

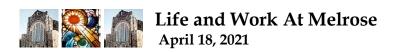
◆ Worship Next Week ◆

Coming to the end of another month and well into an early spring with lush green lawns and budding flowers, Good Shepherd Sunday fits right in. The first Scripture in Acts continues the report on early church gatherings. Peter and John have been arrested by the Jewish religious authorities for contravening the religious rules and preaching the good news of Jesus' Resurrection. Peter offers his defense and is questioned on whose authority he speaks.

The Psalm – 23 – the most well-known and beloved psalm capitalizes on the verdant pastures and the image of God as the Shepherd caring for the sheep. Some people bristle at the thought of being compared to sheep, but it is a fitting image to show how much we are intimately loved and cared for through our ups and downs of life.

John continues the theme of Jesus as Shepherd whose voice is known to his flock and who looks to bring in others from outside his own flock. The passage is a lesson in the nature of God's work. It sets apart the commitment of the shepherd over the casual work of a hired hand in how they relate to those under their care.





♦ Way to go! ♦

The office has been receiving your donations and triumphs from March/Lent Charity fundraiser. Some of you picked up exercising, some gave up Red wine, some practiced random acts of kindness! We heard about sorting files and closets (the person editing this thinks that sounds awesome!!) and adding an extra walk to your schedule each day.

You raised: \$820! The amounts designated to each charity will be sent off later this month. Thanks for being such a generous bunch!

Project Harvest and **The Gleaners** both do important work to ensure that those who are hungry around the world are able to access nutritious food when they need it. Stay tuned for our next fundraising project later this year!

◆ Donations ◆

The Melrose staff team (and volunteer base) continues to do work behind the scenes even though we cannot use the building to worship together. If you are looking to support the ongoing work of the church you can:

- 1. Sign up for P.A.R. (preauthorized remittance) through the office.
- 2. Make a one time or ongoing donation through Canada Helps.Org
- 3. Send a donation through e-transfer to donations@melroseunited.ca.