

◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

86 Homewood Avenue ◆ Hamilton, Ontario ◆ L8P 2M4

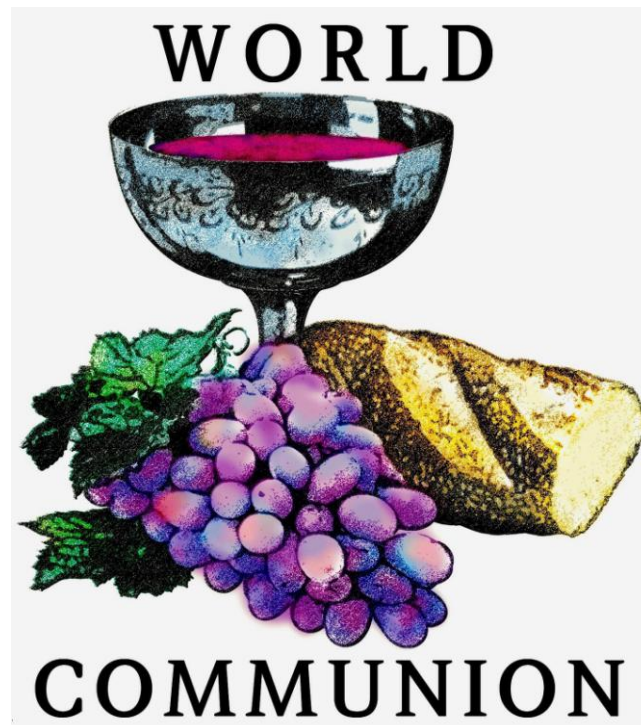
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Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner

Music Director:

Alexander Cann

Custodian:

Darcy Feaver

Office Administrator:

Michelle Millson

◆ 1, October, 2017 - 10:30 a.m. ◆
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, October 1, 2017 ◆

SEVENTEETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WORLD 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 ◆

◆ GATHERING ◆

PRELUDE

INTROIT – *Harvest Festival*

Healey Willan

*O Lord, how manifold are thy works:
in wisdom hast Thou made them all,
the earth is full of thy riches*

* OPENING HYMN – *All People that on Earth Do Dwell*

VU 822

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: The Christ candle is lit.

We are blessed to be in the presence of Christ's Spirit.

All: For the light of Christ within us and around us, we give God thanks!

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: From north and south,
from east and west, we come:

**All: God's people called to the Table
where simple grace nourishes us.**

One: From down the street to across town,
from single households to apartment dwellers:

**All: God's people are called to community,
where we live and serve one another.**

One: From every class, every race, every status;

from little ones with sippy cups to elders with overflowing hearts:

**All: God's people are called to witness to God's hope,
to offer peace to a shattered world.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (said by all)

**All: Each moment of this worship, we are preparing
to gather at your table, God.**

**We lift our prayers of joy and adoration
that you are with us, that you understand us.**

**Now we pause and place before you
those things we need to let go:**

guilt, anger, resentment, fear.

**These things weigh us down
and keep us from moving forward.**

You long for us to move from shadows to light.

**You long for us to know you
and the healing your love offers.**

KYRIE

MV 67

One: Kyrie eleison,

All: Kyrie eleison,

One: Christe eleison,

All: Christe eleison,

One: Kyrie eleison,

All: Kyrie eleison.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Our help is in the name of God
who made heaven and earth.

And so we celebrate your presence, Holy Mystery
wholly Love.

All: Hallelujah! Amen.

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

★ HYMN – *Make a Joyful Noise*

VU 820

A TIME WITH CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

Reader: Phil Farrauto

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE WISDOM OF ISRAEL: Genesis 2: 4-15

One: The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: John 6: 1-14

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

HOMILY – “Work with Me”

◆ **RESPONSE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

★ OFFERING HYMN – *Let us Talents and Tongues Employ*

VU 468

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (said by all)

**We offer these gifts to you, O God,
as Christians around the world do the same.**

**Let our gifts be a blessing to others
just as we have been blessed by your gifts to us.**

**This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ,
your greatest gift to us. Amen.**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation to Communion

Christ invites us all to this holy feast.
As we gather this morning,
we remember our sisters and brothers
from above and below the equator
from the North and from Down Under
from every time zone and around the globe.
As today's sunlight inches across land and sea
Christians gather to celebrate their place in God's family.
All are invited and all are welcome.

The Peace

Let us greet one another in the name of Christ.
"May the peace of Christ be with you."

Prayer of Preparation

One: To God be the glory:
great things God has done!
To prepare ourselves to partake in this Holy Meal,
Let us pray:
Healing God, we come before you
broken, yet seeking wholeness,
isolated, yet seeking community,
overwhelmed, yet seeking simplicity,
shamed, yet seeking grace:
All: God, we yearn for the healing you promise.

