

# ◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

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Minister:	The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner
Music Director:	Alexander Cann
Custodian:	Darcy Feaver
Office Administrator:	Michelle Millson

◆ 17, September, 2017 – 10:30 a.m. ◆  
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost – Creation II

**MELROSE UNITED CHURCH**  
**Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017** ◆  
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
CREATION II

\* 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** ◆

INTROIT

\* OPENING HYMN - *All Praise to You*

VU 297

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 earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,

**All: the world, and those who live in it;**

One: For God has founded it on the seas,

**All: and established it on the rivers.**

One: The cosmos is God's creation,

**All: all is founded and grounded in God,  
whom we now worship and adore.**

OPENING PRAYER (said by all)

**All: You who created the earth and the air;  
You who designed the sky and the sea;  
You who spoke and everything was made;**

You have called us to be your people,  
and beckoned us here  
and set a holy longing in our hearts  
for a world where peace and justice are done  
and creation is cared for in love.  
We worship you, in Spirit and in Truth. Amen.

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

★ HYMN – *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

VU 444

◆ **SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM** ◆

We welcome to our church family:  
Maddox Roy Leggat,  
son of Robert and Kristy Leggat, brother of Natalie and Ava.

*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 Maddox Roy Leggat, son of Robert and Kristy Leggat 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, Maddox 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 Maddox 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*

Maddox Roy,  
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*

Maddox Roy, 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)

Maddox Roy, 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: Maddox, 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 Maddox to the Melrose Congregation

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

Reader: Penelope Ferrie

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE WISDOM OF ISRAEL: Job 12: 7-12

One: The Word of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE: John 1: 1-5

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

\* HYMN – *There in God’s Garden*

VU 346

SERMON – “Talk to the Animals”

ANTHEM

◆ **RESPONSE** ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

\* 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 by all)

**All: With all that we have,  
with all that we are,  
we come to you,  
God Most Holy--  
knowing that all of it  
is blessed by your love!**

**◆ WELCOMING OUR NEW CHURCH MEMBERS ◆**

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11

One: The church is a community of people with varied gifts,  
united by the Holy Spirit.  
We gather to celebrate God's presence,  
to discern God's truth,  
and to follow the way of Jesus.  
By our baptism we are made members of Christ's church.  
We exercise this membership  
in the denomination to which we belong,  
which for us is the United Church of Canada,  
and within the context of a local community of faith.  
We are now to welcome into this congregation  
one who is already a member  
of the church of Jesus Christ.

Margaret Duff:

On behalf of the Melrose congregation,  
I present Sylvia Chitty  
whom we welcome into the membership

of this community of faith.

One: Sylvia, will you join with us  
as together we celebrate God's presence,  
live with respect in creation,  
love and serve others,  
seek justice and resist evil?

**I will, with God's help.**

*(the congregation stands)*

One: Dear friends in Christ,  
let us pledge to Sylvia our support and care.

**All: As your sisters and brothers in Christ,  
we rejoice in the gifts you bring to us.  
We pledge to you our love and our support.  
With God's help, we will together live out  
the mission and ministry of Christ's church.**

One: Together, let us offer the Prayer of Jesus:

**All: 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. *(the congregation is seated)***

One: In the name of Jesus Christ,  
we welcome you to the privileges and responsibilities  
of membership in this congregation.  
We give thanks to God for your witness among us.  
Let us pray:  
God of mercy and love,  
you welcome all who turn to you,

and give your Holy Spirit to those who ask.  
Grant that Sylvia may grow  
into the fullness of the stature of Christ.  
Equip her with the gifts of your Holy Spirit,  
and fill her with faith in Jesus Christ  
and with love for all your people  
in the service of your realm of Shalom.

**All: Amen.**

One: Go out into the world, Sylvia, in the power of the Spirit.  
Pursue justice, faith, love, patience, and humility,  
for to this you are called.

**All: Amen.**

✳ CLOSING HYMN – *Forth in Your Name, O Christ*

VU 416

✳ 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 in our worship and a reception time following, we will honour the retirements of two of our long-serving and beloved staff persons: Pam Kovacek and Lee Stallard. We will also celebrate a third Sunday in our Season of Creation with attention to the story of divine creativity that appears “in the beginning” -- the first chapter of the book of Genesis. The biblical creation story will be read in parallel with a scientific version prepared by a professor of astronomy well-known to many at Melrose: Dr. Gretchen Harris

◆ **Thank You...** ◆

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

◆ **A Celebration of Life – Ruth McQueen** ◆

Yesterday the church celebrated and mourned the passing of dedicated church member and dear friend Ruth McQueen. Extra copies of the order of service will be available in the office next week.

A special thank you to all who assisted with the set-up, serving at the reception and the post-reception clean up.

◆ **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.

◆ **Fall Office Hours** ◆

The Melrose Office hours are now Monday-Friday 9:30am-1:30pm.

◆ **Locke Street Festival thank you!** ◆

A big thank you to everyone who assisted with the Locke Street Festival. After months of preparation, once again, our jams were a big hit. Leftover jam will be available at coffee hour for purchase.

◆ **Acoustic Blend Café** ◆

Thank you to all those who helped and came out to ABC last night. Our next date is October 14.

◆ **Wesley Urban Ministries Dinner** ◆

Melrose will be hosting on Sunday, October 1. We will need chocolate chip cookie donations. Please drop them off to the kitchen on Oct 1.

We will also need volunteer assistance in the kitchen at Wesley to prep the food and serve it. If you have four hours of time on Sunday October 1 in the afternoon, please speak to Denise Farrauto, Sharon Jones or Gwyneth.

◆ **Upcoming Dates** ◆

Saturday, **September 30<sup>th</sup>** – Prayer Shawl Ministry returns

Tuesday, **October 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Bible Study Returns

Wednesdays **October 11<sup>th</sup>**, **December 13<sup>th</sup>** – WIT Dinners

Saturday, **November 18<sup>th</sup>** – Melrose Mistletoe Bazaar

◆ **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 – September 18

Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Brownies, Guides	6:00 p.m.	Norman Slater Room, Gym
Big Book	7:00 p.m.	Parlour
WrapAround Facilitator	7:15 p.m.	Chapel
Networking		
Big Book	7:45 p.m.	Auditorium

### Tuesday – September 19

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 – September 20

Duet Club Rehearsal	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
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### Thursday – September 21

RSCDS Dancing	1:30 p.m.	Norman Slater Room
Wedding Rehearsal	5:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
English Country Dancing	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
<b>Melrose Choir Practice</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour

### Friday – September 22

Wedding	3:30 p.m.	Sanctuary
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### Saturday – September 23

Concert	3:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
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### Sunday – September 24

<b>Melrose Choir Practice</b>	<b>9:40 a.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
<b>Melrose Worship</b>	<b>10:30a.m.</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
Concert	3:00 p.m.	Auditorium