



Melville United Church  
Sunday, March 17, 2019  
2nd Sunday of Lent

# Second



## SUNDAY IN LENT

Melville United Church  
St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON: 519-843-1781  
Team Ministry

Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care	Rev. Marion Loree
Minister of Faith Formation & Outreach	
Minister of Music Team:	Rob White, Suzanne Flewelling
Church Secretary:	Gerri McCullough
Custodian:	Robert Mitchell
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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*\* 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:**

People of God, listen!

We are being called together.

**As we continue on our Lenten journey,  
a voice seems to be drawing us in,  
inviting us into unity as one.**

People of God, listen!

There is a whispering presence urging us to draw near.

**Our loving God reaches into our lives in this season,  
spreading wings of protection and nurture over us.**

Come, let us gather in love as we worship together

**\*Hymn:** This Day God Gives Me

**VU 410**

**Prayer of Approach and Confession:**

We come to you, O God,

wondering about the fulfillment of your promises.

**But even in our wondering,  
we come to you in trust.**

We trust you will bring good to us and to all.

**Help us to build our lives on your promises.**

We love our independence, Gathering God,

**and we confess, that we sometimes forget  
how to be together as one family.**

We get lost, and become disconnected from you.

**Forgive us, Great Mystery, and gather us in.**

**Our strength is in you and in unity with each other. Amen.**

**Words of Affirmation:**

From a loving God, a compassionate Jesus, and a healing Spirit, all that is divided will be reconciled. This is God's promise and our legacy. Hear and rejoice!

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Ministry of Music:****Time for the Younger Ones:**

**Hymn:** God is Like

**God is like a mother hen gathering us in, gathering us in, us in.**

**God is like a mother hen gathering us in.**

**That's what God is like!**

**God is like a flashlight shining in the dark, shining in the dark, in the dark.**

**God is like a flashlight shining in the dark.**

**That's what God is like!**

**God is like my best friend calling me by name, calling me by name, me by name.**

**God is like my best friend calling me by name,  
that's what God is like!**

**God is like a \_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_**

**God is like a \_\_\_\_\_ ? \_\_\_\_\_**

**God is like \_\_\_\_\_**

**That's what God is like!**

**Children's Prayer:**

**Dear God,**

**Help my lips to praise.**

**Help my hands to serve.**

**Help my heart to love.**

**Amen.**

**Responsive Reading:** Psalm 27**VU 754**

*(God is my light and my salvation)*

**Words to Inspire:** Don't Quit *by John Greenleaf Whittier*

When things go wrong as they sometimes will,  
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,  
When the funds are low and the debts are high  
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,  
When care is pressing you down a bit,  
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.  
Life is strange with its twists and turns  
As every one of us sometimes learns  
And many a failure comes about  
When he might have won had he stuck it out;  
Don't give up though the pace seems slow—  
You may succeed with another blow.  
Success is failure turned inside out—  
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,  
And you never can tell just how close you are,  
It may be near when it seems so far;  
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit—  
It's when things seem worst that you must not quit.

**Reader:** Mary Lloyd

**Scripture:** Luke 13:31-35 *(NRSV)*

*(Jesus cries over Jerusalem as a hen over her chicks)*

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.'

**Message:** Strong and Tender

**\*Hymn:** If You Will Trust In God to Guide You **VU 286**

**Offering:**

**\*Offering Hymn:** God of All Good (verse 1) **VU 539** (Tune 378)

**God of all good, our gifts we bring to you,  
use them your holy purpose to fulfil;  
tokens of love and pledges brought anew  
that our whole life is offered to your will.**

**\*Offertory Prayer:**

**O God, we cover this offering with gratitude  
for the ways we experience your care -  
for the beauty of creation,  
the warmth of this shelter,  
and the friendship of loved ones.  
May our offering of time and resources  
help to extend the shelter of your loving way in the world.  
Amen.**

**Joys and Concerns:**

**Lenten Spiritual Practice Challenge:**

**Prayer Prelude:** Where Two or Three Are Gathered **MV 14**

**Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am there. I am there.  
Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am there. I am there.**

**Prayers of the People:**

**The Lord's Prayer:**

**\*Hymn:** We Shall go Out with Hope of Resurrection **VU 586**

**\*Blessing:** A Traditional Irish Blessing

**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:**

Holy Presence, we give thanks that we are judged 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. Give us the strength we need to be vulnerable and tender to those in pain. Amen.

**Partners in Prayer:** Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fergus

**Western Ontario Waterways:** Underwood, Wesley

**Prayer Tree Captain:** Alison Rainford

**Welcomers:** Graeme Chalmers, Bob Zirk,  
Mark Andrews, Lorna Ziegler

**Counters:** Phil Brown, Norm Porritt