One: God of Justice,
we come before you
selfish, yet seeking a generous heart,

arrogant, yet seeking humility,
responsible for injustices, yet seeking forgiveness:

All: God, we yearn for the justice you promise.

One: O God of peace,
we come before you afraid, yet seeking assurance
agitated, yet seeking serenity,
angry, yet seeking a forgiving heart.

All: God, we yearn for the peace you promise.

One: Knowing that through Christ all things are made new,
we come to this communion table
to be re-created through bread and cup, and
to be renewed in our faith and commitment.

**All: God, we submit ourselves
to renewal through you.
this we pray through Jesus the Christ,
Amen.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: Loving and gracious God
who summons galaxies into being,
we give thanks and blessings to you.
We bless you for our world.
The diversity of our planet amazes us
from the prairies and pampas of the Americas
to the dusty deserts of Africa and Asia,
from the majestic mountains of Europe
to the vast outbacks of Australia.
We give you thanks for the multiplicity of humanity
with our complexity of colour and culture
yet called into oneness of being through Christ.
With many tongues, yet one voice
we honour you, singing together:

All: (Singing)
Holy, holy, holy. Hosanna in the highest!

VU 944

*Let all creation praise and pray:
Save us, Holy God!*

One: Loving and gracious God
who surrounds creation with abiding love,
we give thanks and blessing to you.
We bless you for your love,
made known to us through Jesus Christ
which reassures and reconciles us
to you, to ourselves and to one another.
As Christ is our light to you,
may we be lights to others
illuminating the path toward communion with you,
the Holy Spirit and Jesus, our friend and brother.

All: *(Singing) Christ has died, is risen, will come again to meet us,
And walks with us the way of love,
Holy Kin(g)dom, come!*

The Words of Institution and Prayer for the Spirit

One: So it is we gather in praise and thanksgiving at this time.
We remember that when Jesus ate with his friends, he took
a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he gave it to them
saying: "Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Each
time you do this, remember me." Then he took the cup
and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends saying:
"Drink. This cup that is poured out for you is the promise
of God made in my blood. Whenever you drink it, remember
me." Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these
gifts, that all who share in this loaf and cup may be the body of
Christ: light, life, and love in the world. In this hope and as
your people, we praise you.

All: *(Singing) Holy, holy, holy. Amen, we pray, with longing.
Let all creation cry, Amen! Holy kin(g)dom come!*

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 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.*

The Blessing of the Elements

One: God, may this bread connect us more closely with you and with our neighbours far and near.

All: Bless this bread, we pray.

One: May this fruit of the vine remind us of the inter-connectedness of people around the world.

All: Bless this cup, we pray.

One: May this simple meal bring us into union with you, your people, and your world. united in One Body of Christ.

All: Amen.

The Sharing of the Elements

One: The gifts of God

All: for the people of God

(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 coloured chalices contain grape juice, the smaller 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 - *Agnus Dei*

Nancy Galbraith

Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Grant us peace.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

One: Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

With thanksgiving,

Let us celebrate our new life in Christ

Giving thanks to God

Our Creator and Sustainer:

All: Loving and gracious God,

We thank you for this holy meal.

We thank you for Jesus and

His all-inclusive love of humanity

We thank you for this day

In which we worship and serve you.

Amen.

★ CLOSING HYMN – *Love Divine, All Love's Excelling*

VU 333

★ COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

★ CHORAL RESPONSE

VU 423 Vs. 1

God be with you till we meet again;

loving counsels guide, uphold you,

with a shepherd's care enfold you;

God be with you till we meet again.

POSTLUDE

◆ Melrose Events ◆

◆ Worship Next Week ◆

Next week is Thanksgiving Sunday when, in word and song, we will honour the final Sunday in the United Church's Season of Creation by celebrating in word and song the goodness of the earth as well as its bounty that in our part of the world we enjoy in considerable measure. The focus of the sermon time will be on the 138th Psalm, one of the eight psalms specifically identified as a "psalm of David." At the top of the psalm, David gets right to the point. The first word in the Hebrew text is "I thank you." The perspective of the psalm goes to the extremes. This is no perfunctory, "Thanks, God," but a deep "thank you from the bottom of my heart" as we might put it. And this is not a solitary word of thanks to God; the psalmist wants "all the kings of the earth" to join in with him in praising God. What is the reason for this heartfelt thanks to God? The psalm says it very simply: *On the day I called, you answered me, you increased the strength of my soul.*

◆ Thank You... ◆

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

◆ Wesley Urban Ministries Dinner ◆

Melrose will be hosting TODAY Sunday, October 1. Chocolate Chip cookie donations can be dropped off in the kitchen. All volunteers coming for preparation, cooking and serving dinner today need to be at WUM on 195 Ferguson Av North at 2pm. Please note that there is (very) limited parking on site. Please consider car sharing and parking at a public car park.

