

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, October 8, 2017 ◆

SEVENTEETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
THANKSGIVING SUNDAY - CREATION V

★ 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 - *Bouree*

Jean-Baptiste Lully

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 - *Come, You Thankful People*

VU 516

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: The world is filled with the glory of God, and we say,

All: Thank you!

One: The hills and valleys are filled with colour, and we say,

All: Thank you!

One: The vines and trees are filled with fruit, and we say,

All: Thank you!

One: Our tables are overflowing with food, and we say,

All: Thank you!

One: Our life is filled with love of family and friends, and we say,

All: Thank you!
One: We fill this house of God with our voices, saying,
All: Thank you!

OPENING PRAYER (said by all)

**At this sacred season
we come with thanksgiving into this holy place
remembering that before the mountains were formed
you knew us
and patterned the swirls on our fingertips
and coloured our eyes.
God of infinite variety and magnitude
we praise you for life's seasons
of bittersweet and beauty,
sunshine and rain, livestock and fowl,
orchards and vineyards, for feast days and holidays,
for our life, for our breath.
Holy! Holy! Holy! The earth is full of your glory!
Creator God to you we sing songs of thanksgiving. Amen.**

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

◆SERVICE OF THE WORD ◆

★ HYMN – *Called by Earth and Sky* MV 135

A TIME WITH CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

Reader: Margaret Duff

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 138 VU 860

THE WISDOM OF ISRAEL: Deuteronomy 8: 7-16

One: The Word of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: John 6: 25-35

One: This is the Good News of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

★ HYMN – *For the fruit of all creation*

VU 227

SERMON – “Much Obligated”

ANTHEM – *What Gifts Will You Bring?*

C. McCartha

What feast will you bring? Who will sit at your table?

Will you ask the broken, the hungry, the poor?

*Will you seat them and feed them and show them by deed;
the love the Lord gives us is given to all.*

To the feast will you bring the first fruits from your garden?

Will you bring from the cellar your most treasured wine?

*Will you serve them on rarest white linen cloth,
with silver most cherished, most cherished and fine?*

How will you heal the sick and the broken?

How will you feed the hungry and poor?

Will you give them the treasure laid up in your storeroom?

Will you open your heart and give even more?

What feast do you bring as Christ sits at your table?

Do you bring your first fruits and most treasured wine?

*Do you serve them on rarest white linen cloth,
with silver most cherished, most cherished and fine?*

Do you see Christ in the sick and the broken?

Do you see Christ in the hungry and poor?

Will you give Him the treasure laid up in your storeroom?

Will you open your heart and give even more?

“As you do unto them so you do unto me”

says Christ our Saviour, our Lord and King.

Is your table set for the least of these?

What feast will you bring them? What feast will you bring?

◆ **RESPONSE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING – *O Be Joyful*

H. Willan

*O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his presence with a song.*

*Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
it is he that hath made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

*O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise:
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.*

*For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.*

★ OFFERING HYMN – *Creator God You Gave Us Life*

MV 27 Verse 3

*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 (said together)

Generous God,

accept our gifts of gratitude

for what you have given to us in grace.

We acknowledge that all creation belongs to you

and that we are your stewards.

Guide us to be responsible with the world's abundance

so that we live justly and generously,

Bless these gifts that they may further the work of your church

to bring abundant life to all. Amen

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

Response to Prayer –

I Thank You, Thank You, Jesus (Asante Sana Yesu) MV 188

After Prayers of Thanksgiving:

I thank you, thank you, Jesus, I thank you, thank you, Jesus,

I thank you, thank you, Jesus, in my heart. (sung twice)

After Prayers of Concern:

I can't live without you, yes, I can't live without you,

I can't live without you in my heart. (sung twice)

At the end:

I love you, love you, Jesus, I love you, love you, Jesus,

I love you, love you, Jesus in my heart. (sung twice)

★ CLOSING HYMN – *Now Thank We All Our God*

VU 236

★ 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 – *Rondo*

Jean Sebastien Bach

◆ Melrose Events ◆

◆ Worship Next Week ◆

Although the Season of Creation technically ended on Thanksgiving Sunday, unofficially we will extend it one extra week to honour our pets and the important role they play in our lives. Pet blessing services are often held in October in honour of the legacy of St. Francis of Assisi (whose feast day is traditionally celebrated on October 4th). Francis was born in the late 12th century. He became the saint associated with animals, the health of the environment and with the liturgical practice of blessing pets. Francis is also remembered for his generosity to the poor and his ministry the sick (especially lepers). The blessing of animals gives us the opportunity to remember both God's care for all of creation and to remind us that humans are part of the great web of creation. Some logistical instruction for this service can be found under the heading "Pet Blessing Service." During the sermon time, we will consider the parable of the wedding banquet in Matthew's gospel (Matt. 22: 1-14) and its advice about "what not to wear."

