**MELROSE UNITED CHURCH**

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

[www.facebook.com/melroseunitedchurch](about:blank)

Instagram: @melroseu

YouTube channel: Melrose United Church Virtual Service



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| Worship Leader: | Rev Brenna Baker |
| Music Director:  Custodian:  Church Administrator: | Alexander Cann  Kevin Geluch  Sue Hawthorne-Bate |

**Sunday, September 14, 2025**

**Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost**

**Season of Creation**

# *Gathering In Community*

*The* PRELUDE

*The* INTROIT ~ Harvest Festival, H. Willan

*The* PROCESSIONAL HYMN ~ The King of Love VU 273

*The* WELCOME *and the* LIFE *of the* CHURCH

*The* LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT *&*

LIGHTING *of* CANDLE *of* PEACE

*The* LIGHTING *of the* CHRIST CANDLE

*the Christ Candle is lit….*

*The* CALL *to* WORSHIP

One: We are summoned here by our holy God,

**All: who calls us each by name and gathers us together in the unity of Jesus Christ.**

One: From classroom and kitchen and office,

**All: we are called into God’s presence.**

One: Young and old and middle-aged, individuals and families, soft-spoken and outspoken,

**All: we hear our names being called to join in worship.**

One: This house of worship is a place to pursue God’s vision for all people:

**All: unity and joy and faith expressed through different gifts. Let us worship together!**

*The* OPENING PRAYER

**All: Living God, we come together, with words of commitment and hymns of praise. May this time renew our spirits, so that confident in you, and emboldened by one another, we might return to the world in strength and grace. Inspire us to be faithful friends, generous neighbours, bold disciples, and daring advocates, encouraged by this community and your abiding love. In the name of the Holy One, Jesus. Amen.**

*The* PRAYER *of* FORGIVENESS

One: O Great Source of Love, we long to share your love with the world, but sometimes we forget that your love is for everyone, even for those who have wounded us.

**All: O God, forgive us when we forget.**

One: O Great Creator, we experience all that is around us in Creation and are blessed by beauty, but sometimes we forget to be good stewards of the earth.

**All: O God, forgive us when we forget.**

One: O Eternal Spirit,

we want to follow the way of Jesus, but sometimes we forget to pay attention to your presence, and our actions may not reflect our best selves.

**All: O God, forgive us when we forget.**

One: In silence, we think of times that we have forgotten these things.

(*a time of silent prayer*)

*The* WORDS *of* ASSURANCE

*Time For the Children and the Child Within Us*

*A* CHILDREN’S STORY

*A* HYMN ~ Come, O Fount of Every Blessing VU 559

*Hearing and Responding to the Word*

*Reader ~ Bob Ross*

*The* PRAYER *of* ILLUMINATION

One: Welcoming God, draw us close to your heart of love. Fill us with compassion and recognition of your grace. Reveal your truth in the words that are shared and in the silent moments. Help us to notice your voice of acceptance. May the familiar be heard in a new way as we receive the words of scripture today. We ask, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

*The* FIRST BOOK *of*  TIMOTHY, Chapter 1, verses 12 to 17

One: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*The* PSALM VU 735

*The* GOSPEL *of* LUKE, Chapter 15, verses 1 to 10

One: Hear the Good News!

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

*The* REFLECTION ~ “Streams of Mercy, Never Ceasing”

*An* ANTHEM ~ Brother James Air, G. Jacob

*The* 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: When we could not find our way, Shepherd God, you came searching for us. So many of our gifts may be used to bring hope to those cast aside by the world, peace to those whose lives are troubled, and grace to all who are alone. This we pray in Jesus' name. 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 ~

O God Who Shaped Creation VU 276

*The* COMMISSIONING

*The* CHORALBENEDICTION ~ Forth from this Place, G.E. Young

*The* POSTLUDE

*Today’s greeter is Valerie Cousens*

*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.*

**Life and Work of the Church**

**Thursday, September 18th ~ Official Board Meeting @7:30pm**

\*\*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.

A poster with text and flowers

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**Friday, September 26th ~ Progressive Euchre**

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

**Sunday, September 28th ~ The Duet Club of Hamilton Presents:**

**Scholarship Winners in Concert @ 2:30pm**

Since 1940, the Duet Club has been awarding scholarships to talented, young musicians from the Greater Hamilton Area. Join them as they celebrate this year’s recipients here at Melrose! Admission is by donation, suggested amount $20.

**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 is 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! For the next few weeks, we will highlight one of these groups.

* 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.

A black and white logo

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**Bach Elgar Choir**

Did You Know? The Bach Elgar Choir, now celebrating its 120th season, is a long-standing community choir founded in 1946 and it rehearses right here at Melrose! This season, the choir will present music by Handel, Purcell, Orff, and more. The BEC is conducted by our very own music director, Alexander Cann. If you are interested in auditioning, please speak to Alex or check out their website for more information and concert dates, www.bachelgar.ca.

**A blue and orange round logo

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**Social Media at Melrose!**

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 and 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!