

◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

86 Homewood Avenue ◆ Hamilton, Ontario ◆ L8P 2M4

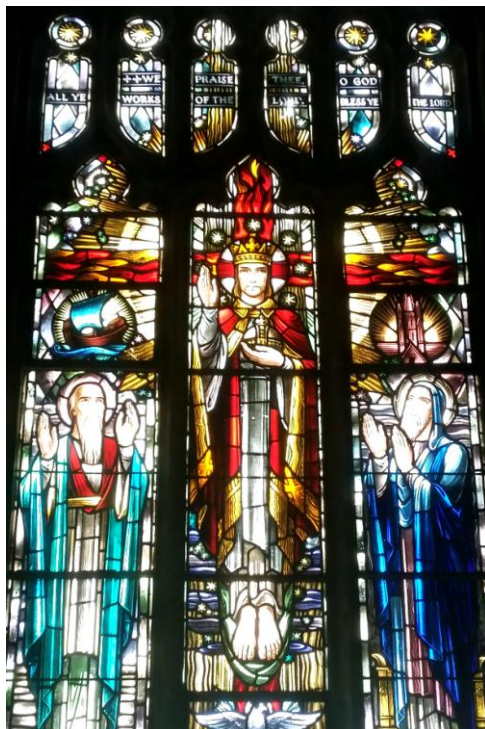
905 522 1323 ◆ melrose@melroseunited.ca

◆ www.melroseunited.ca ◆

◆ www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch ◆

◆ Twitter: @melroseunited ◆

◆ Instagram: @melroseuc ◆



Minister:	The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner
Music Director:	Alexander Cann
Child & Youth Coordinator:	Michelle Millson
Custodian:	Lee Stallard
Office Administrator:	Pamela Kovacek

◆ 29 January, 2017 – 3:00 p.m. ◆

An Act of Covenanting between
The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner, Interim Minister and
Melrose United Church
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

◆ Sunday, January 29, 2017 ◆

THE REV. DR. PHILIP GARDNER, INTERIM MINISTER
AND MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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

◆ All are welcome for coffee and conversation in the parlour after worship ◆

◆ **GATHERING** ◆

PRELUDE – *Master Tallis's Testament*

H. Howells

INTROIT – *I Was Glad*

C. H. H. Parry

* OPENING HYMN – *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

VU 325

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 113: 1-3)

Presider: Praise the Lord, you that are his servants,
Praise the name of the Lord.

**All: Blessed be the name of the Lord
now and evermore.**

Presider: From the rising of the sun to its setting

All: May the Lord's name be praised!

OPENING PRAYER (Psalm 27)

Presider: Compassionate God, hear us now as we make our
Confession before you:

**All: God, how we must try your patience!
We often doubt, when we should place our faith
in your abiding presence.
We think that we have to have all the answers,**

and judge others who fail to live up to our expectations.

We think that we are the one thing that matters most in life.

So we place ourselves at the center of our own universe. Forgive us when we show how shallow our faith is. Help us to understand the miraculous ways in which you have already worked in our lives and will continue to work as we journey in faith.

Bring to us the Light of Joy,
and let it flood through our whole beings,
that we may be transformed into people
of joyful service and faith.

KYRIE

MV 67

One: Kyrie eleison,

All: Kyrie eleison,

One: Christe eleison,

All: Christe eleison,

One: Kyrie eleison,

All: Kyrie eleison.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Presider: The covenanting God of Abraham and Sarah promises to be with us on our journey.

The covenanting God of Jeremiah promises newness of heart.

The covenanting God of Jesus promises new life.

Live into the promise. In Christ's name you are free. Amen.

PRESENTATION

Presider: We are gathered here, in the presence of God, to celebrate an interim ministry by covenanting together for the service of God in this place.

Presenting Member of Pastoral Charge: (Ian Brisbin)

We present Philip who has been appointed to an interim ministry in the Melrose Pastoral Charge. We believe that Philip is qualified, and has been prayerfully and lawfully selected.

Presider: Philip, you are here in the response to the appointment of the Melrose Pastoral Charge and by the action of Hamilton Presbytery and Hamilton Conference. We come together to mark a new relationship between you, the Presbytery and the Pastoral Charge. May God, who has given us the will to do these things, give us the power and the grace to perform them.

