



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
Secretary's Office hours:	8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. T., T. & F.
E-Mail:	secretary@melvilleunited.com
Web Site:	www.melvilleunited.com

Melville United Church
Sunday, October 5, 2014
World-wide Communion Sunday

** Congregation please stand as you are able.*

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today is Rev. Marion Loree

Prelude: Improvisation

Welcome & Announcements

Minute for Mission

Sharing the Light

Call to Worship:

Here we gather to be shaped into God's people.

We come here to make space and time special.

Here we gather to hear and know God's laws.

We come to be attentive to God's ways.

Here we gather as community in God's presence.

We come that we may be transformed and made whole.

Come, people of God's Spirit, let us worship together.

***Hymn: Come Touch Our Hearts**

MV 12

Opening Prayer:

Law-giving God, you urge us to live in ways that bring you closer, and that enable people to live together creating harmony and respect. Teach us to be attentive to your words. Help us hear you in the silence that speaks your life-giving word through the transforming power of your Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for Inner Healing:

When we are afraid that we do not live up to expectations, when we become overwrought with our shortcomings,

calm our anxious hearts, O God.

When we feel so angry that we effectively murder relationships and break the bonds of community with malice,

stir our memories of love for one another, O God.

When we are caught in the little white lies that tangle us, almost imperceptibly into ever-tightening webs of deceit,

give us courage to carry the truth, O God.

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When our lives are so packed full that we barely have time to breathe;
or succumb to things that glitter and consume our energy to attain,
shift our focus to your delight, O God. Amen.

Words of Affirmation:

Friends, long ago Moses reminded the people that they did not need to be afraid of God. Rather, they were invited into a transformed way of living, guided by the One who is able to make all things new. With Christ as your example and the spirit of the law as your guide, you, too are made new and can live forgiven and transformed.

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)

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14 (Inclusive Bible-Egalitarian Translation)
(Christ is my wealth)

If they think they have the right to put their trust in external evidence, I have even more right! I was circumcised on the eighth day, being of the stock of Israel and the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrew origins; in legal observance I was a Pharisee, and so zealous that I persecuted the church. I was above reproach when it came to justice based on the Law.

But those things I used to consider gain, I now count as loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss in light of the surpassing knowledge of my Saviour Jesus Christ, for whose sake I have forfeited everything. I count everything else as garbage, so that Christ may be my wealth - indeed, that I may be found in Christ, not having any justice of my own based on observance of the Law. The justice I possess is that which comes through faith in Christ. It has its origin in God and is based on faith. All I want is to know Christ, and the power of the resurrection, and how to share in Christ's sufferings by being formed into the pattern of Jesus' death - perhaps even to arrive at the resurrection from the dead.

It's not that I have reached it yet, or have already finished my course; but I'm running the race in order to grab hold of the prize if possible, since Christ Jesus has grabbed hold of me. Sisters and brothers, I don't think of myself as having reached the finish line. I give no thought to what lies behind, but I push on to what is ahead. My entire attention is on the finish line as I run toward the prize - the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 19 (Refrain 2)

VU 740

(The heavens declare the glory of God)

Reader: Neil Dunsmore

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 (Inclusive Bible-Egalitarian Translation)
(The Ten Commandments)

Then God spoke all these words, and said, "I am YHWH who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Do not worship any gods except me!

Do not make for yourselves any carved image or likeness of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters under the earth.

Do not utter the Name of YHWH to misuse it, for YHWH will not acquit anyone who utters God's Name to misuse it!

"Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy! For six days you will labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath for YHWH.

Honour your mother and your father, so that you may have a long life in the land that YHWH has given to you!

No murdering!

No adultery!

No stealing!

No giving false testimony against your neighbour!

No desiring your neighbour's house! No desiring your neighbour's spouse, or worker - female or male - or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour!"

When the people witnessed the thunder and lightning and heard the sound like blaring trumpets, and saw the smoking mountain, they shook in fear. Keeping their distance, they said to Moses, "Speak to us and we will listen, but do not let God speak to us, or it will surely be our death."

But Moses said, "Don't be afraid. God's coming this way was simply a test for you, to give you a sense of awe and reverence and to keep you from sinning."

Message: "Rules, Rules, Rules"

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:**

**Stir within us, Spirit of the living God, that our lives may carry the
spirit of your law. May our finest offerings flow through these gifts
into the world you love. May they be a blessing to both receiver
and giver. Amen.**

Communion Hymn: Bread of Life

MV 194

Sacrament of Holy Communion

*The elements of communion today will be served in your seats. When the
bread is passed please take one, hold it in your hand until all have been
served and we will eat together. The same for the cup. Take one and
hold it until all are served and we will drink together. Please follow the
responses as they appear on the screen.*

Invitation:

Let us gather as God's people.

We come open to God's grace.

We lift up our lives, our hearts, our strength;

we lift up ourselves to God.

We offer our thanks to God;

it is right to give our thanks to God.

Eternal God, Creator of all that is,

.....join our voices to sing your praise:

O holy, holy, holy God,

(MV 203)

O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above

bear witness to your grace.

Hosanna in the highest heav'n

creation sings your praise.

And blessed in the One who comes

and bears your name always!

Eternal God, we unite

.....we sing of the mystery of faith:

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, (MV 204)

Christ will come again!

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

At this time

.....we sing together the prayer that he taught us...

The Lord's Prayer:

VU 959

Words of Institution:

We pray you,

.....and to all the world.

Amen, amen, O Holy One!

(MV 205)

Hosanna and Amen!

Amen, amen, O Holy One,

Hosanna and Amen!

Breaking of the Bread & Pouring of the Cup

Jesus said: "I am the bread of life,

whoever comes to me will never be hungry:

whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Sharing of the Elements:

Ministry of Music: Do This In Remembrance

Allen Pote

Post Communion Prayer:

Holy Presence, we give thanks that you have called your people from east and west, and north and south, to feast at your table. May your presence among us kindle such a longing for justice that we will never be satisfied until the whole earth knows justice, peace and love. Amen.

***Hymn:** Sent Forth by God's Blessing

VU 481

***Blessing/Sending Forth:**

Go into the world as a people shaped into a true community of love and care.

We go from this time and place attuned to the spirit of God's law.
In the noises and the uncertain silences, be people who delight in what is good.

We are alive to the sounds of God and seek to be holy and whole. 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 all our doing, let us go and love.**

Postlude: Rondo H. Purcel

Prayer of the Week:

God, Paul's words remind us that status, identity, or our attention to the rules is not what we should be worried about. It is so easy for us to trip up on the details and the letter of the law but you would rather we embrace the spirit of the Law which gives life rather than condemnation. Help us to live in Spirit always so that our lives can be gift for the sake of the world. Amen.

Postlude: Prelude in G F. Mendelsohn

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mon. Oct. 6 - Sun. Oct. 12, 2014

Tues. 7	9:00	Quilting	Parlour
	7:30	Church Council	Parlour
Thurs. 9	7:00	Choir	Parlour
Fri. 10	10:00	Coffee Hour	Parlour
	11:00	Meditation	Library
	11:00	Pastoral Care	Choir Room
Sun. 12	11:00	Thanksgiving/Baptism Sunday	Sanctuary

Partners in Prayer: The Door Youth Centre

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Barton Stone, Hamilton

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers:

Lynne Lamb, Mary Lloyd,
Ken McManus, Susan Barth