

# ◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

86 Homewood Avenue ◆ Hamilton, Ontario ◆ L8P 2M4

905 522 1323 ◆ [melrose@melroseunited.ca](mailto:melrose@melroseunited.ca)

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

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

◆ 5 March, 2017 – 10:30 a.m. ◆

Lent I – Communion Sunday

**MELROSE UNITED CHURCH**  
◆ Sunday, March 5, 2017 ◆  
LENT I - COMMUNION SUNDAY

\* 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** ◆

PRELUDE

INTROIT – *Behold, the Lamb of God*

E. Daley

\* OPENING HYMN – *Forty Days and Forty Nights*

VU 114

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: The light of Christ is in this place.

**All: The light of Christ shines in our hearts.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Now is the time of returning,

**All: returning to God, our first love.**

One: Now is the time of turning away,

**All: turning away from the sin that wastes us.**

One: Now is the time of lifting,

**All: lifting guilt's heavy burden.**

One: Now is the time of renewing,

**All: renewing heart, mind, and soul.**

One: Now is the time:

**All: Lent's hard, joyful pilgrimage begins.**

PRAYER AND CANDLE FOR LENT I

**All: God in Heaven, look upon this community for which  
Your beloved child, Jesus, suffered and died.**

**Help us during this Lent to change our way of life  
to conform to Your will.**

**May we follow in Christ's steps  
that we may open our hearts to his saving love  
and be blessed by his Easter victory. Amen.**

*(a purple candle is lit)*

RESPONSE (sung)

MV 67

One: Kyrie eleison,

**All: Kyrie eleison,**

One: Christe eleison,

**All: Christe eleison,**

One: Kyrie eleison,

**All: Kyrie eleison.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Place your feet on the path through the wilderness.

God is with you. You need not be afraid.

**All: Amen.**

A TIME WITH CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

★ HYMN – *Halle, Halle, Halle*

VU 958

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

Reader: Gwyn Xagoraris

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

WISDOM OF ISRAEL: Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-13

One: The Word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 4: 1-11

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY - "Oops"

ANTHEM— *Cantique de Jean Racine*

G. Fauré

◆ **SERVICE OF THE TABLE** ◆

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

★ OFFERTORY HYMN— *There in God's Garden*

VU 346

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: We bring these gifts to you, O God,  
in recognition and gratitude  
for your loving provision.

We offer you our very lives and bow before you  
in tribute to your many blessings.

Take us and use us,  
that your will may be done on earth  
as it is in heaven. Amen.

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

**A Lenten Communion Service**

*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.

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 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: Thanks and praise be to you, O God,  
for you create life out of the dust,  
and sustain us even in the desert.

We thank you that in the face of every temptation and trial,  
every principality and power,  
You are present to direct and guide, to renew and revive.  
We praise you for sending us Jesus,  
Your Suffering Servant,  
to walk before us the way of the cross,  
to turn us to you and to one another.  
Therefore, we join your long procession of pilgrims  
praising you along the way, singing:

**All (singing):** *O holy, holy holy God  
O God of time and space.  
All earth and sea and sky above  
Bear witness to your grace.  
Hosanna in the highest heav'n,  
Creation sings your praise.  
And blessed is the One who comes  
And bears your name always!*

MV 203

*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 giving thanks to you,  
he broke it, and gave it to his friends, saying:  
Take, eat.  
This is my body, given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup,  
gave thanks and offered it to his friends, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,  
which is shed for you and for many,  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts,  
we break bread and share the cup,  
giving thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ.  
As you raised Jesus from death  
and call us with him from death to life,  
we give ourselves to you  
to live for him in joy and grateful praise.

Great is the mystery of faith of which we sing:

**All (singing):** *Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again!  
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again!*

**MV 204**

One: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ

that we may be for the world  
the body of Christ.  
Send us out in the power of the Spirit  
to live for others, as Christ lived for us.  
By your Spirit draw us together into one body  
and join us to Christ the Lord,  
that we may remain his glad and faithful people.  
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honour are yours, almighty God,  
forever and ever.

**All (singing):**

*Amen, amen, O Holy One!*  
*Hosanna and Amen!*  
*Amen, amen, O Holy One,*  
*Hosanna and Amen!*

**MV 205**

### *The Peace*

**One:** The peace of Christ be with you.

**All:** **And also with you.**

(you are invited to share the Peace with one another)

### *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, singing (VU#959)... *Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name, your kingdom come, your*

*will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.*

### The Sharing of the Elements

One: The bread of life shared with you.  
The cup of the New Covenant shared with you.  
Come, for the meal is ready!

*(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 **lighter** chalices contain **grape juice**, the **dark** green chalices contain **wine**. If you are unable to come forward, the servers will gladly come and serve you in the pew. Please help them to locate you.)*

### Communion Anthem - Come in Love and Adoration

A. Bruckner, arr. D. Nordin

### The Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

One: Holy and gracious God,  
We have encountered Jesus, your beloved child,  
who was tempted as we are tempted.  
He has refreshed our courage  
by his word, his example and his body and  
by the offering of the feast we have eaten this day.