CHORAL AMEN: (Orlando Gibbons)

◆ SERVICE OF THE WORD ◆

Reader: Ian Brisbin

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 84

VU 801

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

One: The Word of God

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: John 3: 16-21

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON – The Rev. Dr. Michael Kooiman

ANTHEM – *O Thou the Central Orb*

C. Wood

◆ ACT OF COVENANTING ◆

STATEMENT OF NEW MINISTRY:

(Philip comes forward at the invitation of the Presider)

Presider: Philip, you are about to undertake Interim Ministry in this place. You, the members of this Pastoral Charge, are called to join Philip in worship, study, prayer and action. We, the Presbytery, will be responsible for the oversight of this ministry. Let us ask for God's grace upon all of us as we covenant together this day.

Let us pray: **Gracious God, by our baptism you have called us to Christ's ministry; pour out your Holy Spirit upon us as we commit ourselves to work together in Christ's name. Amen**

PROMISES OF THE NEW MINISTER:

Presider: Philip, do you in the presence of this congregation commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility?

Philip: I do.

Presider: Will you accept the discipline of Hamilton Presbytery and together with its other members, be responsible for the oversight of the church's life?

Philip: I will, by the grace of God.

Presider: Will you accept the support and encouragement of this Pastoral Charge and Hamilton Presbytery?

Philip: I will, by the grace of God.

PROMISES OF THE INTERIM MINISTRY TRANSITION TEAM

(Members of the Transition Team shall stand)

Presider: Will you, the members of the Interim Ministry

Transition Team, work with Philip to encourage holy conversation, learning, healing and understanding in the Melrose congregation.

T.Team: We Will, by the grace of God.

Presider: Will you work with him in the task of renewal as Melrose claims identity and mission and renews its links with the larger church.

T.Team: We Will, by the grace of God.

Presider: Will you model responsible participation, healthy relationships and faithful witness.

T.Team: We Will, by the grace of God.

PROMISES OF THE PASTORAL CHARGE:

(Members and staff of the Melrose Pastoral Charge shall stand)

Presider: Will you, the people and staff of this Pastoral Charge join with Philip in an interim ministry within this place and in the world?

Response: Yes, we will, by the grace of God.

Presider: Will you support him as he serves among you in this ministry?

Response: Yes, we will, by the grace of God.

(Members & staff of Melrose Pastoral Charge may be seated)

PRESENTATION OF SYMBOLS (Presented by members of the congregation):

The Bible:

Presenter: Take this Bible. Be among us as one who teaches and proclaims the word.

Congregation: Amen

Water:

Presenter: Be among us as one who baptizes in the name of Christ.

Congregation: Amen.

Towel and Basin:

Presenter: Be among us as one who serves.

Congregation: Amen.

Bread and Wine:

Presenter: Be among us as one who breaks the bread and blesses the cup.

Congregation: Amen.

Stained Glass Dove:

Presenter: Be among us as a catalyst of healing, restoration and renewal.

Congregation: Amen.

Presider: Let us rejoice in the covenant we have made!

HYMN: "Three Things I Promise"

MV 176

◆ **RESPONSE** ◆

THE OFFERING

OFFERING –*Laudate Dominum*

W.A. Mozart

Praise the Lord, all nations;

Praise God, all people.

For God has bestowed mercy upon us,

And the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,

and for generations of generations. Amen.

* OFFERING HYMN – *Let All Mortal Flesh*

VU 473

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

**All: We thank you, God, that you have blessed us
with an abundance of gifts for the flourishing
of your world.**

**May this offering of our life and labour
reveal your love**

**as we seek to share your promised reign
with all creation. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

A Celtic Communion

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 all 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 our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: Thank you, Almighty Creator,
 thank you for the earth and the waters,
 thank you for the sky, the air and the sun,
 thank you for all living creatures

All: Come, Lord, in the Bread of Life.

One: Praise be to you, Holy Immortal One,
 for our homes, our families,
 our friends, and loved ones.

Praise be to you for all the people
around us everywhere in this wounded world.

All: Come, Lord, in the Cup of Healing

One: You are God, one immortal;
incorruptible, invisible and faithful;
wonderful and worthy of praise;
strong and worthy of honour;
You are God, living and true;
wise and powerful; holy and splendid
great and good;
You are God, awesome and peace loving;
beautiful and righteous;
pure and kind; blessed and just;
tender and holy;
You are God, not in singularity of one person,
but in the Trinity of substance.

