

Melville United Church
Sunday, November 16, 2014 - Children's Sunday



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.
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* Congregation please stand as you are able.

Bold print invites congregational response.

Welcome & Sharing the Light

Prelude: Improvisation

Announcements

Call to Worship: (B. Ogden, 2002)

(sing to tune for "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush")

**We gather round in this holy space,
holy space, filled with grace.**

**We gather round in this holy space,
to do as Jesus taught us.**

*Hymn: Come, Now is the Time to Worship

Opening Prayer: *(Sharon Prenevost, Co-Chair of the ANW Conf. UCW Child Well-Being Initiative).*

Healer of the injured,
Parent of the orphaned,
Guide of the lost,

we lift our voices to you on behalf of children.

We pray:

for those whose laughter tickles our ears,

and for those whose sobs go unheard;

for those who count the days 'til Santa rewards the "nice,"

and for those who dread Christmas morning's empty chill;

for fussy eaters who hide their peas,

and for bellies full of hunger;

for scary trips to the dentist,

and for unrelenting toothaches;

for backpacks filled with markers and mid-day snacks,

and for outgrown sneakers filled with holes and hurting feet;

for those who dream big dreams,

and for those whose hopes go unfulfilled;

for grins of joy,

and stares of shame.

Open us to the voices of children,

and to your solutions.

We pray. Amen.

Words of Affirmation:

In our childhood innocence, and in our adult realism.

In our dreams, and in our disappointments.

God is present, God is embracing, God is life-giving.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Chorus: Alleluia, Praise to God (vs 1)

MV 59

Alleluia, praise to God.

Alleluia, praise to God.

Praises, high praises, we bring you, O God.

Alleluia, praise to God. (Repeat)

***Hymn:** Come Touch Our Hearts (MV12)

Dedication of worship platform.

Theme Conversation: Paper Dolls

Reading: Matthew 7:9–11 (*The Voice*)

Think of it this way: if your son asked you for bread, would you give him a stone? Of course not—you would give him a loaf of bread. If your daughter asked for a fish, would you give her a snake? No, to be sure, you would give her a fish—the best fish you could find. So if you, who makes mistakes, know how to give your children good gifts, how much more so does God in heaven, who is perfect, know how to give great gifts to His children!

Reading: Matthew 5:1–12 (*The Voice*)

People talk about this Jesus, this Preacher and Healer. Word spreads of His charisma and wisdom and power and love. People who are too sick to walk persuade their friends and relatives to carry them to Jesus. These cripples and demonized and ill and paralytics come to Jesus, and He heals them, and they follow Him.

Now when He saw the crowds, He went up on a mountain (as Moses had done before Him) and He sat down (as Jewish teachers of His day usually did). His disciples gathered around Him.

There on the mountain Jesus teaches them all. And as He is teaching, crowds gather around and overhear His teachings, listen in, and are captivated. This, the Sermon on the Mount, is the first of the five Mosaic-like sermons in Matthew.

And He began to teach them.

Jesus: Blessed are the spiritually poor—the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Blessed are those who mourn—they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek and gentle—they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness—they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful—they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those who are pure in heart—they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers—they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness—the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

And blessed are you, blessed are all of you, when people persecute you or denigrate you or despise you or tell lies about you on My account. 12 But when this happens, rejoice. Be glad. Remember that God's prophets have been persecuted in the past. And know that in heaven, you have a great reward.

Reflection: "BE" Attitudes

Jen Auger

Hymn: Fill my Cup, Up

Fill my cup up, let it overflow

Fill my cup up, let it overflow

Fill my cup up, let it overflow

Let it overflow with Love.

Jesus loves me, this I know

For the Bible tells me so

**Little ones to Him belong
In his love they shall be strong.**

Invitation to Offering:

We offer the work of our hands and the love of our hearts

The gifts of God as a blessing to the world!

Ministry of Music: I was glad - S. Pethel

***Offertory Response:** With Joy and Thanksgiving

Let us sing with joy and thanksgiving

As we bring our gifts to the world,

To the one who has given, we give in return.

Let us bring our gifts to the world.

Like the fish and the bread,

By grace multiplied,

What we give will increase,

Gifts of love magnified.

***Offertory Prayer:**

All of these people, all of these things, all that we have,

and all that we are

are gifts of God. So we say, "Alleluia!"

Alleluia!

Joys and Concerns:

Prayer Prelude: Spirit of the Living God (Vs 1)

VU 376

Spirit of the living God,

fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God,

fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Prayers for all Children, Prayer of Jesus:

Holy Mystery,

You speak to us words of comfort and words of challenge.

You call the meek fortunate,

and You promise that the hungry will be fed.

Yet we know of children who do not have fresh fruits and vegetables everyday.

We pray for these children especially those unknown to us.

We long to see all children experience comfort;

And we know that we cannot do this on our own.

We need to work with many others and we need your Holy Grace

We ask that you help us all to be good stewards of our unique and individual gifts by responding to the needs around us with your vision, so that one day:

those who are hurt, may know of your love

those who are sad, may find enough hugs

those who are disadvantaged, may reach greater heights

and no child will live in poverty. *(Adapted from Alydia Smith)*

We gather these prayers together in the prayer that Jesus taught us ...

Our dear God, who wishes heaven upon us,

your name is very, very special and great.

You look after everyone who has died and everyone alive.

We want to live here on earth, with you all around.

Please give us all that we need to survive.

Sorry for all we've done wrong— please forgive us.

We will forgive everyone what has done wrong to us.

Please stop us wanting to do bad things

and don't let anything bad hurt us or make us want to fight back.

Help us to remember that you made this planet,

and us, and everything else on it.

You are in charge of the world and will be forever.

Amen

(Jack, India, and Harry of the Parish of St. Thomas the Apostle, Elson)

***Hymn:** You Shall Go Out With Joy VU884

***Blessing/Sending Forth:**

Let us go now in hope—

**to proclaim the message of God's love for all God's children,
to proclaim God's call for justice for all God's children,
to proclaim God's peace offered to all God's children,
to proclaim God's vision of shalom—peace and wholeness—for all children.**

Let us go now trusting God to go with us.

***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: from Suite Jazzique - Grand Choeur - J. M. Michel

November	Theme	Ministry
2nd	Mission & Outreach	Mary Lloyd and M & O
9th	Remembrance Sunday	Marion
16th	Children's Sunday	Jen
23rd	Reign of Christ	Rev. Jack Tweddle
30th	Advent 1 - Communion	Marion/Jen

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mon. Nov. 17 - Sun. Nov. 23, 2014

Tues. 18	9:00	Quilting	Parlour
	7:30	Faith Formation	Parlour
	7:30	Unit Joy	Offsite
Thurs. 20	7:00	Choir	Parlour
	7:30	Can. Bible Society	Chapel
Fri. 21	10:00	Coffee Hour	Parlour
Sun. 23	11:00	Reign of Christ Sunday	Sanctuary

Partners in Prayer: Grace Christian Fellowship

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Alsfeldt, Clifford

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers:

Graeme Chalmers, Isabel Weaver,
Isobel Glennie, Eleanor Johnston