

◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

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Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Philip Gardner

Music Director:

Alexander Cann

Custodian:

Darcy Feaver

Office Administrator:

Michelle Millson

◆ 24, September, 2017 – 10:30 a.m. ◆

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost – Creation III

MELROSE UNITED CHURCH
Sunday, September 24th, 2017 ◆
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
CREATION III

* 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: *Pastorella, 2nd movt, BWV 590*

J.S. Bach

INTROIT - *Touch the Earth Lightly*

VU 307, vs. 4

* OPENING HYMN - *Let Us with a Gladsome Mind*

VU 234

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: In our singing,

All: touch our hearts, O God.

One: In our stillness,

All: touch our hearts, O God.

One: In our praying and our listening,
our longing and our dreaming,

All: touch our hearts, O God.

One: There is nowhere we can go that you are not.

**All: Touch our hearts, O God,
as we gather in Jesus' name.**

OPENING PRAYER (said by all)

**Holy Spirit of God, you who are root of our being,
may we welcome your love,
your joy, and your wisdom,
wherever they appear.**

**We give you thanks for your life within us,
and we ask for healing of our bodies and spirits,
that we might be part of the healing of
the whole world.**

This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

★ HYMN – *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

VU 291

◆ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** ◆

Reader: Gwyneth Xagoraris

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

PSALM: Psalm 24

VU 750

THE WISDOM OF ISRAEL: Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

One: The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-8

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

★ HYMN – *I Sing the Mighty Power*

VU 231

SERMON – “In the Beginning”

◆ **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)

**For all the you have given us,
we thank you, gracious God.
For day and night, evening and morning,
for land and sea, for fish and birds,
plants and animals, for humankind,
and for your Beloved, who came among us
with the gift of life abundant.
Let your Holy Spirit abide in our midst
and work through our gifts,
that all people might have joy and peace,
In Jesus' name. 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 – *My Life Flows On*

VU 716

* 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 – *Allegro*

J.G. Walther

◆ Melrose Events ◆

◆ Worship Next Week ◆

Next week is Worldwide Communion Sunday which takes place each year on the first Sunday of October. The intention of this celebration is to promote Christian unity and ecumenical co-operation through the sharing the Lord's Supper all over the world. The tradition actually began in 1933 in the Shadyside Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, when that congregation's minister, Hugh Thomson Kerr dreamed of a way to highlight how Christian churches and denominations are interconnected parts of the Whole People of God. World Communion was then adopted

throughout the Presbyterian churches of the United States and it eventually spread to other denominations and countries. The communion homily, marking the fourth Sunday in our United Church Season of Creation will focus on the second creation story in the Book of Genesis: Genesis 2: 4-15.

◆ **Thank You...** ◆

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

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

On September 16, 2017 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.

◆ **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.

◆ **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** ◆

Tuesday, **October 3rd** – Bible Study Returns

Wednesdays **October 11th**, **December 13th** – WIT Dinners

Saturday, **November 18th** – Melrose Mistletoe Bazaar

◆ **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 – September 25

MONTHLY FIRE DRILL	10:00 a.m.	Entire Building
Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Brownies, Guides	6:00 p.m.	Norman Slater Room, Gym Parlour
Big Book	7:00 p.m.	Chapel
M&P Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Big Book	7:45 p.m.	

Tuesday - September 26

Locke St. BIA Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Chapel
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 27

Duet Club Rehearsal	9:00 a.m.	Parlour
Melrose Official Board	7:30 p.m.	Parlour

Thursday - September 28

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
English Country Dancing	7:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Melrose Choir Practice	7:30 p.m.	Chapel
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour

Friday – September 29

Wedding Rehearsal	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
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Saturday - September 30

Prayer Shawl and Outreach Ministry	9:30 a.m.	Parlour, Kitchen
Bach Elgar	10:00 a.m.	Auditorium
Wedding	1:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Tom Schilling: Master Class	7:30 p.m.	Chapel

Sunday – October 1

Melrose Choir Practice	9:40 a.m.	Chapel
Melrose Worship	10:30a.m.	Sanctuary
Duet Club Concert	2:30 p.m.	Sanctuary, Kitchen, Parlour