



Melville United Church  
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Team Ministry

Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care

Rev. Marion Loree

Minister of Faith Formation & Outreach

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Custodian:

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Chair of Church Council:

Allan Hons

Pastoral Care

Alison Rainford, Rev. Marion Loree

Chair of Pastoral Care

& Prayer Chain Captain

Alison Rainford

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Pastoral Care Numbers

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February 24, 2019

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Melville United Church  
Sunday, February 24, 2019  
7th Sunday after Epiphany

\* Congregation please stand as you are able.

**Bold print invites congregational response.**

Presiding today - Rev. Marion Loree

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Sharing the Light**

**Call to Worship:**

Trust in God.

**We delight in God.**

Trust in God and give thanks to the Gracious One!

**We offer our wholehearted and joyful thanks.**

Trust in God and serve generously.

**We work together for justice.**

Come, let us worship our very trustworthy  
and justice-loving God together.

**\*Hymn: God Who Gives to Life Its Goodness      VU 260**

**Opening Prayer:**

God, you do amazing things for us.

**As Creator, you inspire us to be creative.**

As Justice-seeker you inspire us to respond to those in need.

**As the Hope-giver you inspire us**

**to overcome temptation and live in your way.**

As the presence of love in our lives,

**you inspire us to love others - all others.**

Let us feel your presence stirring in us again today,

**inspiring us to feel your presence,**

**do your work, and love without limits. Amen.**

**Prayer of Confession:**

Source of Love, we are not what we wish we were;

**we are often only what we desire.**

We are selfishness,  
**when we hoard what we have.**  
We are strife,  
**when we judge another as less worthy than ourselves.**  
We are injustice,  
**when we turn away from the pain of others.**  
Help us to be so much more.  
**More in who we are.**  
More in how we act.  
**More in what we dream.**  
More in how we love.  
**Let us become the more that you intend. Amen.**

**Words of Affirmation:**

The God of love dwells in each human heart.  
**offering the strength to do whatever is asked of us.**  
Spirit encourages us to forgive,  
**is with us when we go the extra mile;**  
restrains us when we seek revenge;  
**reminds us to walk away from violence.**  
Open your heart and let Spirit fill you with God's peace.  
**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

**Ministry of Music: Try a Little Kindness**

--*Music & Words by Austin/Sapaugh  
With additional words by Heidi Ibs*

**Time with the Younger Ones:****Hymn: Magic Penny****Chorus:**

**Love is something if you give it away,  
Give it away, give it away.  
Love is something if you give it away,  
You end up having more.**

**It's just like a magic penny  
Hold on tight and you won't have any.  
Lend it, spend it and you'll have so many.**

**They'll roll all over the floor. For...**

**Chorus:**

**So let's go dancing 'til the break of day.  
If there's a piper we can pay  
For love is something if you give it away,  
you end up having more. For...**

**Chorus:**

**Children's Prayer:**

**Dear God,  
Help my lips to praise.  
Help my hands to serve.  
Help my heart to love.  
Amen**

**Scripture:** Genesis 45:3-15 (*The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Edition*)  
*(Joseph reveals his identity to his brothers)*

Joseph said to his brothers, "It is I - Joseph! Is my father really still alive?" the brothers could not answer, so dumbfounded were they. Then Joseph said to the brothers, "Come closer to me." When they had come closer he said to them, "I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt! Please don't rebuke yourselves for having sold me here. God sent me here ahead of you so that I could save your lives. There has been famine in the land for two years, and for the next five years there will be no tilling and no harvesting. But God sent me ahead of you to guarantee that you will have descendants on earth and to keep you alive as a great body of survivors."

"So it was not you who sent me here, but God! God has made me Pharaoh's chief counselor, the head of his household and governor of all Egypt. Hurry back to our father and give him this message from Joseph: 'God has made me governor of all of Egypt. Come to me here at once! Do not delay. You will live here near me in the territory of Goshen, you, your children, your grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all your possessions. I will provide for you here - for the next five years will be years of famine - so that you and your children and all that you own will be spared from destitution.'

