

◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

86 Homewood Avenue ◆ Hamilton, Ontario ◆ L8P 2M4

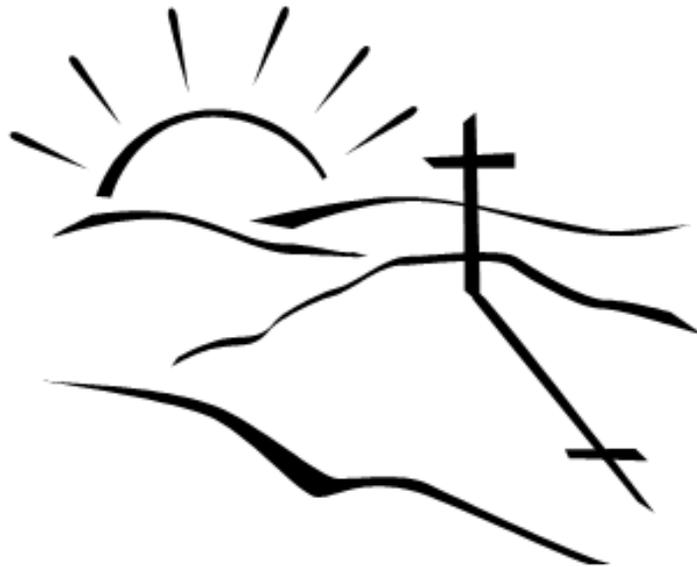
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◆ www.melroseunited.ca ◆

◆ www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch ◆

◆ Twitter: @melroseunited ◆

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Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner

Music Director:

Alexander Cann

Child & Youth Coordinator:

Michelle Millson

Custodian:

Lee Stallard

Office Administrator:

Pamela Kovacek

◆ 16 April, 2017 – 10:30 a.m. ◆

Easter Communion Service

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

◆ Sunday, April 16th, 2017 ◆

EASTER COMMUNION SERVICE

* 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 – Awake the Trumpet’s Lofty Sound, from *Samson* G. F. Handel

UNBURYING “HALLELUJAH”

LIGHTING OF THE PASCAL CANDLE

One: Christ is Risen!

All: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Christ is Risen Indeed!

INTROIT – Antiphonal Joy, from *Mentre su l’alto monte*

G. Anerio / arr. P. Liebergen

* OPENING HYMN – *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

VU 155

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!

Exult, all creation around God’s throne!

All: Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

Sound the trumpet of salvation!

One: Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour

Radiant in the brightness of your King!

All: Christ has conquered death!

Darkness vanishes forever!

One: Rejoice, O holy church! Exult in glory!

The risen saviour shines upon you.

**All: Let this place resound with joy, echoing
the mighty song of all God’s people!**

PRAYER (said by all)

**Holy and Living God,
like a tomb's darkness that gives way to light,
open us this day to newness of life;
open us to your love, to your acceptance,
to your forgiveness, to your peace; open us to one another,
and to the possibilities you have in store for us.
Give us hope for the future and a passion for life here and now.
We pray in the name of the One who destroyed death,
Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.**

CHORAL ANTHEM – *Now Is Christ Risen*

K. Nystedt

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

★ HYMN – *We Know That Christ is Raised*

Tune VU 448

*We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
And our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Alleluia!*

*We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life
As living members of a living Christ.
Alleluia!*

*The Father's splendour clothes the Son of life.
The Spirit's power shakes the church of god.
Baptized, we live with God, the True in One.
Alleluia!*

*A new creation comes to life and grows
As Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing:
Alleluia!*

A TIME WITH CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

Reader: Shari Saunders

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 118 (Parts 1 and 4)

VU 837

SCRIPTURE: Acts 10: 34-43

One: The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 28: 1-10

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY: "To Hell and Back"

CHORAL ANTHEM - Hallelujah, Amen, from *Judas Maccabaeus*

G. F. Handel

◆ **SERVICE OF THE TABLE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN - *The Risen Christ*

VU 168

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said together)

Generous God,

by your grace, accept the fruit of our labour

and the offering of our lives

in union with our risen Lord

who lives and reigns with you forever.

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

EASTER 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 this Easter feast.
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 family 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 the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
One: It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise
eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe.
At your word the earth was made
and spun on its course among the planets.
Your hand formed us from the dust of the earth
and set us among all your creatures
to love and serve you.
When we were unfaithful to you
You kept faith with us, your love remained steadfast.
When we were slaves in Egypt,
You broke the bonds of our oppression,
brought us through the sea to freedom,
and made a covenant to be our God.

