

◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

86 Homewood Avenue ◆ Hamilton, Ontario ◆ L8P 2M4

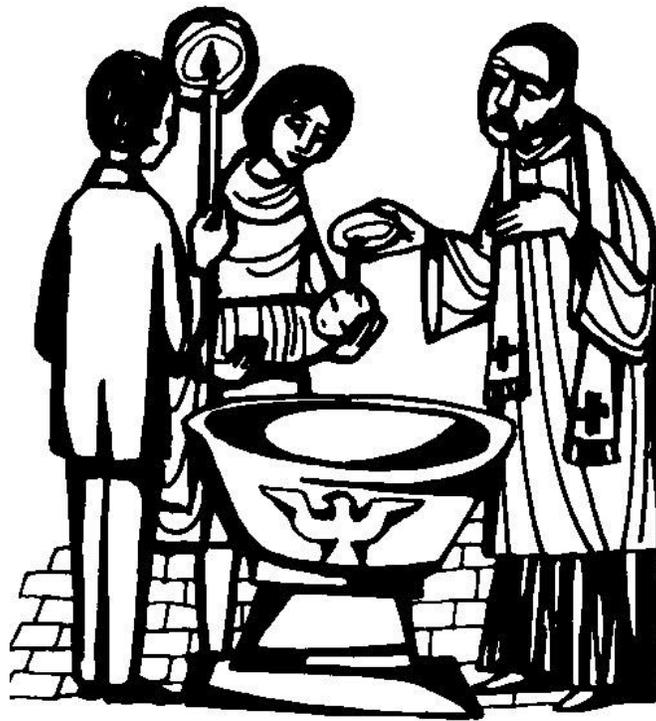
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Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner

Music Director:

Alexander Cann

Family Ministries Coordinator:

Meg Chalmers

Office Administrator:

Michelle Millson

◆ February 4, 2018 - 10:30 a.m. ◆

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH
◆ February 4, 2018 ◆
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIHPANY

* 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 - Chaconne in G Minor

L. Couperin

INTROIT - Siyahamba

arr. D Rao

* OPENING HYMN - *God Whose Almighty Word*

VU 313

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: The light of the Christ has come to us.

All: Let us celebrate God's abiding love!

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, rejoice and sing!

God's love is showered over you this day.

All: We gather to praise God

and to celebrate God's presence with us.

One: God shows compassion

to all who are weak and downtrodden.

All: Jesus Christ offers healing mercies to our troubled souls.

One: Praise be to God who has called us here.

All: Thanks be to God for God's eternal love.

OPENING PRAYER (said by all)

Powerful God,

from the very beginning you blessed creation.

**You have loved and shielded your people
through the joys and trials of life.**

We come to you this day,

rejoicing in the many blessings you have given to us.

We open our hearts again to hear your word for us

and to gather strength and joy

for service in your world.

Be with us and bless us again, we pray.

Amen.

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

★ HYMN- *Praise and Thanksgiving*

VU 441

◆ **SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM** ◆

We welcome to the church family of Christ:

Angus Ryan Beattie, son of Scott and Lisa Beattie

brother of Declan, Rowan & Olive

Statement of Purpose

The sacrament of baptism

proclaims and celebrates the grace of God.

By water and the Spirit,

we are called, claimed, and commissioned:

we are called God's own,

welcomed as children of God;

we are claimed by Christ,

united with Christ,

united with one another and the Christian community

of every time and place;

we are commissioned to Christ's ministry

of love, peace, and justice,
and strengthened by the Holy Spirit
for the work of the church in the world.

A Reading from Scripture

Matthew 3: 13-17 (Jesus is baptized in the Jordan River)

Presentation (Margaret Duff, Worship Committee Chair)

On behalf of the congregation of Melrose United Church,
I present Angus Ryan Beattie, son of Scott and Lisa Beattie
for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism.

Profession of Faith and Promises

Do you believe in God, Source of love;
in Jesus Christ, love incarnate;
and in the Holy Spirit, love's power.