◆ Upcoming Dates ◆

Tuesday, October 3rd – Bible Study Returns

Wednesdays October 11th, December 13th – WIT Dinners

Saturday, November 18th – Melrose Mistletoe Bazaar

◆ **Congregational Meeting** ◆

A congregational Meeting will be held immediately following service on Sunday October 15 to consider and vote on the following Motion:

That the congregation approve the withdrawal of up to \$35,000 from the capital of the Sustaining Fund in order to meet the needs of the operating budget for the remainder of 2017.

One of Melrose's tenants, OnCourse tutoring, departed this past spring. The space has since been leased to Little Learning House daycare for five years, but the gap between the two tenants has resulted in lost income of \$8,000. As well, the Live On Locke concert series did not proceed this year, and it has brought in \$4,000 in previous years. Significant renovations were necessary to prepare rooms for the daycare expansion, and Melrose has spent \$25,000 on these renovations. The combination of reduced rental income and renovation expenses has led to this Motion.

◆ **Hurricane Irma Relief** ◆

Social Justice Committee is asking the family of Melrose to consider making contributions to UCC emergency relief fund to support survivors of Hurricane Irma and the Mexico Earthquake.

"This fall, a series of hurricanes has struck several countries and territories in the Caribbean. And two major earthquakes have shaken Mexico. The United Church of Canada is supporting efforts of global partners to assist people affected by these events. Our membership in the global ACT Alliance provides more ways to help those affected communities. ACT members, organized in various regional and national forums (including the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Cuba), work quickly to assist with evacuations and emergency shelter where necessary, and to help communities rebuild. The United Church is already contributing to those efforts. "

There are envelopes in the pews and on the tables at the narthex and at the sanctuary. Please consider assisting the United Church of Canada in their Mission to rebuild communities.

On October 22 the Social Justice Committee will host Coffee Hour as an additional and final event in supporting rebuilding efforts in affected

Carribbean Islands. Please consider the appeal and make a heartfelt contribution.

◆ **Let's Celebrate!** ◆

On Sunday October 15 Melrose will be hosting a baby shower for James and Patricia's baby on the way. The shower will start at 1:30pm in the parlour. For more info contact Sally by email sally.luke1 at gmail.com or Gwyn by email gwynxag at gmail.com.

◆ **Bazaar Jewelry** ◆

The Melrose Mistletoe Bazaar is fast approaching and we are in need of jewelry and jewelry boxes. If you have any to donate please let Suzanne Kovacs know.

◆ **Mary Lou Mullin** ◆

This past Tuesday, Dr. Gardner conducted a graveside service for *Mary Lou Mullin*. Some of the longstanding members of Melrose may remember her as Mary Lou Frid, daughter of Gordon and Gretta Frid who were deeply embedded in the history of this congregation. Mary Lou died in Burlington at the age of 95 and was laid to rest in Woodland Cemetery about three metres from the resting place of the Rev. Dr. John Mutch who served Melrose from 1938-1954. Mary Lou's children are Jeff Mullin of Acton, ON and Patricia Murphy of Texas.

◆ **Melrose Corner Shoppe Now Open** ◆

The Melrose Corner Shoppe is open again for the fall! Plan to check it out and find some used and new treasures! All proceeds go to stained glass window repairs.

◆ **Volunteers Needed** ◆

...are needed to lead Sunday School on the following weeks: October 22, and all Sundays in November. Curriculum and craft materials can be provided or you can freestyle! Let's share our wisdom and faith with the children and youth of the church. If you are available please let Gwyn X. or Michelle M. know.

◆ Repairs ◆

As we prepare to enter the fall season at Melrose, plan to take some time to do a walk of the church building. Several important repairs (Homewood concrete stairs, some broken stained glass windows, carpet cleaning etc.) have taken place over the summer - and they look great!

◆ 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 – October 2

Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Brownies, Guides	6:00 p.m.	Norman Slater Room, Gym Parlour
Big Book	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Big Book	7:45 p.m.	

Tuesday - October 3

Melrose Bible Study	10:00 a.m.	Parlour
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 - October 4

Duet Club Rehearsal	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
Duet Club Executive Mtg	11:30 a.m.	Parlour

Thursday - October 5

Early Years Workshop	9:15 a.m.	Parlour
Early Years Workshop	10:30 a.m.	Parlour
RSCDS Dancing	1:30 p.m.	Norman Slater Room
Martial Arts Class	6:30 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

Friday – October 6

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Saturday - October 7

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Sunday – October 8

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