

◆ 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

Interim Custodian:

Darcy Feaver

Office Administrator:

Pamela Kovacek

Office Administrator:

Michelle Millson

◆ 18 June, 2017 - 10:30 a.m. ◆
Second Sunday after Pentecost

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

◆ Sunday, June 18th, 2017 ◆

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

* 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

INTROIT

* OPENING HYMN – *Fairest Lord Jesus*

VU 341

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: It is in the glow the Christ Light that we gather.

All: It is in the glow of the Christ light that we find home.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Welcome! Today is a day of celebration!

**All: We are thankful for all the fathers, grandfathers, uncles,
nephews, sons, grandsons, great-grandsons who have
taught us and loved us.**

One: Today is a day of daring!

All: We are ready to accept whatever challenge God presents to us.

One: Let us rejoice and worship the Holy One!

All: Alleluia! Praise God!

PRAYER

**God of wonder, you appeared to Abraham as three persons;
you reveal your fullness in your Son Jesus Christ.**

**Your Spirit fills your people with hope
through the peacemaking cross of Jesus.**

**Gather us as Christ's faithful disciples
and empower us with his good news,
in the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

◆ SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM ◆

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 (Dianne Coons)

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

Presentation (Dianne Coons)

On behalf of the congregation of Melrose United Church,
I present Greyson James-Bentley Scrivens, son of Daniel Smith
and Amanda Scrivens 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, Greyson 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 Greyson 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

Greyson,
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

Greyson, 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)

Greyson, 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: Greyson, 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 Greyson to the Melrose Congregation

★ HYMN – *A Little Child the Saviour Came* (vs. 1-3) VU 445

We welcome to our church family;
Greyson James-Bentley Scrivens, son of
Daniel Smith & Amanda Scrivens

★ HYMN – *A Little Child the Saviour Came* (v. 4) VU 445

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

Reader: Dianne Coons

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE WISDOM OF ISRAEL: Genesis 18: 1-15

One: The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 9: 35-10:8

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

★ HYMN – *Laughter Lit the Stars of Morning* MV 190

SERMON – “Sarah Laughs”

ANTHEM

◆ **SERVICE OF THE TABLE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

★ OFFERING HYMN – *Creator God You Gave Us Life* (vs. 3) MV 27

*When with our hearts, our hands our minds,
we share your gifts with all the world,
our spirits soar beyond the veil, to touch the very face of God.
Through hands that paint majestic skies,
and voices chanting melody,
with words that reach beyond the page, we comprehend your mystery.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

All: With gratitude for all the blessings poured into our lives, Holy One, we come bringing these our gifts that they may be used in service to those in need. Bless these gifts and those who have given them, that all may be a blessing to the world you so love.

One: May God's grace be upon these shawls ...
warming, comforting, healing, and enfolding.
May these mantles be safe haven ...
a sacred place of security and well being ...
sustaining and embracing in times of illness, loneliness, or sorrow.
May each one who receives a shawl be cradles in hope, kept in joy,
graced with peace, and wrapped in love.

All: May each know that Melrose holds them in prayer and love,
and that God's grace surrounds them always.
In the name of the risen Christ we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

(concluding with the Prayer of Jesus)

**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.**

★ CLOSING HYMN – *To Abraham and Sarah*

VU 634

* COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

◆ CHORAL RESPONSE –

VU 974

Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, Amen!

POSTLUDE

◆ **Melrose Events** ◆

◆ **Worship Next Week** ◆

Next week we move worship spaces to the beautiful air-conditioned Melrose chapel. Continuing the focus on an arc of stories about the biblical Patriarch Abraham and his family, the sermon next week will feature the tale of Hagar, Sarah's maidservant and her son, Ishmael. The Hebrew name Hagar means "one who flees" or "one who seeks refuge." The story of Hagar and her son, Ishmael, is the story of millions of exploited, trafficked, disabled, and rejected women and children throughout history and around the world. As Hagar's narrative reminds us: God hears their cries. In the Genesis narrative, Hagar flees from the jealousy of Sarah into the desert where she wanders without hope. Finally, when their water runs out, Hagar places her son Ishmael (his name means "God hears") and walks away to weep at a distance, for she cannot bear to watch him die. Just then, an angel of God calls to Hagar and says, "Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying." The angel reminds Hagar of God's blessing and provides a spring of water for them. They survive and prosper -- and Ishmael becomes ancestor to a great nation, as God has also promised.

◆ **Thank You to Olivet United Church** ◆

Because of the closing of Olivet United Church, Melrose has been the recipient of their copies of the More Voices hymnbooks. Please keep the congregation of Olivet in your prayers as they grieve the loss of a faith community that has ministered in the Queensdale neighbourhood for more than 100 years. Closing worship at Olivet took place on June 11th.