I do, by the grace of God.

Desiring the freedom of new life in Christ,
do you seek to resist evil, and to live in love and justice?

I do, God being my helper.

Will you follow the way of Jesus Christ?

I will, God being my helper.

Will you join
with your brothers and sisters in this community of faith
to celebrate God's presence, live with respect in creation,
and love and serve others?

I will, God being my helper.

Commitment of Parents

In baptism, Angus marks an important step
in his journey of faith.

Will you pray for him encourage him by your words and actions, and
walk with him in the way of Christ?

I will, God being my helper.

Commitment of Godparents

Recognizing that
many persons nurture and influence the life of a child
will you support Angus and his parents
as they grow in faith?

I will, God being my helper.

Commitment of the Community of Faith

**The congregation may stand, as they are able*

As the people of Melrose United Church,
do you commit yourselves to offer support and nurture
for these persons within a community that worships God,
loves and serves others, seeks justice, and resists evil?

We do, by the grace of God.

Affirmation of Faith

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others**

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.**

Thanks be to God.
(the congregation is seated)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Pouring of Water

Let us pray:
Gracious and Holy God,
we bless you for the gift of life,
and within it, the gift of water.
Over its unshaped promise your Spirit hovered at creation.
By water, comes the growth of the earth.
Through water, you led the children of Israel to freedom.
In the waters of the Jordan your Child Jesus was baptized.
Now may your Spirit be upon us and what we do,
that this water may be a sign for all of new life in Christ,
in whose name we pray.

Amen.

~The water is poured into the font~

May God's Spirit be upon us
and these waters of daily use,
which we now use
to baptize and to welcome.

The Act of Baptism

Angus Ryan,
I baptize you,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
One God, mother of us all. **Amen.**

Marking with the Sign of the Cross

Angus Ryan, child of God, from this day forward, you bear the sign of Jesus Christ. May the Holy Spirit, Love's power, guide you, inspire you, and work within you, all the days of your life. **Amen.**

Lighting of the Baptismal Candle (the baptismal candle is lit)

Angus Ryan, let your light shine before others,
that they may see your good works, and give glory to God.

All: Amen!

Presentation of Books, Prayer Shawls, Certificates

One: Angus, we present you with a prayer shawl, and Certificate of Baptism. May your prayer shawl remind you that you are wrapped in God's love and care all of your life.

The Hebrew Benediction (sung, VU 965)

Presentation of Angus to the Melrose Congregation

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

Reader: Phil Farrauto

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 147 (Part One) VU 869

THE EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-23

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: Mark 1: 29-39

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

★ HYMN- *Praise God for This Holy Ground*

MV 42

SERMON - "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

ANTHEM - Set Me as a Seat

R. J. King

◆ **RESPONSE** ◆

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 together)

**We sing to you, God, with thanksgiving,
making melody to you with our praise.**

**Use these gifts to spread your gospel near and far,
for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

concluding with a paraphrase of 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.

★ CLOSING HYMN – *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

VU 670

★ COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

**All: We are being sent into a world
in need of healing.**

**We have been given all that we need
to be God's messengers of peace.**

One: Go now into the world,
rejoicing in God's presence with you.
Bring the news of peace and hope to all you meet.
Children of God -- chosen, beloved --
in Christ every blessing is yours.

All: Alleluia, Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE -- I am the Light of the World

VU 87

*"I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me."
If you follow and love
you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.*

POSTLUDE - Victory in Jesus

E.M. Bartlett

Melrose Events ♦

♦ Worship Next Week ♦

Next Sunday is the final Sunday in this (relatively short) Epiphany season, the day set aside to celebrate Jesus' Transfiguration. In addition to the Gospel of Mark's rendering of the story of Jesus' trip up the Mount of the Transfiguration with the disciples Peter, James and John, the reading from the Hebrew scriptures describes the prophet Elijah's nifty departure in a fiery chariot. Sometimes overshadowed by the narrative's drama is the dialogue between Elijah and Elisha where it becomes clear that Elijah's protégé will succeed him in his prophetic ministry. This is a timely story as it connects with the United Church's "Remit #6" which proposes significant changes to the way ordination and ministry could function in our denomination moving forward.