By a pillar of fire you led us through the desert
to a land flowing with milk and honey,
and set before us a way of life.
You spoke of love and justice in the prophets,
and in Jesus, the Word made flesh, you lived among us,
manifesting your glory.
He died that we might live,
and is risen to raise us to new life.
Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of Your name:

All (singing):

*Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and God of might,
heaven and earth are full,
heaven and earth are full,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

VU 936

Choir: Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Heaven and earth are full of your glory

All: *Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.*

Choir: Blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: *Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna,
hosanna in the highest.*

One: You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
He came with healing in his touch,
and was wounded for our sins.
He came with mercy in his voice,
and was mocked as one despised.

He came with peace in his heart,
and met with violence and death.
By your power he broke free from the prison of the tomb,
and at his command the gates of hell were opened.
The one who was dead now lives.
The one who humbled himself is raised
to rule over all creation, the Lamb upon the throne.

The Words of Institution and Prayer for the Spirit

One: We give you thanks that Jesus, on the night
before he died, took bread and after he 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 the cup 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.
Remembering all your mighty acts,
we take this bread and this wine
from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy
the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ.
Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
as a living and holy offering of ourselves
that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen:

All (singing): *Christ has died*
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

VU 939

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, amen.*

VU 939

The Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **and also with you.** (all are invited to share the Peace)

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 whose 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 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.

One: The bread of life shared with you.

The cup of the New Covenant shared with you.

Come, for the meal is ready!

Agnus Dei (sung by the choir)

VU 940

(our communion today will be received by intinction. If you are able, please come forward up the centre aisle. Pick up a piece of bread from the tray, dip it in the cup

and consume it immediately, returning to your seats via the side aisles. The multi-coloured chalices contain grape juice, the dark green chalices contain wine. If you are unable to come forward, servers will gladly come and serve you in the pew. Please help them to locate you.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

One: Nourished at this table, O God,
may we know Christ's redemptive love
and live a new life in him.

Help us to recognize our Lord in the breaking of bread
to see and serve him in all whose lives are broken.

Keep us faithful in your service
until that time when we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm.

**All: Through Christ, all glory and honour are yours, Holy God,
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,
now and forever. Amen.**

- ★ CLOSING HYMN – *Crown Him with Many Crowns* Tune: VU 211
Crown him with many crowns, G. J. Elvey, arr. W. L. Pelz
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.
- Crown him the Lord of Love,*
Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds et visible above
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye
At mysteries so bright.

*Crown him the Lord of Life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife
For those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died, eternal life to bring,
And lives that death may die.*

*Crown him the Lord of Heaven,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns
As thrones before him fall;
Crown him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For he is King of all.*

★ COMMISSIONING

One: We have seen the Lord this day!

Now go into the world to spread this news.

All: The power of death shall no more oppress us.

One: Live the good news:

All: we are free to love as he loved us.

★ BENEDICTION

★ CHORAL RESPONSE – *Go Forth with Blessing*
Go forth with blessing, go forth with peace:
Peace and joy be with you. Amen. Amen.

POSTLUDE – *Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals*

S. Karg-Elert

Easter Flowers

in loving Memory of:



- ✧ Andrina Macfarlane, Elizabeth Macfarlane and Blake Macfarlane
- ✧ Janet Fawcett, Ernest Fawcett, Dr. Paul Fawcett, Mary Briggs,
Louisa and Freeman Furry, Antonio and Benina Miscione,
Laura Miscione
- ✧ Robert Grant, Eleanor Westwood, Gail Lidkea
- ✧ Parents of David and Carolyn Duff
- ✧ William & Kathleen MacFarlane, Harold & Gladys Saunders
- ✧ Roly & Marion Lee, Gordon & Jessie Willard
- ✧ Elsie Ahearn, Woodie Anderson, Doreen Blain,
Harry & Clara Boothe, Wes & Carmela Evans, Jim and Edna Evans,
Sharon Easton, Jim Hand
- ✧ Brian Hand, Frieda Harrett, Murray Korytko, Stevie Korytko,
Violet MacInnis,
- ✧ Harold & Anne & Connie MacInnis, Goldie MacInnis,
Mary Martin, Caroline Meronyk, Olita Vattay
- ✧ Alex and Mary Ann McRae, parents of Lucy-Jane Hannaford
- ✧ Norman and Edna Hannaford, parents of Roy and
Allan Hannaford
- ✧ Anne Gilmore's grandmothers--Margaret Kaine, Hilda Little
- ✧ Grandparents of Matthew and Elora Winnerger
- ✧ George & Helen Laidman
- ✧ Our Loved Ones who have passed (John and Cathryn Urbanek)
- ✧ Bruce & Ida (Toffelmeyer) Carr, parents of Kathy North Ross
- ✧ Elsie (North) Johns, precious mother-in-law of Kathy North Ross,
Ron North Sr. and their daughter Frances North
- ✧ Elizabeth Sharp (mother of Gwyn Xagoraris, mother-in-law of
Mathew, grandmother of Eleanor and Alethea), Dorothy Miller,
Nicole Salfko, Tina Whitte
- ✧ Roy Hannaford, Helen and Rod Cassels
- ✧ Brian Morison, Bill and Jean Foster
- ✧ Kenneth, Lillian and David Gardner

◆ Melrose Events ◆

◆ Worship Next Week ◆

The focus of our worship next week, the second Sunday of the Easter season, will be the dedication of a beautiful cross banner lovingly crafted by the Melrose quilters (the cross banner will, in due course, find its permanent home in the Melrose chapel). On the back of the fabric the following quotation from Galatians 2 appears: "I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." In a culture where the individual ego is considered sacrosanct, we will meditate in sermon and song on what the apostle Paul means by these words and what he hopes we will gain by surrendering our ego in order to be transformed into the image of Christ.

