**MELROSE UNITED CHURCH**

86 Homewood Avenue ~ Hamilton, Ontario ~ L8P 2M4

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🖰 [www.melroseunited](http://www.melroseunited).ca

www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch

Instagram: @melroseu

YouTube channel: Melrose United Church Virtual Service

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| Worship Leader:  | Rev. Margot Feyerer |
| Music Director:Custodian:Church Administrator: | Alexander Cann Kevin Geluch Sue Hawthorne-Bate |

**Sunday, September 7, 2025**

**Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost**

***GATHERING IN COMMUNITY***

*The* PRELUDE ~ Praeambulum, J. Heinrich Scheidemann

*The* PROCESSIONAL HYMN ~

Sing Praise to God, Who Reins Above VU 216

WELCOME *and* LIFE *of the* CHURCH

*The* LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT *&*

LIGHTING *of* CANDLE *of* PEACE

*The* LIGHTING *of the* CHRIST CANDLE

*The* CALL *to* WORSHIP

One: We open the window of our sacred hearts,

**All: that connects us one to another.**

One: We open the window on our community,

**All: ready to be set free to love and live for justice.**

One: We open the window on the world,

**All: and recognize the Spirit of God in all creation**

*The* OPENING PRAYER

**All: It is your spirit that enlivens the entire universe, holy God - Your spirit finds us when we sit down and when we rise up. Your spirit is everywhere we turn- if we ascend to the heavens, there you are; if we lie down in the grave, you are even there.**

**Your presence is a mystery to us; wondrous and deep.**

**In your image we have been fearfully wonderfully made- and we come, this morning, with praise on our lips, with hearts marked by humility. We would be the clay in your creative hands.**

**We come because we are yours; in this time may we be filled with a renewed understanding and determination to live in your way, today and always. This we pray in the name of your beloved child, and our Redeemer, Christ Jesus. Amen**

*The* PRAYER *for* FORGIVENESS

*The* WORDS *of* ASSURANCE

***TIME FOR THE CHILDREN***

*A* HYMN ~ When I Survey the Wondrous Cross VU 149

***HEARING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD***

*Reader ~ TBA*

*The* PRAYER *of* ILLUMINATION

**All: Living God, help us so to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe and believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience. Amen**

*The* BOOK *of* JEREMIAH, Chapter 18, verses 1 to 11

One: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 139 ~You Are Before Me, God VU 862

*The* BOOK *of* PHILEMON, Chapter 1, verses 1 to 21

One: Hear the Good News!

**All: Praise be to Jesus Christ!**

*The* REFLECTION

*An* ANTHEM ~ We Give Immortal Praise, E. Thiman

*An* INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*The* OFFERING HYMN ~ Take My Life and Let It Be, v5 VU 506

**Sing: Take my love: and I will pour**

**at feet its treasure store;**

 **Take myself, and I will be**

**ever, only all for thee.**

*The* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: You are indeed Christ the Way- our way forward and our way home. May the gifts we gather today help to bring all people home by the way of you, Christ Jesus. With humble hearts we pray, Amen**

 *The* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The* LORD’S PRAYER

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**Hallowed be 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,**

**the power, and the glory**

**Forever and ever. Amen.**

***SENDING FORTH***

*The* RECESSIONAL HYMN ~ How Firm a Foundation VU 660

*The* COMMISSIONING

*The* CHORAL BENEDICTION ~ Forth From This Place, G.E. Young

*The* POSTLUDE ~ Fantasia, J. Krebs

*If you would like to light a candle to represent your prayers for a person or situation that is in your heart, you are invited to do so at the beginning or end of any worship service.*

*Personal prayer requests – please write your prayer requests in our Prayer Share Book during the service.*

**Announcements**

**Melrose Birthdays**

Join us for a special birthday treat for those who celebrated birthdays in June, July and August on **Sunday, September 7th** when we return to the Sanctuary for our Sunday Worship.

**Thursday, September 18th ~ Official Board Meeting**

\*\*Please note that the Board will now be meeting on Thursday evenings\*\*. All are welcome at any Board meeting! If you would like to attend, please contact Sue in the office for more information, melrose@melroseunited.ca.

