



## Melville United Church

Sunday, June 21, 2015

Father's Day Sunday - 4<sup>th</sup> after Pentecost - Garden Service

*\* Congregation please stand as you are able.*

**Bold print invites congregational response.**

Presiding today: Jen Auger

### Welcome, Sharing the Light

Prelude

Life & Work of the Church

### Call to Worship, Opening Prayer

As we gather in this greening space,  
we are reminded of God's dream of abundant life for all.  
Just as the vegetables we grow will feed our bodies,

**we are reminded that God feeds our souls.**

Just as this gathering circle creates space for connection,

**we are reminded that God connects us across time and space.**

And just as this Peace Pole declares our wish for worldly peace,

**we are reminded that God brings deep peace even in the midst  
of our chaos.**

And so we gather here together. Surrounded by abundant life. To give and receive gifts of wisdom, connection, strength, and deep peace. With gratitude we gather as a community to praise God, to seek transformation and to celebrate the power of the Spirit who is always moving. Amen.

**Song:** Come, Now is the Time to Worship

Chorus: **Come, now is the time to worship;  
Come, now is the time to give your heart.  
Come, just as you are to worship;  
Come, just as you are  
before your God, come.**

**One day every tongue will confess**

**You are God,**

**One day every knee will bow;**

**Still, the greatest treasure remains**

**for those who gladly choose You now.**

### 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:	Mary Lloyd
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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**Reading:** Psalm 71:1-3a (NLV)

I have a safe place in you, God. Let me never be ashamed. Because You are right and good, take me out of trouble. Turn Your ear to me and save me. Be a rock to me where I live, where I may always come and where I will be safe.

**Conversation:** The Wisdom of Stones

**Song:** MV 52 Like a Rock

**Reading:** Matthew 13:3b-8 (*The Voice*)

Jesus: Once there was a sower who scattered seeds. One day he walked in a field scattering seeds as he went. Some seeds fell beside a road, and a flock of birds came and ate all those seeds. So the sower scattered seeds *in a field*, one with shallow soil and strewn with rocks. But the seeds grew quickly amid all the rocks, without rooting themselves in the shallow soil. Their roots got tangled up in all the stones. The sun scorched these seeds, and they died. And so the sower scattered seeds *near a path*, this one covered with thorny vines. *The seeds fared no better there* - the thorns choked them, *and they died. And so finally* the sower scattered his seeds in a patch of good earth. *At home in the good earth, the seeds grew and grew. Eventually* the seeds bore fruit, *and the fruit grew ripe and was harvested. The harvest was immense!*

**Story:** Planting a Legacy

**Song:** MV 37 Each Blade of Grass

**Joys & Concerns****Prayers of the People, Prayer of Jesus**

For the garden of faithful living we plant three rows of peas...

**peas of mind, peas of heart, peas of spirit.**

We plant four rows of squash...

**squash gossip, squash indifference, squash grumbling, squash selfishness.**

Every garden must have thyme...

**thyme for God, thyme for each other, thyme for friends.**

A good garden requires turnips...

**turnip to help, turnip to serve, turnip to harvest and give thanks.**

And finally, we plant five rows of lettuce...

**lettuce be faithful, lettuce be kind, lettuce be patient,  
lettuce love one another, lettuce always be thankful.**

Within this garden of faithful living, we embrace our loved ones, just as they are, with our prayers (*moment of silence*).

We embrace the hurting, the ill, the displaced, and the lost with our prayers (*moment of silence*).

We embrace ourselves, in our beauty and our flaws, with our prayers (*moment of silence*).

As a community of faithful, we gently place these prayers into your embrace God, with the words Jesus taught us... **Our Father...**

**Song:** MV 216 Wherever you May Go

**Sending and Blessing**

**Parting Song:** One in Love

**One in love, one in friendship true,  
One in hope, one in spirit too,  
One in faith that God will care for you,  
'Til we meet together again.**

**Partners in Prayer:** Bethel Baptist Church, Fergus

**Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference:** St. John's on the Hill, Cambridge

**Prayer Tree Captain:** Alison Rainford

**Welcomers:** Mary Hume, Eleanor Johnston,  
Ralph Rainford

**Counters:** Ken McManus, Mary Lloyd  
Lorna Bevcar