendall Gardening Group	6:30 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 – January 18**

WrapAround Executive Meeting	9:30 a.m.	Parlour
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**Saturday - January 19**

Private Event	9:30 a.m.	Auditorium
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**Sunday – January 20**

<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>