◆ **Thank you** ◆

...to our February coffee hosts – Cheryl Evans and Patti Varey

◆ **We want your used stamps!** ◆

Melrose United Church continues to support EffectHope (Leprosy Mission of Canada) in their ongoing efforts to eradicate Leprosy. Please drop off your stamps at the Church Office in care of Gwyn.

◆ **Melrose Corner Shoppe** ◆

Renew! Revitalize! Reorganize!

New items are added every week, plan to check it out after church today!

◆ **Family Ministry Updates** ◆

With 2018 in full swing, I wanted to share some exciting Family Ministries updates with you all.

TGIF – Save the Date! Our next TGIF will be Friday February 9th (just in time to have some Valentine's themed fun). Just a reminder that our TGIF events are for all ages and are also a great way for parents to connect with one another over a potluck dinner and fellowship time.

March Break – We are looking at planning a morning of fun during the March Break on Wednesday March.14th. If you could please let me know if your kids are free on this day and are interested in participating that would be wonderful.

Sunday School Update - It has been wonderful to see so many kids of all ages joining us on Sunday mornings. In order to ensure all of our young people are getting the most out of the lesson time, we are looking at dividing Sunday School into two age groups for younger and older kids. In order to facilitate this, we are looking for volunteers! We will be launching a brand new curriculum in February called *What's in the Bible*. All volunteers will be given a lesson plan and resources. Please let me know if you are interested in signing up for a Sunday.

◆ **Jam Jars Needed!** ◆

It's marmalade making time at Melrose! If anyone has jam jars (must be 250ml size) and not using them, we will gladly accept them and use them. Please drop the jars off in the church kitchen anytime. Thanks so much! Jars are the most expensive part of preserve making, so keeping the costs down helps make the profits from the Locke Street Festival higher!

WIT - Women In Touch potluck dinner

Wednesday February 14th at 6:30 pm

in the Melrose church parlour

Our guest this evening is

Linda Waugh

Volunteer for "The Thursday Outreach Program"

at New Vision Church

(Gently used men & women's clothing & non perishable foods would be gratefully received)

Come & share a meal with friends!!

◆ **The Prayer Bear Ministry...** ◆

... at Melrose is sponsored through a memory of Easton Carter Strongman, Adam and Jessica Strongman, who died of anyone in need of some Prayer Bear 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.



generous gift in loving the infant son of in 2013. If you know cheer, you are invited

MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday – February 5

Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Brownies, Guides	6:00 p.m.	Norman Slater Room, Gym
Big Book	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium

Tuesday - February 6

Yoga Class	7:00 p.m.	Norman Slater Room
Bach Elgar Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Auditorium, Chapel
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour

Wednesday - February 7

Duet Club Rehearsal	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
Siva Yoga	10:30 a.m.	Norman Slater Room
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Mindfulness Workshop	5:15 p.m.	Parlour
Pilates	6:30 p.m.	Norman Slater Room

Thursday - February 8

Early Years Workshop	9:15 a.m.	Parlour
Melrose Bible Study	10:00 a.m.	Chapel
Early Years Workshop	10:30 a.m.	Parlour
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
RSCDS Dancing	1:30 p.m.	Norman Slater Room
English Country Dancing	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Melrose Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.	Chapel
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour
West Hamilton U12 Soccer	7:30 p.m.	Gymnasium

Friday – February 9

TGIF	6:00 p.m.	Auditorium, Kitchen, Parlour
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Saturday - February 10

Tom Schilling Master Class	7:30 p.m.	Chapel
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Sunday – February 11

Melrose Choir Practice	9:40 a.m.	Chapel
Melrose Worship	10:30a.m.	Sanctuary