**All: We believe you; we bless you;
We adore you and praise your name for ever.
We praise you
through Christ who saves;
through Christ who brings life;
through Christ who is our resurrection.**

One: Through him the angels and archangels, the apostles
and all the saints and companies of heaven praise your
majesty. So grant, we pray you,
that our voices may be added to those of the celestial
chorus, in declaration of your glory, as we sing:

**All: (Singing) *O holy, holy holy God
O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above
bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heav'n,
Creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes
and bears your name always!***

MV 203

The Words of Institution and Prayer for the Spirit

One: On the very night he was betrayed,
Jesus took bread and gave You thanks.
He broke it and gave it to his friends saying,
“Take, eat, this is my body which is given to you;
do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave You thanks.
He gave it to his friends, saying,
“Drink this, all of you;
this is the blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many,
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

If you are thirsty, drink the Fount of Life.
If you are hungry, eat the Bread of Life.
Blessed are all who hunger for this Bread
and thirst for this Fount.

Together now we sing the mystery of Christ:

All: *(singing) Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!*

MV 204

One: Look with kindness on your people
gathered here before you.
Send the power of your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts, that all who share in this loaf and cup
may be the body of Christ: light, life, and love in the world.

All(singing):

*Amen, amen, O Holy One!
Hosanna and Amen!
Amen, amen, O Holy One,
hosanna and Amen!*

MV 205

Intercessions

One: At this time, we also remember all with whom You would have us share your feast. We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain, all who are ill or alone. We pray for all who suffer loss through natural disaster or human wrongdoing, those who are constricted by fear and anxiety. We pray for ourselves and for our church that we may always strive for justice, mercy and peace in the name of the one who taught us to pray together, saying... *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as 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.*

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!
(sung during Communion, "Ubi Caritas" by Ola Gjeilo:
Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with a sincere heart.
Where charity and love are, God is there.)

The Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

One: Gracious God, we praise, worship and adore you for the food received at your table. You have sent

Your Holy Spirit among us to make our eating and drinking here a true remembrance of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: We go from here strengthened, refreshed and empowered by your Spirit to make our living and working, our loving and doing and thinking a joyful remembrance of him. We look to that day when with the great company of witnesses that surround us, we may eat and drink and be glad in the glory of your realm. This we pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN – *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

VU 333

* COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

CHORAL RESPONSE – *May God's Sheltering Wings
May the grace of Christ attend us,
and the love of god surround us;
and the Holy Spirit keep us,
now and ever. Amen.*

VU 963

POSTLUDE – *Toccata, Symphony No. 5*

C.M. Widor



Please join us for a reception in the Auditorium to continue our celebration.

TAKING PART IN THE SERVICE TODAY

The Rev. Jane Wyllie, Chair of Hamilton Presbytery

The Rev. Dr. Michael Kooiman, Central United Church, Weston

The Choirs of Melrose United Church and Central Presbyterian Church

Director of Music, Melrose United Church: Alexander Cann
Director of Music, Central Presbyterian Church: Paul Grimwood
Soloists: Alanna Stevenson, Chris Palmer

◆ Melrose Events ◆

◆ Worship Next Week ◆

Next Sunday is the fifth Sunday of Epiphany but also, following worship, our Melrose Annual General Meeting. Ron Klusmeier's hymn "Worship the Lord" (VU 401) reminds us that the real meaning of the word "liturgy" is *"the work of the people"* and so, as the hymn's chorus puts it: "worship and work must be one!" Recognizing this important connection, our service and our meeting time be seamless (the benediction, for example, will be pronounced at the end of the meeting time rather than at its usual position at the end of the liturgy). Scripture texts for this week will include Matthew 5: 13-20. Like the Beatitudes, we are often tempted to hear Jesus' words as requirement rather than blessing, as command rather than commissioning. But take note: Jesus doesn't say, "If you want to become salt and light, do this...." Or, "before I'll call you salt and light, I'll need to see this from you...." Rather, he says both simply and directly, "You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world." It is sheer blessing, commendation, affirmation, and commissioning -- appropriate themes for an AGM Sunday!

◆ Flapjack Friday ◆

Plan to join us on **Friday, February 24** at 6:30pm for flapjacks. You bring the toppings - we will have the pancakes. It will be a time of feasting, community, and fun. All are welcome.

◆ News from the Elders ◆

Anne Gilmore was speaking with Loretta Stockton recently and shared how pleased she was to receive the Christmas card from the Church that Doreen initiated. Loretta also shared that she thanked Doreen as well. Loretta said

she had great fun reading the signatures and knowing who they belonged to. She was very pleased to be remembered.

◆ **Sunday School special request** ◆

The Sunday School program is in need of a “helper” each Sunday. Our numbers have increased and Michelle needs a second adult/teenage volunteer to help. For a list of Sundays available and to sign up please contact Sandra W. or Gwyn X. No preparation or direct leadership required.