◆ **Locke Street Festival—September 9!** ◆

Needed: strong (men or women) for putting up the booth and setting up jams and selling of jams . Also required are folk at the end of the day to tear down tables and bring everything back to the church. We need people for 2 hour shifts throughout the day. Please help! You get to choose your own time slot! Talk to Gwyneth or the Church office if you are willing to be a "face" on Locke Street for Melrose!

◆ **Thank You...** ◆

...to our June coffee hosts—Cheryl Evans and Patti Varey.



◆ **Still Needed** ◆

250 ml Mason or Bernardin jam jars are still needed for the beginning of the Melrose jamming season. Please drop off any unwanted jars to the kitchen.

◆ **Jump for Joy in June!** ◆

Great Father's Day items and lots of summer reading are on hand at **The Corner Shoppe** all week! Proceeds to stained glass window repairs.

◆ **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.

◆ **It's Observer Renewal Time Again!** ◆

For a subscription to this helpful, thought-provoking magazine, please enclose \$25 in the envelopes provided at the front of the sanctuary. Please fill in the envelope label and put it on the collection plate. **Subscriptions need to be collected by the end of August, 2017. This early notice is for those who will out of town for the summer.** Thank you.

◆ **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.



Extreme Hunger Appeal

The United Church of Canada is launching an **Extreme Hunger Appeal** as the humanitarian crisis in Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen reaches grave levels.

Starvation and extreme hunger are rapidly reaching a scale the world has not seen before in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen. There is also extreme hunger, malnutrition, and starvation in Kenya. Vulnerable people are most impacted, including children.

Small-scale farmers supply the majority of food in Africa. But climate change has created a devastating and prolonged drought, resulting in both water and food shortages. Farmers are unable to grow crops and their livestock have died. Ongoing conflict is also contributing to the crisis as many families are forced to flee their homes, farms, and livelihoods.

The people of Nigeria, South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, and Kenya urgently need your help. All donations raised for this appeal will go to our long-term Mission & Service partners, including ACT Alliance, which is saving lives in the region. This Extreme Hunger Appeal follows the Drought Appeal for Africa that the United Church launched last April. Many United Church members have also generously given to the Canada Food Grains Bank, which is providing emergency food relief.

Please consider using the specially designated envelopes in the pew or chapel chair and donating to this Mission and Services Project. The Social Justice Committee will be collecting the envelopes throughout the month of June.

VBS: Hero Central is coming!
August 7 -11 from 8:30am-12:00pm.

Registration forms available at the office and online
Ages 5-11 for main camp, Teens welcome for CIT (counsellors in training, including opportunities for volunteer service hours)



Please plan to sign up your kids! Sign up your friends' kids! Sign up your neighbors' kids! Sign up kids you find walking down the street! Encourage all those you know to participate. It is a top notch program run by great people through Hamilton Presbytery. Rev. Philip and the CD Team will also be involved in many key parts. The day camp is an excellent ministry opportunity and it is a chance to share with our friends, acquaintances, coworkers and community what Melrose has to offer.

We will be recruiting help in the following ways:

1. Snack team Members: We are looking for two people to sign up for each morning we are hosting and to handle the preparing and cleaning up of snacks. Supplies will be provided if required. We have a very detailed guide complete with photo instructions. Commitment of time would approximately 2 hours per morning.

2. Registration Team members: Each morning we will need 1-2 people to cover the registration desk when the children arrive and leave. It will only require a commitment from 8:30-9:15 and 12:00-12:30.

3. Promote! Please share with those around you and in your workplace that the camp is taking place. In order for this to be a success we need children to attend.

4. Prayer, patience and support. There will be a lot of little ones tramping all over the place during that week. This is an opportunity to serve our community with a free day camp (free will offering to cover our cost of \$500 for the week would be gratefully accepted) and share our message with those around us.

<u>MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR</u>		
Monday – June 19		
Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Big Book	7:00 p.m.	Parlour
Big Book	7:45 p.m.	Auditorium
Tuesday - June 20		
Early Years	9:00 a.m.	Auditorium
Wednesday - June 21		
Thursday – June 22		
Early Years	9:00 a.m.	Auditorium
Early Years	9:30 a.m.	Parlour
Martial Arts	6:00 p.m.	Norman Slater Room
English Dancing	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Property Meeting?		
Friday – June 23		
Early Years	9:00 a.m.	Auditorium
Jamming	5:00 p.m.	Kitchen
Saturday - June 24		
Sunday – June 25		
Amici Music School	10:00 a.m.	Norman Slater Rm.
Melrose Worship	10:30a.m.	Chapel
Music Concert	2:30 p.m.	Sanctuary, Parlour