MELROSE UNITED CHURCH

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www.melroseunited.ca
www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch
Instagram ~ @melroseuc
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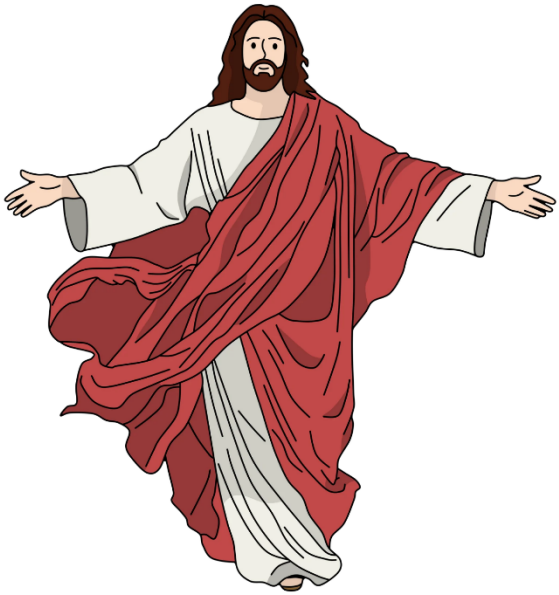


Jesus Reigns!

Minister:	Rev. Ken Jackson
Music Director:	Alexander Cann
Custodian:	Kevin Geluch
Church Administrator:	Sue Hawthorne-Bate

Sunday, November 22, 2026
26th Sunday After Pentecost
Reign of Christ

We Gather

✞ **Please stand as you are able.**

The PRELUDE

The INTROIT ~ This is My Commandment, G. Thalben-Ball

✞ *The* PROCESSIONAL HYMN ~
Crown Him with Many Crowns VU 211

WELCOME *and* LIFE *of the* CHURCH

The LIGHTING *of the* CANDLE *of* PEACE

The LIGHTING *of the* CHRIST CANDLE

One: A single candle shines, announcing Christ's presence in our worship.
All: And in our hearts as well.
One: May the light of Christ's love continue to burn brightly within us
All: And show itself in our lives.

The CALL *to* WORSHIP

One: We have come to honour the name of God.
All: We have come to reflect on what God has done for us in Jesus Christ.
One: Let us make good use of this and every opportunity to think and pray and worship.
All: Let us prepare ourselves that we might feel in this place the presence of God.

The OPENING PRAYER

✞ *A* HYMN ~ Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak VU 589

TIME *for the* CHILDREN *and the* CHILD *within* US

The PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

The WORDS *of* ASSURANCE

One: God listens to the prayers of our hearts, loves us, and forgives us.
All: We have been reconciled to God through Jesus Christ;
One: Brought in as partners to a new covenant, granted new life in Christ by a compassionate God.
All: Let our lives express praise for our Creator!

We Listen

The PRAYER *for* ILLUMINATION

One: Your words, God, encourage us, challenge us, comfort us and guide us. As we hear them spoken now, may our hearts be prepared to listen for what you would say to each one of us in their message. Amen.

Reader ~ Margaret Duff

The FIRST LESSON: Ephesians 1: 15 – 23

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

✞ *The* RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 95 (Part One) VU 814

The GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 25: 31 – 46

One: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.
All: Thanks be to God.

The SERMON ~ "Sheepish Behaviour"

The ANTHEM ~ Inflammatus (When thou comest),
from Stabat mater G. Rossini;
Allana Stevenson, soprano

When thou camest to the judgement
Lord, remember thou thy servants,
none else can deliver us.
Save, and bring us to thy kingdom,
there to worship with the faithful,
and forever dwell with thee.

We Respond

The INVITATION *to the* OFFERING

✞ *The* OFFERTORY HYMN

Sing: **We have come, God, with our praises**
for your goodness everywhere;
now we bring to you our offering
drawn from what we freely share.
This along with time and talent,
heads that bow in humble prayer:
all these gifts of patient service
help extend your love and care.

The PRAYER *of* DEDICATION

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 ~
Where the Cross the Crowded Ways of Life VU 681

The COMMISSIONING *and* BENEDICTION

The CHORAL BENEDICTION ~ London Amen

The POSTLUDE ~ Wie Melodien zeht es mir (It moves like a melody)
J. Brahms; Chris Palmer, baritone

Today's Greeters are Debora Miscione and Sandra Groves Winninger

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that our church is located on the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas. May we continue to live with respect on this land, and to live in peace and friendship with all its people in the spirit of truth and reconciliation.

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 which is located on the book stand on the altar.

Life And Work of the Church

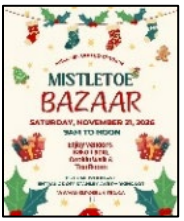
We always welcome children and understand that they may not be quiet during the service. We appreciate their joyful noise and are glad that they are here!

Advent & Christmas at Melrose!

