

# ◆ MELROSE UNITED CHURCH ◆

86 Homewood Avenue ◆ Hamilton, Ontario ◆ L8P 2M4

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◆ 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

◆ November 20, 2016 – 10:30 a.m. ◆

The Reign of Christ-Anniversary Sunday  
Children's Sunday

# MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

◆ Sunday, November 20, 2016 ◆

Reign of Christ Sunday - Anniversary Sunday  
Children's 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 – March from *Scipio* G. F. Handel, arr. A. Grant

INTROIT – *The Race That Long in Darkness Pined* (vs. 1, 5) VU 879

\* OPENING HYMN – *Rejoice, the Lord is King* VU 213

### \* LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: It is in the glow of the Christ Light that we gather.

**All: It is in the glow of the Christ Light that we find home.**

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Worship Christ, Eternal Son of God

Honour Christ, Incarnate Son of Mary;

serve Christ, Glorious Ruler of creation

for to Christ belong the power and the glory of the Almighty.

**All: Praise be to God.**

### OPENING PRAYER

**Faithful God, we give you thanks and praise  
for all the wonders you have done.**

**We praise you for your creative, eternal providence  
in time before human history,**

**and we remember the Iroquois people,  
the first to receive your blessings in this place.**

**We praise you for the gift of Jesus Christ**

**and we rejoice that the Good News was made known  
in the lives and on the lips of those who formed  
and built this congregation.**

**We praise you for the power of the Holy Spirit,  
which has infused the Melrose community for 91 years  
and we give you glory for lives transformed by your grace  
and for community cherished and extended in your name.  
Nourish us, we pray, so that we, too, may bear much fruit,  
proclaiming our faith in you, and our love for the world. Amen.**

WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

ANTHEM—*Rejoice, the Lord is King*

M. Archer

## SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM

### 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 Connor Lloyd Rankin, son of Aric and Michelle Rankin 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, Connor 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 Connor 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**

Connor Lloyd,  
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***

Connor Lloyd, 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)

Connor Lloyd, let your light shine before others,  
that they may see your good works, and give glory to God.  
**Amen!**

**Presentation of Books, Prayer Shawls, Certificates**

Connor, 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 Connor to the Melrose Congregation**

We welcome to our church family:  
Connor Lloyd Rankin, son of Aric and Michelle Rankin

A TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE CHILD WITHIN US

◆ SERVICE OF THE WORD ◆

Reader: Aric Rankin

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 84

VU 800

SCRIPTURE: Colossians 1:11-20

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL: Luke 23: 33-43

One: This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY: “The Cosmic Christ”

◆ RESPONSE ◆

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

OFFERING

\* OFFERTORY HYMN – *Creator God You Gave Us Life* (vs. 3)

MV 27

*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)

**With gratitude for all the blessings poured into our lives, Holy One,  
we come bringing these our gifts  
that they may be used in service to those in need.  
Bless these gifts and those who have given them,  
that all may be a blessing to the world you so love.  
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 – *Crown Him with Many Crowns* VU 211
- ★ COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING
- ★ CHORAL RESPONSE – *When You Walk from Here* VU 298  
*When you walk from here,  
When you walk from here,  
walk with justice, walk with mercy,  
walk with God's humble care.*

POSTLUDE – *Ode to Joy*

L. van Beethoven, arr. C. Hand



## ◆ Melrose Events ◆

### ◆ Worship Next Week ◆

Next Sunday we will celebrate New Year's Day -- the first Sunday of Advent is always the first Sunday of a new Church Year according to the liturgical calendar. As it the tradition at Melrose, we will mark the occasion by celebrating Holy Communion, our church family meal. In addition, Gillian Webster and Michelle Millson have been hard at work planning a special series of Advent children's times and we will be enriched by the first of these. This coming Sunday will also mark the first of a series of Advent/Christmas sermons on the theme of the five senses (taste, touch, smell, hearing, sight). The focus for Advent I will be on taste as we remember the reason that Jesus came into the world (for love of us -- see John 15:13). The tastes of the Lord's Supper also speak eloquently to us about the love of God.

### ◆ Stamps Wanted!!! ◆

Please save all your postage stamps. Hand them to Gwyneth or the church office. We mail them to the leprosy mission of Canada to raise funds for leprosy treatment.

### ◆ Thank You... ◆

...to our November coffee hosts, Cheryl Evans and Patti Varey.



### ◆ Donation Envelopes ◆

It's almost time again for the distribution of 2017 donation envelopes! If you have not been receiving these on a yearly basis, but would like to start, please contact the office. We would be happy to set a box aside just for you.

As well, don't forget that the PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittal) option of donation is a wonderful way of sharing with Melrose. Your monthly donation (with amount(s) as prescribed by you) is conveniently and automatically taken from your bank account once a month. You may start, change, or cancel this donation at any time by contacting the office.

## ◆ **Upcoming Programming** ◆

**Thursdays are for fun:** Every Thursday from 6-7 pm join us for 30 minutes of fun games in the gym followed by 30 minutes of singing with Alex. All ages welcome – but parental accompaniment is required for those under age six.

**Sunday School:** Plan to join us each Sunday as we learn all about the Superheroes of the Bible! All ages welcome, nursery facilities available.

