

## Life and Work At Melrose May 10, 2020

### ◆ 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.

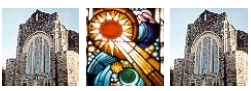
### ◆ Worship Next Week ◆

I identify with the Athenians. They were a people who loved to learn. They read and absorbed in their spare time. They were nourished and fed through the great writers of antiquities. Today's passage in Acts tells us of Paul's visit to Athens, his regard of their worship objects throughout their city and their lack of knowledge about our one true God. Paul stepped up to the occasion. He began to tell about all he had seen and heard, the life that forever changed us as people of a loving and interested God.

Paul was able to tell them "I know this God" this God that you think is unknown. Rather than introduce Jesus as a line of successors of other lesser gods, Paul introduced him as the one before who the world must give an account. Jesus claims are disruptive and cause one to look carefully at our other worldly choices. Repentance is a hallmark of good Christian discipleship and marks us as followers of Jesus. This message was both lauded and scorned by the Athenian people as it has become so throughout all time and all the world.

The second scripture we are focusing on today is the Gospel of John. "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." Jesus tells his disciples he will send them an advocate to be with them forever when he has gone away. "I will not leave you orphaned," Jesus says.

Jesus acknowledges that trying to see reality though the lens of love in the midst of the world is very difficult. This is a love of action, that feeds the poor, heals the sick and speaks and acts towards women with care and



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regard. Love is seen in a life of service and compassion and it is still relevant for us today. It is a life of mutual regard and care, instead of power and domination and social status.

Whatever situation we find ourselves in within our troubled and fractured world, Jesus is calling us to walk amongst the people in the same vein as he himself did, with love and compassion and justice.

### ◆ Donations - Now accepting E-transfers ◆

Our treasurer, Ralph, set up the ability for E-transfer donations over the past couple weeks.

The Melrose staff team (and volunteer base) continues to do work behind the scenes even though we cannot use the building to worship together. If you are looking to support the ongoing work of the church you can:

1. Sign up for P.A.R. (preauthorized remittance) through the office.
2. Make a one time or ongoing donation through [CanadaHelps.Org](https://CanadaHelps.org)
3. Send a donation through e-transfer to [donations@melroseunited.ca](mailto:donations@melroseunited.ca).

All donations are tax receiptable. The office team or treasurer will notify you that your donation has been received and can answer any questions about tax receipts or use of your donation.