



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	Jennifer Auger
Minister of Music:	Matthias Schmidt
Church Secretary:	Gerri McCullough
Custodian:	Robert Mitchell
Chair of Church Council:	Ralph Rainford
Pastoral Care:	Millie Cumming, Elizabeth Stinson
Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain	Alison Rainford
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*\* you are invited to stand in body or spirit*

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Minute for Mission**

**Sharing the Light**

**Call to Worship**

The Spirit of God moves over the waters.

The Spirit of God brings forth the land.

The Spirit of God is in this place.

**From many different lands we gather on this land,  
in this place, at this time.**

God is with us,

**God of the earth, the land, the sky.**

In difficult times, in difficult places,

**in strange and unknown lands**

people gather to worship God in spirit and in truth

**and God is always here...**

Always near...

**always watching...**

Always waiting...

**always listening...**

always breathing...

**in spirit and in truth.**

Come, people of God, let us worship Creator together.

**\*Hymn:** For the Beauty of the Earth **VU 226** (tune 81)

**Opening Prayer:**

Listen...

**Can we hear the land inviting us in?**

Carefully...

**Are we paying close attention?**

Patiently...

**Are we in tune with the spirit of the land?**

September 14, 2014  
14<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost

Waiting...

**Holding hope gently.**

Earth, Land, the Place

**entrusted to our keeping.**

Ground of our being, God of the Land,

**in you we live and move and have our being. Amen.**

**Prayer for Inner Healing:**

We are dust

**We shall return to dust.**

The land is filled with treasure.

**We have taken treasure from the land, and left it broken.**

The land is rich to nourish and sustain.

**We strip it of goodness, turning fertile plains into wastelands.**

The land is plentiful and full of variety.

**We fight for control, from desire for more,  
it becomes killing-fields instead of sanctuary.**

The land cries out in agony,

**and the people cry out in misery.**

The land longs for mercy,

**and the people yearn for comfort and care.**

God, do you care?

**God, help us to care. Amen.**

**Words of Affirmation:**

Even where the consequences for wrong are almost beyond enduring, scripture reminds us that there is no one and nowhere outside or beyond the reach of God's care. God's loving grace is more than abundant.

God's gift of Spirit opens the way for transformation and life.

**Thanks be to God! Amen!**

**Chorus: Like a Rock MV 92**

**Like a rock, like a rock,**

**God is under our feet.**

**Like the starry night sky**

**God is over our head.**

**Like the sun on the horizon,**

**God is ever before.**

**Like the river runs to ocean,**

**our home is in God evermore.**

**(Repeat)**

**Ministry of Music:**

**Theme Conversation:**

**Song: I Feel God Around Me**

**Like a big hug, I feel God.**

**Like a big hug, I feel God.**

**Like a big hug, I feel God.**

**I feel God around me.**

**Under my feet....**

**Over my head...**

**Deep in my bones...**

**Scripture Reading: Genesis 3:14-19**

(The Inclusive Bible: The first Egalitarian Translation)

(God lays out the consequences to Adam and Eve for their disobedience)

**Responsive Reading: Psalm 95** (a paraphrase by James Taylor, *Everyday Psalms*, pg 113)

(Unity with creation)

**Scripture Reading: Romans 5:12-17**

(The Message -Eugene H. Peterson)

(Jesus - God's gracious gift of love)

**Message: Jesus - the Antidote**

**\*Hymn: O Beautiful Gaia**

**MV 41**

**Offering:**

**\*Offering Hymn: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

**VU 541**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise God, all creatures high and low;**

**give thanks to God in love made known;**

**Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

\*Offertory Prayer: (in unison)

**Sacred Spirit, you are the ground of everything:  
the source of all that is;  
the hope on which we stand;  
the promise that reaches out an open hand  
and leads and holds us fast.**

**We bring our hopes, our dreams, our fears.**

**We bring our hands, our hearts, our tears.**

**We bring our resources as a token of our love.**

**Take and use them as you use us. Amen.**

### **Joys & Concerns**

**Prayer Prelude: Open our Hearts** MV 21

**Open our hearts, open our minds.  
Open our lives to you O loving God.**

**Open our hearts, open our minds.  
Open our lives to you O loving God.  
Open our hearts.**

### **Prayers of the People:**

**Prayer of Jesus:** a version written by Jim Cotter

**Eternal spirit,  
Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth!**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.**

**From trial too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**\*Hymn: Touch the Earth Lightly** VU 307

### **\*Blessing/Sending Forth:**

Go from this place into the land beloved of God.  
Tread lightly on the land that your footprints may not harm.  
Touch gently with your hands that healing may bring hope.  
Tremble softly in anticipation of the Spirit's presence,  
Transforming life with love in every time and place.  
Amen.

### **\*Parting Song: Melville Benediction**

**Let's go out from here and take our place  
respect creation sharing all god's grace.  
Treasure the past and things we have done.  
Open our mind to new things yet to come.  
God will be with us within, around, above.  
Bless all our doing let us go and love.  
Bless al lour doings let us go and love. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Week:**

God of life, the earth and the sea and the sky are yours. May we be filled with the joy and deep peace we experience in the creatures and land around us. May we be truly thankful for the beauty of this earth. And may we be truly open to being changed as we are filled with your Spirit. Amen.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mon. Sept. 15 - Sun. Sept. 21, 2014

Tues. 16	9:00	Quilting	Parlour
	7:30	Unit Joy	Parlour
Thurs. 18	7:00	Choir	Parlour
Fri. 19	8:00 - 4:00	Garage Sale	Fellowship Hall
	10:00	Coffee Hour	Parlour
	11:00	Meditation	Library
Sat. 20	8:00 - 4:00	Garage Sale	Fellowship Hall
Sun. 21	11:00	Sunday Service	Sanctuary

Partners in Prayer: Belwood/Metz Pastoral Charge

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Alma

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

### Welcomers:

Mary Lloyd, Lynne Lamb,  
Joyce Keizerwaard, Bob Zirk