**Saturday, September 20th**

**Knitting & Crochet @ 9:30 – 11:30**

Bring your current project and materials, beginners welcome! Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided.



**Friday, September 26th ~ Progressive Euchre** ~ Doors open at 7pm, games start at 7:30 sharp! Beginners welcome!

**Friday, November 1st ~ Congregational Dinner**

Mark your calendars and join us for a grand Melrose Dinner to celebrate 100 years of congregational dining. This event will fund various church projects.

We need your generous donations for Silent Auction Baskets. Consider giving bottles of wine or spirits, honey and jam, or gift certificates from restaurants, cinemas, or favorite stores. Please send your donations to the church office by October 15th. Questions? Contact Gwyn or Libby!

**Melrose Congregation’s 100th Anniversary**

**Join the Celebration!**

Our congregation turns 100 in November! We will joyfully celebrate the 100th anniversary of our Melrose congregation throughout the month of November. We’re planning special events to honor our rich history and look forward to a bright future. If you’re interested in helping plan our anniversary celebrations or have ideas to share, please reach out to Libby or Gwyn. Planning meetings will begin in late August or early September. We’d love to have your input as we prepare for this meaningful milestone! Contact Gwyn at gwynxag@gmail.com or Libby at cook\_feenstra@hotmail.ca.

**Anniversary T-Shirts**

The Anniversary Committee are considering selling t-shirts and bags to celebrate our upcoming anniversary if there is interest from the congregation. Please speak to Libby or Gwyn and let them know what you think!

**Share Your Cherished Family Recipes**

Do you have an old family recipe that you love? Perhaps it’s one passed down from your grandparents or great-grandparents? We would love to receive a copy! The Melrose Congregation is celebrating its 100th anniversary, and potluck meals and congregational dinners have been a part of our journey since the beginning.

Libby and Gwyn are excited to compile a small booklet featuring all the submitted recipes. We kindly ask that you send them in by the end of September. You can write them down on paper and drop them off at the church office, or simply email them to the church office, melrose@melroseunited.ca.

We can’t wait to savour these delicious food memories!

**Update From the Search Team!**

We have spent time reviewing the skills and gifts of several ministry personnel and have decided to go ahead with our first round of interviews. Stay tuned, as there will be more updates to come! In the meantime, please pray for the interviewees that they will come prepared and confident— and for us, that we are able to provide a welcoming environment in which each interviewee feels able to shine!

**Rental Groups at Melrose**

Melrose United Church is home to many community rental groups. Now that September is here many are taking new members or have great services to offer!

* Bach Elgar Choir
* Royal Scottish Country Dancers
* Human Performance Solutions mobile
* Basketball
* Steel City Swing
* Women of Song
* Indoor Soccer
* Embers, Guides and Pathfinders
* Carpet Bowling
* Vocalway Vocal Instruction
* Tai Chi
* Music Together, Giggle and Groove
* Ball Hockey
* Ingelbert Lievaart II Photography
* Little Learning House Daycare

If you are interested in any of these groups or organizations, please contact Sue in the office for more information, melrose@melroseunited.ca.

**Carpet Bowling at Melrose**

****Did You Know??? Melrose is home to a Carpet Bowling Alley—and we’ve had an active league here since 1934! The league is currently welcoming new members and would love to have you join them. Whether you're a seasoned bowler or a complete beginner, there is a space for you! Coaching and bowls will be provided! The league meets Mondays & Thursdays, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM and costs $70 for the season (October to April). Bring your smile and a water bottle. Interested? Contact: Philip Lees at 905-549-7798 or Mary Wong at 289-442-7605. Come bowl and make some new friends!

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**Social Media at Melrose!**

Did you know? Melrose has an active social media presence on Facebook and Instagram! Check out our pages for information on Melrose events, the wider church and for messages of inspiration! Please visit: www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch

www.instagram.com/melroseuc/

**News From the Office**

Please be sure to submit your items for the bulletin or newsletter by Wednesday of each week. Kindly email the office. Thank you!