'You can see for yourselves, and so can my brother, Benjamin, that it is

I who speak to you. Report to our father about how I am honoured here in Egypt, and about everything you have seen. Go quickly, now, and bring my father to me!" Joseph threw his arms around Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him and wept too. Then he kissed his other brothers, weeping over them as well, and then he and his brothers talked.

**Words to Inspire:** A Matter of Attitude - *Martin Luther King Jr.*

We are challenged on every hand to work untiringly to achieve excellence in our life work. Not all are called to specialized or professional jobs; even fewer rise to the heights of genius in the arts and sciences; many are called to be labourers in factories, fields, and streets. But no work is insignificant. All labour that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence. If one is called to be a street sweeper, they should sweep even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. They should sweep streets so well that all the host of heaven and earth will pause to say. "Here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well."

**Reader:** Alison Rainford

**Scripture:** Luke 6:27-38 (*The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Edition*)

(*Love your enemies: turn the other cheek*)

"To you who hear me, I say: love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who mistreat you. When they slap you on one cheek, turn and give them the other; when they take your coat, let them have your shirt as well. Give to all who beg from you. When someone takes what is yours, don't demand it back.

"Do to others what you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit does that do you? Even 'sinners' love those who love them. If you do good only to those who do good to you, what credit does that do? Even 'sinners' do as much. If you lend to those you expect to repay you, what credit does that do you? Even 'sinners' lend to other 'sinners,' expecting to be repaid in full. Love your enemies and do good to them. Lend without expecting repayment, and your reward will be great. You'll rightly be called children of the Most High, since God is good even to the ungrateful and the wicked.

"Be compassionate, as your loving God is compassionate. Don't judge, and you won't be judged. Don't condemn, and you won't be

condemned. Pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and it will be given to you: a full measure - packed down, shaken together and running over - will be poured into your lap. For the measure you give is the measure you get back."

**Message:** You Get What You Give

\***Hymn:** I Am the Dream

**MV 106**

**Offering:**

**Ministry of Music:** Sisters and Brothers - *Charles Johnson*

\***Offering Hymn:** We Give You But Your Own VU 542

**We give you but your own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is yours alone,  
we give it gratefully.**

\***Offertory Prayer:**

**God, your love demands that we put ourselves fully into the game of life. Bless our offerings as you have blessed our bodies and our lives. Help us to give more of ourselves, our hearts, and our resources to see your love embodied in all of us. May these gifts ease the game for those who are struggling. Amen.**

**Joys and Concerns:**

**Prayer Prelude:** Spirit of the Living God

**Spirit of the living God,  
move among us all;  
make us one in heart and mind,  
make us one in love:  
humble, caring, selfless, sharing.  
Spirit of the living God,  
fill our lives with love!**

**Prayers of the People:**

**The Lord's Prayer:****\*Hymn:** Take My Life and Let It Be**VU 506****\*Blessing:**

Go from here as God's empowered people!

**We go to treat others as we want to be treated.**

Go to spread love wherever you go.

**We go knowing we do not go alone.**Go, knowing the love of God, the peace of Christ  
and the companionship of the Holy Spirit is with you - always!**Amen!****Parting Song:** May God's Sheltering Wings      MV 214**May God's sheltering wings,  
her gathering wings protect you.  
May God's nurturing arms,  
his cradling arms sustain you,  
and hold you in her love,  
and hold you in his love.**      (Repeat)**Postlude:****Prayer of the Week:**God of grace and glory, we give thanks that you judge us not by the  
perfection of our actions, but by our readiness to live boldly by faith.  
Help us to trust and follow where you lead, knowing that we are never  
alone and will never be led astray. Amen.**Partners in Prayer:** Elora Canadian Reformed Church**Prayer Tree Captain:** Alison Rainford**Welcomers:** Mark Andrews, Chris Hopewell,  
Joan and John Cuming**Counters:** Chris Hopewell and David Gohn