**All: Lead us on our journey of forty days  
And take us to the mountain of Easter,  
that we may share in his risen power  
as people renewed to love and trust you more  
and to serve better our sisters and brothers.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

INVITATION TO OBSERVE A HOLY LENT

\* BLESSING

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

POSTLUDE

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◆ **Melrose Events** ◆

◆ **Worship Next Week** ◆

On this second Sunday of the Lenten season, we will study one of the longest readings in the cycle of the ecumenical lectionary: the story of the Pharisee, Nicodemus (whose name literally means "victory of the people"). Nicodemus comes to Jesus, the rabble-rouser, in the cover of darkness in order not to be seen doing so, but somewhere in the darkness of his unknowing he meets God. Nicodemus refers to Jesus as "a teacher who has come from God." Then, in six verses (vs.3-8) the word "born" is used eight times. Birth is a painful and messy business. To be a newborn is to be in a place of complete dependence, of complete unknowing, of complete openness to being formed. This is, in essence, the story of the religious formation of Nicodemus - the invitation to see in a new way, that he might indeed be able to see the Realm of God. Interestingly, Nicodemus appears twice more in John's gospel. In the seventh chapter we find him risking rejection by defending Jesus. By chapter 19 Nicodemus joins Joseph of Arimathea in burying Jesus, bringing a loving extravagance of expensive myrrh and aloes to anoint his beloved teacher's body.

◆ **Thank You...** ◆

...to our March coffee hosts - Barb and Keith Mann.



### ◆ **Our Adult Study....** ◆

... of Diana Butler Bass's book *Grounded* began on **March 1 at 7 p.m.** at the McMaster Innovation Park. It continues March 8, 22 and 29. You are welcome to attend any or all sessions. The book is available from the Hamilton Presbytery Resource Centre at Olivet United Church.

### ◆ **It's TIME to...** ◆

...**March Into March!** The Melrose Corner Shoppe can help "Spiff Up Your Space", "Re-Stock Your Reading", "Keep Track of Your Time", and "Stash Your Stuff"!

Donations of books, CDs and jewelry are much appreciated.

Thanks to everyone's participation and support, the Corner Shoppe has generated \$316 from January 15 to February 15! Since roof repairs have been fully paid, Shoppe proceeds will be put toward stained glass window repairs. Revenue updates will continue to be posted here.

### ◆ **Sunday School Special Request** ◆

The Sunday School program is in need of a "helper" each Sunday. Our numbers have increased and Michelle needs a second adult/teenage volunteer to help. For a list of Sundays available and to sign up please contact Sandra W. or Gwyn X. No preparation or direct leadership required.

### ◆ **Child and Youth Notes** ◆

**Thursdays are for fun:** join us Thursday evening from 6pm-7pm for a fun open hour of gym time here at the church! Please note that there will be no club on **March 9 and March 16.**

### ◆ **Bible Study Dates** ◆

**BIBLE STUDY**—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.

## ◆ **Water Changes Everything** ◆

March 25 @ 6:30pm – Melrose United Church, Auditorium

Come out for an evening on Earth Hour to engage in understanding water usage and water conservation. Guest Speaker, Mike Nagy, will talk about Water usage in Wellington County where Nestle uses the water table for profit. There will be displays and refreshments. Free admission, however donation at the doors will be accepted.

## ◆ **Hello WrapAround Hamilton Supporters** ◆

A request from WrapAround has been received for the following items:

Used vacuum cleaners (3), microwave oven, toaster,  
double mattress, phone (landline), large garbage pail with a lid  
(safety issue for one family)

If anyone has the item available, if they can call Elske at our WrapAround Hamilton mobile-905-3208373 or office # 905-528-0353 or through our email: [elske@shalemnetwork.org](mailto:elske@shalemnetwork.org) or speak to Libby Cook. Thanks for any help you are able to give us.

## ◆ **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.



<b>MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR</b>		
<b>Monday – March 6</b>		
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Guides, Brownies	6:00 p.m.	Gym, Auditorium
Big Book	7:00 p.m.	Parlour, Auditorium
<b>Tuesday – March 7</b>		
<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Parlour</b>
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour
Bach Elgar Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Aud., Chapel
<b>Wednesday March 8</b>		
Duet Club of Hamilton	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Adult Study	7:00 p.m.	McMaster Innovation Park
Mindfulness Course	5:15 p.m.	Parlour
<b>Melrose Official Board</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Parlour</b>
<b>Thursday – March 9</b>		
Early Years: Newborn	9:15 a.m.	Parlour
Early Years: Family	10:30 a.m.	Parlour
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>
<b>Friday – March 10</b>		
<b>Saturday - March 11</b>		
On Course Education	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	On Course Rental Area
<b>Acoustic Blend Café</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Aud., Parlour, Kitchen</b>
Tom Schilling: Master Class	7:30 p.m.	Chapel
<b>Sunday – March 12</b>		
<b>Choir Practice</b>	<b>9:40 a.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
<b>Melrose Worship</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>