◆ Thank You... ◆

...to our October coffee hosts – Shari Saunders, Linda Saunders & Kathy Ross.



◆ Wesley Urban Ministries Dinner ◆

Thank you to all who donated cookies and helped at Wesley Urban Ministries last week. Please pick up cookie tins/containers in the kitchen. The chocolate chip cookies were greatly appreciated. The cheery attitudes of those serving made it lots of fun!

◆ 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.

◆ **Women in Touch – Potluck Dinner...** ◆

Wednesday October 11 at 6:30 pm in the Melrose church parlour.

Our guest will be **Rev. Scott Jones, Executive Director of Micah House**. He will share with us his visions of ministering to newly arrived refugee claimants. *Come & share a meal with friends!!*

◆ **Pet Blessing Service** ◆

On **Sunday October 15**, Melrose will be celebrating the love of animals with a Blessing of Pets during our morning worship. You are invited to bring your house pet to the service. Dogs should be on a leash; other pets should be in a crate or cage. If your pet is very excitable, or not portable (such as a goldfish), please consider bringing a photo! Children who don't have a pet are invited to bring a favourite stuffed animal instead.

◆ **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@gmail.com.

◆ **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 Caribbean Islands. Please consider the appeal and make a heartfelt contribution.

◆ **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.

◆ **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.

◆ **TGIF – Halloween Edition – October 27** ◆

Join us for a fun, family friendly evening. All welcome! Location: Parlour and Auditorium Time: 6pm-8pm Bring: Potluck Supper item to share and pumpkin to carve. Dress in your Halloween best!! Drinks and games provided.

◆ **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.



◆ **Hamilton Presbytery Update** ◆

A few notes from Presbytery that might be of interest to Melrose folk from the meeting on Tuesday, October 3:

1. **Meaningful, personal worship** was shared at the tables including courageous faith stories. This meeting included the people of New Vision (formerly Centenary and St. Giles) sharing their work and story.
2. St. Giles pews will be on the street to be painted during the next Art Crawl.
3. **IMPORTANT** - concerning the St Giles site at Holton St. -to be kept, for heritage reasons, as the building stands currently, not sold, but developed into 41 apartments. Presbytery voted in favour of the planned development after presentations from EDGE and the developer.
4. **Resource Centre:** moved to Emmanuel United Church, 871 Upper Ottawa St. Hamilton, L8T3V4. Open Tues, Wed, Thurs. 10-2. It is a beautiful bright new location and well worth a visit. The resource centre will bring a display to churches and special events to share / sell books and other interesting items! Canadian Church calendars are in!
5. **Pastoral Relations** reported on some church vacancies and ministerial staff changes.
6. **Hamilton Conference representative**, Diane Blanchard, reported on the passing of 4 remits and mentioned the work to be done on the final

Remit, concerning order of Ministry, in preparation for General Council, July 21-28, 2018. (For more info. see on line - the United Church web site, ' Implementation Reports.')

Remits will not be enacted, after approval at General Council, until Jan. 2019.

7. **Wesley Urban Ministries'**, Andrea Butters, reported that an outreach person is needed to attend 2 mtgs a year, concerning all updates and connections with Wesley. The next meeting is Sat. Oct. 28 - 9:30-11. The Christmas store will be held at Pioneer United with congregation drop off dates Dec. 3, 10, 17. More info to follow! Much gratitude for all support and interest given to Wesley!

8. **Upcoming Events:**

Oct. 15 - 7:30 Come to Trinity United Church & enjoy Linnea Good, United Church singer, songwriter and story teller (poster in hallway).

Tues. Nov. 7 - 12-1:30 come to Wesley's Marketplace at David Braley Health Science Centre downtown to learn about all of Wesley's community supports in Hamilton, Halton and Brant! (poster in hallway)!

Submitted by Dianne Coons, Melrose Presbytery rep.)

MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday – October 9

Thanksgiving Monday Office Closed

Big Book

7:00 p.m.

Parlour

Big Book

7:45 p.m.

Auditorium

Tuesday - October 10

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 11

Duet Club Rehearsal

9:00 a.m.

Parlour

Pilates

6:00 p.m.

Norman Slater Room

Women in Touch

6:30 p.m.

Parlour, Kitchen

Thursday - October 12

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 13

Wedding Rehearsal

7:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

Saturday - October 14

Men's Breakfast

9:00 a.m.

Parlour, Kitchen

Bach Elgar Event

10:00 a.m.

Auditorium

Wedding

2:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

Acoustic Blend Café

7:30 p.m.

Auditorium, Kitchen

Sunday – October 15

Melrose Choir Practice

9:40 a.m.

Chapel

Melrose Worship

10:30a.m.

Sanctuary

Congregational Meeting

11:30 a.m.

Sanctuary

Baby Shower

1:30 p.m.

Parlour

Tom Schilling: Master Class

7:30 p.m.

Chapel