

# ◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

86 Homewood Avenue ◆ Hamilton, Ontario ◆ L8P 2M4

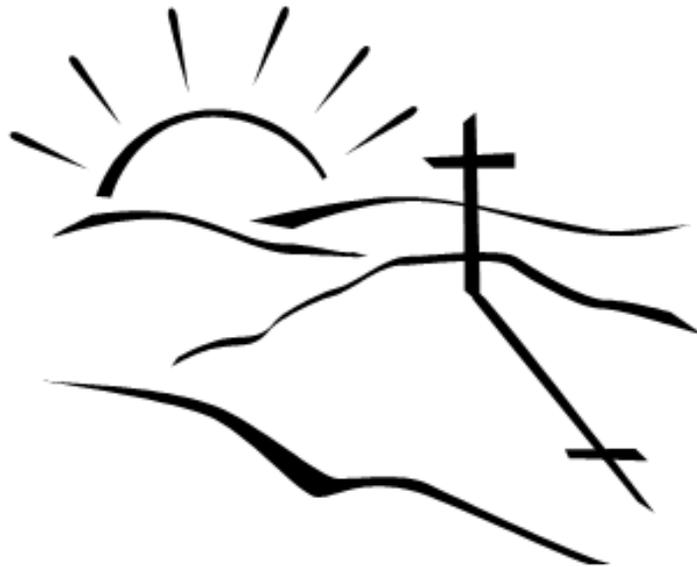
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◆ [www.melroseunited.ca](http://www.melroseunited.ca) ◆

◆ [www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch](https://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

◆ 16 April, 2017 – 8:00 a.m. ◆

Easter Sunrise Service

# MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

◆ Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 ◆

EASTER SUNRISE 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 ◆

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## ◆ GATHERING ◆

### \* GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: There was darkness over the earth before creation;

**All: There is darkness in the womb before birth;**

One: The seed grows in darkness before it meets the light;

**All: There is darkness in the tomb before resurrection.**

One: But now Christ is risen!

**All: The dawn has come**

One: A new creation has commenced

**All: The world is born anew.**

One: Christ is Risen.

**All: HE IS RISEN INDEED!**

One: Thanks be to God!

**All: ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**

### \* LIGHTING THE PASCHAL CANDLE

One: Behold the light of the world!

**All: The light no darkness can overcome!**

### \* OPENING HYMN – *Morning Has Broken*

VU 409

### PRAYER OF APPROACH

One: God of uprisings, God of the rising sun, the rising tide, the rising wind, the rising mist, the rising crocuses; you have

raised Jesus Christ from the dead, raising our hopes to the skies, opening up glorious new possibilities for our living, for our dying, for our living again. Raise us to new life here and now, that we may walk in faith and love every day; in Jesus' name we pray.

**All: Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Holy God, like the first witnesses of the Resurrection, we too come to the empty tomb with a variety of responses. We hear the good news that Jesus has risen, but so often the evidence of this is difficult to detect in our lives.

**All: Forgive us when we fail to make the risen Christ evident through our words and actions.**

One: As we come to the empty tomb seeking forgiveness for all our faults and shortcomings, help us to re-order our priorities so that we put the risen Christ first in our lives at all times.

**All: Forgive us when we forget that the tomb is forever empty because Jesus is here and is wherever Christians live and worship.**

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Jesus willingly died for us! God so loved the world that God gave God's only son Jesus to the world not to be its judge, but to be its saviour.

We are a loved and a forgiven people.

**All: Thanks be to God! We are an Easter people! Alleluia!**

★ HYMN – *Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks*

VU 179

### ◆ SERVICE OF THE WORD ◆

READER: Tim Webb

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 118 (Parts I, II, III)

VU 837

THE GOSPEL: Luke 24: 1-12

One: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

SUNG RESPONSE

VU 958

**All: Halle, halle, hallelujah! (3x)  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!**

HOMILY

**◆ RESPONSE ◆**

OFFERING

★ OFFERING HYMN – *Who Is There on This Easter Morning*

VU 176

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said together)

**Majestic God, today we celebrate the miracle of our risen Lord.  
Like the women at the tomb, we are surprised by joy.  
We are reminded that our faith is connected intimately  
to your amazing, unwavering love.  
Multiply these gifts so that your realm of shalom will become a  
reality in our world. Amen.**

EASTER DIALOGUE

One: Christ is risen!

**All: We walked the valleys and saw the people crying in  
need. Jesus reached out to them. He did not criticize  
or diminish their needs. He touched their lives and  
they were never the same. The love that flowed  
through him to them was God's healing love.**

One: Christ is risen!

**All: We sat at table in the Upper Room as Jesus told of his  
death and we wanted to discount his words.  
How could he die? We did not want to believe it.**

**It was easier to proclaim with bravado our faith  
than to listen to his words.**

**One:** Christ is risen!

**All:** We waited in the Garden of Sorrows while he prayed  
and watched in horror as he was betrayed with a kiss.  
We followed at a distance and denied, with Peter, ever  
knowing who he was. We were in the crowd that  
clamoured for Barabbas' release and turned our backs  
as Pilate washed his hands of the crime.

**One:** Christ is risen!

**All:** We followed him to the hill and cringed as they nailed  
him to the Cross. We heard his words of forgiveness  
and love from the cross and felt the ground tremble  
as the sky darkened and he gave up his life, into God's  
hands.

**One:** Christ is risen!

**All:** We ran from the empty tomb today, with the incredible  
news that He is Risen! He was not captured by death,  
but is risen from the dead, just as he said he would be.  
We come with the joy in our hearts to this day.  
As the flowers in our worship area burst with color, so we  
burst with the absolute joyous news  
**CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!  
HALLELUJAH! AMEN.**

**\* THE PEACE OF THE RISEN CHRIST**

**One:** The peace of the risen Christ be with you

**All:** **And also with you.** (*All share a word of peace*)

**\* HYMN—*Jesus Jesus Christ is Risen Today***

VU 155

**\* BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

# 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 23<sup>rd</sup>**. 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](http://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
<b>Melrose Choir Practice</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>

### Friday – April 21

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

### Saturday - April 22

<b>Melrose Men's Breakfast</b>	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

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