◆ **Melrose Annual General Meeting** ◆

It's that time of year again! The meeting will be held after worship **NEXT Sunday, February 5**. Please bring your own lunches.

The following motion will be considered at the Annual General meeting on February 5th:

MOTION: That the congregation approve the withdrawal of up to \$50,000 from the capital of the Sustaining Fund to meet the needs of the 2017 operating budget.

◆ **Corner Shoppe Updates** ◆

The Melrose Corner Shoppe continues to offer new stock on a weekly basis, as well as having new themes each month. Come on in and see what New Treasures await you and your home! Donations are always appreciated; CDs, Books and Jewellery are currently needed.

Happy News!

This is a reminder that God works in mysterious and unexpected ways to inspire faith...Further to the announcement of the missing "Shoppe Funds", a very generous anonymous donation was made to cover the total amount and then some!! We all extend a huge, "Thank-you" to the Good Samaritan amongst us!

Help Needed!

If you are at the church regularly for an existing commitment and you could spare 20 minutes extra to stock shelves before you leave please contact Claire at 905-525-1888 or leave your name and number at the church office. The more helpers, the lighter the load!! And your support will provide on-going fund-raising for Melrose!

◆ **Child and Youth Notes** ◆

Sunday School: Every Sunday we learn about the bible, play games and have fun! Children of all ages welcome. The fun begins in the church service and the children are led out to a time just for them about halfway through. Nursery facilities are available.

Thursdays are for fun: join us Thursday evening from 6pm-7pm for a fun open hour of gym time here at the church!

◆ **Upcoming Dates** ◆

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY – Saturday, Jan. 28th, 9:30 to 11:30 am. The Prayer Shawl group is starting to meet again on the last Saturday of the month. We gather in the parlour of Melrose U. C. beginning at 9:30 am to enjoy a light snack while we work on knitting & crocheting. Supplies and patterns are available. Please drop in at any time on Saturday morning to see what is happening.

WOMEN IN TOUCH – **Wednesday, Feb. 8,** 6:30 to 9 pm. The WIT potluck dinner on Feb. 8th welcomes our guest, Liz Pascual, from the "Active Living - Healthy Aging" programme at the YWCA. The topic is "Ageless Grace". This is a delicious evening of shared food and fellowship. Come and join the fun!

BIBLE STUDY – This group meets on **Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m.** in the parlour. The current topic is "Women of the Old Testament" followed by "Women of the New Testament ". You are welcome to drop in and see if this interests you.

◆ **Hello WrapAround Hamilton Supporters** ◆

A request from WrapAround has been received for the following items:

- Used vacuum cleaners (3)
- microwave oven
- toaster
- double mattress
- phone (landline)

large garbage pail with a lid (safety issue for one family)
If anyone has the item available, if they can call Elske at our
WrapAround Hamilton mobile-905-3208373 or office # 905-528-0353
or through our email: elske@shalemnetwork.org or speak to Libby
Cook. Thanks for any help you are able to give us.

◆ **The Prayer Bear Ministry...** ◆

... at Melrose is sponsored through a generous gift in loving memory of
Easton Carter Strongman, the infant son of Adam and Jessica Strongman,
who died in 2013. If you know of anyone in need of some Prayer Bear
cheer, you are invited to take one of the bears from the table near the south
(right hand) sanctuary door. Please fill in the Prayer Bear registry book also
located on the table so that we have some information about the bear's new
home.

MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday – January 30

Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Guides	6:00 p.m.	Gym, Auditorium
Big Book	7:00 p.m.	Parlour

Tuesday – January 31

Bible Study	10:00 a.m.	Parlour
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour
Bach Elgar Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Auditorium, Sanctuary

Wednesday – February 1

Duet Club of Hamilton	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Mindfulness Course	5:15 p.m.	Parlour

Thursday – February 2

Early Years: Newborn	9:15 a.m.	Parlour
Early Years: Family	10:30 a.m.	Parlour
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Thursdays are for Fun!	6:00 p.m.	Parlour, Gym
English Country Dancing	6:45 p.m.	Auditorium
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour
Melrose Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.	Chapel

Friday – February 3

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Saturday – February 4

Tom Schilling: Master Class	7:30 p.m.	Chapel
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Sunday – February 5

Choir Practice	9:40 a.m.	Chapel
Melrose Worship	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Melrose Annual General Meeting	11:30 a.m.	Sanctuary, Aud.