**TGIF:** Plan to join us for a wonderful evening of decorating the Christmas tree for the Sanctuary, singing Christmas carols, fellowship and fun. **November 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30p.m.** Potluck dinner.

## ◆ **Cookies & Christmas: A Melrose Tradition!** ◆

The Mistletoe Bazaar's Cookie Walk needs sweet donations of a dozen (or two) of your favourite homemade cookies. Please include a list of ingredients so that we can alert shoppers with allergies. Questions? Contact Shari: [shari\\_egypt@yahoo.com](mailto:shari_egypt@yahoo.com).



## ◆ **White Gift Sunday** ◆

Collecting for White Gift Sunday will take place on **November 26** and **December 3rd!** Wesley Urban Ministries is looking for new toys for all ages, gifts of non-perishable foods, gift cards to support the families in need in Hamilton at Christmas time. Please consider purchasing items throughout November and bring them to church Nov 26 or Dec 3. Melrose supports Wesley Urban Ministries! By supporting WUM we support our own community.

## ◆ **Melrose Corner Shoppe Coming Soon!** ◆

The Melrose Corner Shoppe will be **re-opening** with a Christmas theme on **December 1!** Please stop in to browse for Christmas goodies, stocking stuffers, hostess gifts and decorations. All proceeds will be put towards Melrose roof repairs. Your support is greatly appreciated.

◆ **Santa's Breakfast** ◆

It's official - Santa is coming! Plan to attend **December 3 @ 9am**. See Michelle or Gwyn for tickets - last day to purchase is **Nov 27!**



◆ **Help (and Cookies) Wanted!** ◆

After the Candlelight Carol Service on **December 4th**, we will be holding a reception. If you can contribute a few Christmas Cookies, please leave them in the kitchen, clearly labelled for the Candlelight Carol Service. Also, please consider volunteering to help set up or clean up afterwards. Speak to Kathy Ross for more information about this event.

◆ **Christmas Day Service** ◆

The Worship Committee is considering not having a service at Melrose on Christmas Day (Sunday), or offering an informal lay-led service in the Parlour. If you would like to lead a Christmas Day service at Melrose, please speak with Rev. Philip or Margaret Duff as soon as possible. Worship planning resources and supports will be provided.

◆ **Brr!!! Hat, Scarf and Mitten Drive** ◆



It's that time of year! The weather is getting colder and we're pulling out our hats, mittens and scarves. Many of the children at Lake Avenue School need these necessary items. Many of the children in need are Syrian Refugees who arrived when the weather was warmer. The school has a clothing room for students who need items. The Social Justice Committee is asking for your help in collecting warm hats, mittens/gloves and scarves to stock up the school's clothing room. All sizes welcome. Donations can be placed in labelled box in auditorium. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



### ◆ **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.



### ◆ **A Rose Upon the Altar** ◆

This is a story of Love, Redemption and Grace. All proceeds will go to the new Children's Learning centre. The two performances (2 p.m. and 7 p.m.) will be held on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, 4 Queen St. S., Hamilton. Tickets are \$20 and available at the Scottish Rite. This event is open to everyone.

## MELROSE WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Monday – November 21

OnCourse Tutoring	11:15 a.m.	Auditorium
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
Quilting	1:00 p.m.	Auditorium
Brownies, Guides	6:00 p.m.	Gym, Auditorium
Big Book	7:00 p.m.	Parlour

### Tuesday – November 22

<b>Bible Study</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Parlour</b>
OnCourse Tutoring	11:15 a.m.	Auditorium
Locke St. BIA	7:00 p.m.	Chapel
Bach Elgar Rehearsal	7:30 p.m.	Aud., Sanctuary
Tai Chi	7:30 p.m.	Parlour

### Wednesday – November 23

Duet Club of Hamilton	9:00 a.m.	Sanctuary
OnCourse Tutoring	11:15 a.m.	Auditorium
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
WrapAround Cookie Share	6:00 p.m.	Kitchen, Parlour
<b>Melrose Property Meeting</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>

### Thursday – November 24

Early Years - Mother Goose Step 1	9:15 a.m.	Parlour
Early Years - Mother Goose Family	10:30 a.m.	Parlour
OnCourse Tutoring	11:15 a.m.	Auditorium
Carpet Bowling	1:00 p.m.	Bowling Area
<b>Thursdays are for Fun!</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Gym</b>
English Country Dancing	7:00 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>Melrose Bazaar Set-up</b>	<b>9:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Aud., Parlour</b>

### Friday – November 25

<b>Bazaar Set-up</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Aud., Parl., Kitch.</b>
OnCourse Tutoring	11:15 a.m.	TBA
TGIF	6:15 p.m.	Aud., Parl., Kitch.

### Saturday – November 26

<b>Melrose Mistletoe Bazaar</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Aud., Parl., Kitch.</b>
Bach Elgar Poinsettia Pick-up	10:00 a.m.	Sanctuary
Tom Schilling: Master Class	7:00 p.m.	Chapel

### Sunday – November 27

<b>Choir Practice</b>	<b>9:40 a.m.</b>	<b>Chapel</b>
<b>Melrose Advent 1 Worship</b>	<b>(13) 10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>