Sunday, November 29 ~ Advent I
Sunday, December 6 ~ Advent II
Sunday, December 13 @ 10.30 am ~ Advent III Christmas Giving Sunday
Help us spread the joy of Christmas. If you are able, please bring gifts for Wesley Urban Centre (gloves & socks) and Operation Santa Claus (toys).
Sunday, December 13 @ 7:30pm ~ Candlelight Carol Service
Join us for a beautiful service of carols and readings, featuring our chancel choir and guest musicians.
Thursday, December 17 @ 7:00pm ~ Light in December Darkness
The holiday season can be difficult for many people. But there is hope. Join us for a quiet service of rest and renewal.
Sunday, December 20 @ 10.30 am ~ Advent IV ~Christmas Pageant
Calling all sheep, shepherds, and angels! Join us for our Christmas pageant, everyone is welcome to participate (even the adults)! No rehearsals necessary!
Thursday. December 24 @ 7:00pm ~ Family Christmas Eve Service
Join us for a short, family-friendly service celebrating the true meaning of Christmas. ↗

Thursday, December 24 @ 10.30 pm ~ Christmas Eve Service
A beautiful service of carols and readings to celebrate the birth of Jesus and the promise of peace, hope, joy, and love. All are welcome to take Communion.

Sunday, December 28 @ 10.30 am ~ Jazz Carols
And now for something completely different! Join us for an informal service in the church parlour.



Mistletoe Bazaar

THANK YOU! A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our Mistletoe Bazaar such a wonderful success yesterday! We are so grateful to all our amazing volunteers who baked, cooked, made jam, helped throughout the day, and to everyone who supported our online store and purchased from our fabulous vendors. Your time, talents, and generosity made this special day possible! A very special thank you to our Bazaar Coordinator, Gwyn, for her countless hours of hard work, dedication, and commitment in bringing everything together. This day could not be possible without YOU!

Wesley



At Wesley, we support individuals and families in Hamilton, Halton and Brantford who are experiencing poverty, homelessness and other challenges. Your generosity helps provide shelter, care and essential support to those who need it most. This holiday season, you can make a difference by making a financial donation or purchasing a new item from our clients' wish list.

Most-Needed Items:

- **Financial Donations:** Cash, cheque, credit card or gifts of securities to support Wesley's programs and services.**$25 Gift Cards:** Walmart, Food Basics, No Frills, PC Stores, Dollarama, Giant Tiger and Canadian Tire.
- **Essentials:** New L/XL gloves, socks, slippers and underwear for teens, men and women.
- **Linens:** New towels, single and double sheets, and blankets (including knitted blankets).
- **Kitchen Items:** New microwaves, toaster ovens, electric kettles and air fryers.

Every gift makes a difference and helps Wesley continue creating positive change in our community. **To donate, please visit: https://wesley.ca/giving/donate/.** Please bring in your gifts on Sunday December 13th.

Christmas Decorating

One more week until the first Sunday in Advent! Helpers are needed to decorate the Sanctuary and put up the tree before the evening of Friday November 27th. Please speak to Libby if you can help!

PAR

We love our monthly PAR (pre-authorised remittance) donors at Melrose United Church, and you can join the group! When you give monthly through PAR, you show that your giving and generosity are both dedicated and strategic. Your gifts help keep our mission sustainable and our community presence possible. Plus, it's so good for your spiritual health. You can also give to Mission and Service through PAR—then your impact goes even further! So, if you've been thinking about becoming a monthly donor or thinking about making changes to your PAR contribution but have been holding out for the right time, this is it! PAR forms are available at the front of the Church or contact Sue in the Church Office for more information, melrose@melroseunited.ca or speak with Tabitha for more information too!



Friday, November 27th ~ Progressive Euchre

Doors open at 7pm, games start at 7:30pm sharp! Beginners welcome!



Saturday, November 28th ~ 2pm & 5pm

McMaster University Choir Presents: A World Alive!

The McMaster University Choir and Vocal Ensemble come together in performance at Melrose. Tickets are $10 for students, $25 for general admission. Tickets are available at https://www.showpass.com/muc-fall-concert/ or at the door.



Sunday, November 29th @ 2:30pm

Women of Song Concert ~ Let It Snow!

On Sunday, November 29, Women of Song will be presenting our Annual Holiday Concert, "Let It Snow!" at Melrose United Church from 2:30 to 4:00pm. Women of Song have been busy rehearsing and will be joined by other local talent for your listening enjoyment. Tickets are now on sale, $25 for adults, $20 for seniors and students, children under 12 free of charge! Tickets available at https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/let-it-snow-concert or at the door.



Friday, December 4th ~ Christmas Movie Party

Join us for our annual Christmas Movie Party in the Auditorium! A classic Christmas movie! Crafts! Cookies! Hot Chocolate! Fun for all ages!

Saturday, December 5th & 19th
Knitting & Crochet (and Needlework Too!) @ 9:30 – 11:30
Bring your current project and materials, beginners welcome! Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided.



Monday, Dedember 7th @ 7:30pm ~ Advent Carol Walk
Our annual Advent Carol Walk will begin at Central Presbyterian Church at 7:30pm! Be sure to bring along a candle or a lantern. Electronic is best!

Sunday, December 13th ~ Giving Sunday
Please remember to bring in your donations in support of Wesley!



Sunday, December 13th ~
Board Games @ 1:00pm
Come and play your favourite board game or bring your own! You do not need a partner. Entry fee is $5, children under grade 1 are free!

Social Media at Melrose!
Melrose has an active social media presence on Facebook and Instagram! Check out our pages for information on Melrose events and for messages of inspiration.
Don't forget to like and share our posts!
Please visit: www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch
and www.instagram.com/melroseuc/

News From the Office
Please be sure to submit your church related news items for the bulletin or newsletter by Wednesday of each week. Kindly email Sue in the Church Office, melrose@melroseunited.ca. The Church Office hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 2pm.

Contact Information for Ministry Staff
Rev. Ken Jackson: ken42day@gmail.

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