

◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

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Minister:

Music Director:

Family Ministries Coordinator:

Custodian:

Office Administrator:

The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner

Alexander Cann

Meg Chalmers

Darcy Feaver

Michelle Millson

◆ 14 January, 2018 – 10:30 a.m. ◆

Baptism of Christ

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

◆ January 14, 2018 ◆

BAPTISM OF CHRIST

* 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 – Aria

G.F. Handel

INTROIT --The Lord hath manifested forth his glory

Thalben-Ball

The Lord hath manifested forth his glory.

O come let us adore him, and praise his name for ever. Amen.

* OPENING HYMN – *Songs of Thankfulness and Praise*

VU 101

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: In the beginning, at creation,
the Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep.

**All: In the waters of the flood, God cleansed the earth
and humankind.**

One: God caused the waters to part so that Israel
could cross from slavery to liberation.

All: God formed Jesus in the waters of Mary's womb.

One: Jesus taught us how to live by washing his disciples'
feet in water.

All: Drinking water from a well,

Jesus met a Samaritan woman, the first person to recognize that he was the Christ.

One: Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, the Christ.

All: God meant for Jesus to be the firstborn in a large baptismal family. Thanks be to God.

OPENING PRAYER

One: We gather at the river, Earth-maker,
to taste that which gives life.
We come with our friends, Life-giver,
to hear a Word that is true.

**All: We open our hearts, Pain-bearer,
as the One we call Living Water
emerges from the river of your love
to offer the hope of peace. Amen.**

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

◆ SERVICE OF THE WORD ◆

★ HYMN- *Here at This Font*

VU 450 Verses 1-3

◆ SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM ◆

We welcome to the church family of Christ:
Aubrey Denise Mae Shellard-Sweet daughter of
Felicia Shellard and Chrystopher Sweet

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 Aubrey Denise Mae Shellard-Sweet, daughter of
Felicia Shellard and Chrystopher Sweet 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, Aubrey marks an important step in her journey of faith.

Will you pray for her and encourage her by your words and actions, and walk with her 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 Aubrey as she grows 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

Aubrey Denise Mae,
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

Aubrey Denise Mae, 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)

Aubrey Denise Mae, 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: Aubrey, we present you with a book,
prayer shawl, and Certificate of Baptism. May the stories
of our faith support and encourage you as you grow in

your relationship with God. And 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 Aubrey to the Melrose Congregation

★ HYMN- *Here at This Font*

VU 450 Verse 4

Reader: Ken Laidman

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 29

VU 756

THE WISDOM OF ISREAL: Isaiah 64 : 1-9

One: The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: Mark 1: 4-11

One: This is the Gospel of our Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

★ HYMN- *When Jesus Comes to Be Baptized*

VU 100

SERMON - "Torn Up"

ANTHEM -- The King of Love

Scott Lee

◆ **RESPONSE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN – *Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness*

HB 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)

**Gracious God, as your Spirit descended upon
Jesus when he came up out of the waters of the Jordan,
so may your Spirit descend upon the
offering of our lives and work,
to be a blessing to the world
as Jesus' life and ministry have been a blessing to us. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

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 by 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 – *Will You Come and See the Light*

VU 96

* COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

* CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE – Fughetta in C

D. Buxtehude

◆ **Melrose Events** ◆

◆ **Worship Next Week** ◆

Our church is blessed with a series of magnificent stained glass windows designed by Canadian artist Peter Haworth. One of the most delightful is the “Jonah” window on the south side of the building, the fourth from the memorial transept. The delightful story of Jonah is well known. An Israelite prophet is called to deliver a message of judgment to Nineveh, the capital city of the dreaded Assyrian Empire. Not wanting to do the job he is called by God to do, Jonah takes a boat going to the other side of the world, away from Nineveh and "away from the presence of the Lord." He finds he cannot escape his prophetic responsibilities and when his ship is involved in a fierce storm he reveals to the panicked sailors that he is the cause. Jonah is thrown overboard at his own request whereupon he ends up in the belly of a big fish, where he remains for three days and nights. The lectionary reading for the third Sunday of Epiphany finds Jonah back on dry land and confronted once again with the divine call to proclaim a message to Nineveh. The prophet walks barely a third of the way into the city and shouts his warning, remarkable in its brevity. And surprisingly the people of Nineveh respond with immediate and total

contrition. Then the narrator offers the text that is found at the bottom of our beautiful memorial window: "When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it." Jonah, however is less than pleased.

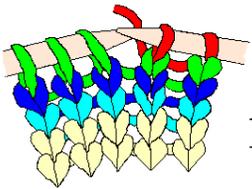
◆ **Thank you** ◆

...to our January coffee hosts – Denise and Phil Farrauto

◆ **2018 Offering Envelopes Now Available!** ◆

2018 Offering envelopes are now available for pickup in the church office. If you would like envelopes but do not currently have a number assigned please contact the office. Also, if you would like to switch from envelopes to PAR the church office can assist with the process.

◆ **The Prayer Shawl Ministry** ◆



Saturday January 27, 2018 at 9:30 in the church parlour.
Come & join us. Wool, knitting needles, crochet hooks and patterns supplied.
Coffee, tea & a light snack.

◆ **An update from Cobourg** ◆

The office received a lovely card recently from Ruth and wanted to share a portion of it with everyone:

“My thanks for the emails, notes and calendars I have received from so many of my Church Friends since moving last November. My Church

◆ **Family Ministry Updates** ◆

There are lots of exciting things happening with the Family Ministries Program in 2018! Be sure to stay connected to all that is going on by checking the Website, Facebook Page, and e-mails from Meg. Stay tuned for more exciting updates.

◆ Greening our space ◆

Check out how many trees our solar panels saved in December!



◆ 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.



† IN MEMORIAM †

Blake Macfarlane

*son of Janice Lindsay and David Macfarlane
nephew to Barb & Keith Mann
Blake courageously fought a battle with
leukemia for the past four years,
before passing away at the age of 29.*

MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday – January 15

MONTHLY FIRE DRILL	10:00 a.m.	ENTIRE BUILDING
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
WrapAround Facilitator	7:15 p.m.	Chapel
Networking		

Tuesday - January 16

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 - January 17

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

Thursday - January 18

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 – January 19

WrapAround Executive Meeting	9:30 a.m.	Parlour
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Saturday - January 20

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Sunday – January 21

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