◆ Congregational Meeting ◆

A congregational meeting will take place following worship on **April 23rd**. As promised at the February AGM, the Transition Team will report on its progress and offer some thoughts about its future agenda. The "Holy Manners" covenant will also be presented for possible ratification by the Melrose community.

◆ Melrose Passover Seder ◆

The Melrose Passover Seder will be taking place on **May 10**. Please refer to posters for more information. A signup sheet is available in the office to indicate how many will be attending and what you plan on to bring. **Signing up is important** (but we will still feed you if you forget...). This year's event will again be ably led by Janet Kronick.

◆ Bible Study Dates ◆

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.

◆ Thank You... ◆

...to our April coffee hosts--

Shari and Linda Saunders & Kathy Ross.



◆ **Spring Cleaning with the SJC** ◆

The Social Justice Committee can always find a good home for those little samples of shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc. that hotels and dentists like to share. Please drop off any unopened personal hygiene products in the Helping Hands blue bin, located in the auditorium.

◆ **Child and Youth Notes** ◆

Please note there is **no Thursday night programming on April 20, and April 27**. Regular programming will resume on May 4.

Michelle is away from April 20-April 28 inclusive. Sunday School will continue as scheduled.

Please check out the job posting for the Child and Youth Position on our website: www.melroseunited.ca

◆ **Social Justice Committee** ◆

Social Justice Outreach Committee is hosting another coffee hour!

Clean water is a right for all people in the world. Coffee hour on May 7th will raise funds for water filters for families so that they have immediate access to clean water as they need it.

Please consider staying for incredible food and making a positive difference in the world!

◆ **April at the Corner Shoppe** ◆

A big "Thank-you & Congratulations!" to everyone who has been supporting The Corner Shoppe! So far this year we have raised \$806.60! When added to the anonymous cheque that was written to replace the funds that 'went missing', we have already passed the \$1000.00 mark in four months!!! WOO-HOO!! All proceeds to Stained Glass Window repairs.

All of April 'Be Green' with The Melrose Corner Shoppe! We 'Re-Cycle' everything for another use!

~ **Re-Purpose** ~ any item you find in the Shoppe; this makes it personal!

~ **Reduce** ~ buy a reusable coffee mug, water bottle & shopping bag; this saves the land-fill!

~ **Re-Use** ~ buy our gift bags & greeting cards; this re-uses items others have discarded prematurely

◆ **News from the Melrose Office** ◆

From **Thursday, April 20 to Friday, April 28** Pam and Michelle will both be on holidays. If you have any requests for bulletin announcements or space use, please forward them to the office by **Friday, April 14**. Custodial staff will be in during this period and checking voicemail messages.

Pam's vacation will continue, into May with her return to work scheduled for **Tuesday, May 16**. During this latter period of time, Michelle will be in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

◆ **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 – April 17

Little Learning House Meeting	8:00 a.m.	Gym
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Private Concert	4:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Big Book	7:00 p.m.	Parlour
Big Book	7:45 p.m.	Parlour, Auditorium

Tuesday - April 18

Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour
Bach Elgar Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Sanctuary, Chapel

Wednesday - April 19

Duet Club of Hamilton	9:00 a.m.	Parlour, Sanctuary
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Property Committee Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Parlour

Thursday – April 20

Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
English Country Dancing	6:45 p.m.	Auditorium
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour
Melrose Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.	Chapel

Friday – April 21

WrapAround Executive Meeting	9:30 a.m.	Parlour, Kitchen
RSCDS	1:30 p.m.	Norman Slater Room

Saturday - April 22

Melrose Men's Breakfast	9:30 a.m.	Parlour, Kitchen
OnCOURSE Education	11:00 a.m.	OnCOURSE Rental Area
Tom Schilling: Master Class	7:30 a.m.	Chapel

Sunday – April 23

Choir Practice	9:40 a.m.	Chapel
Melrose Worship	10:30a.m.	Sanctuary
Congregational Meeting	11:30 a.m.	Auditorium
Private Event	1:00 p.m.	Parlour
Duet Club of Hamilton Concert	2:30 p.m.	Sanctuary, Auditorium