



◆ Worship Next Week ◆

Jonah has come to be known as the reluctant prophet. He did do God's will in going to the Ninevite people, after first reluctantly refusing to go. But God is persistent. And this passage shows God is also able to reconsider. Jonah made such a strong appeal to the people in his proclamation telling them that their city would be destroyed because of their unrighteous behaviour, that every single one of them repented and changed their ways. God was impressed and decided to recant and save the people. Jonah sulked. He didn't agree with God and didn't think they were worth saving. The story affirms that God is persevering, responsive and merciful to those who repent. It emphasizes once again how human thinking is not God's way.

Psalm 62 declares that the only peace we will find is in the shelter of God. To place our hope anywhere else is self-defeating. The psalmist says that waiting on God is not a passive activity it requires a quietness of the soul, an inner stillness that comes with yielding all fears and anxieties and insecurities to God in an act of trust.

Mark continues the beginning ministry of Jesus with his call to the two sets of brother, Simon/Peter and Andrew and James and John, sons of Zebedee. In these encounters we see impulse that leads to split second decisions. Lives are changed. New roads are taken and friendships forged. Have you ever thought about decisions you have made on the spur of the moment and the ramifications that arise? Had we chosen to take that other road, our lives would have been very different.

◆ Annual General Meeting ◆

The date has been set! Plan to join us on February 21 for our ONLINE annual general meeting. Details will be available closer to the date. Reports for 2020 were due on **January 15**. If your report is still outstanding please submit it as soon as possible.



◆ 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](mailto:donations@melroseunited.ca).