

Melville United Church
Sunday, Aug 16, 2015
12th Sunday after Pentecost

* Congregation please stand as you are able.

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today: Jen Auger



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
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Welcome & Sharing the Light:

Prelude:

Life and Work of the Church:

Call to Worship: (Based on Ephesians 5:15-20)

We are a people called: called to be mindful of our steps.

Called to walk as the wise do.

Called to make the most out of every living and breathing moment.

Called to understand and be confident in God's will.

May we gather here to be filled with the spirit.

Empowered to speak soulful words.

Empowered to sing and make music with our hearts attuned to God.

Empowered to give thanks generously and enthusiastically.

Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** Come and See the Ways of Wisdom MV 10

Opening Prayer: (Psalm 111, adapted by Stephen Mitchell)

I thank God with all of my heart for the gifts he has given mankind.

Uncountable are his miracles, immeasurable his love.

He has formed us in his own image and kindled his truth in our minds.

He has filled each day with his splendor and given us eyes to see, hearts that can comprehend, spirits that stand in awe.

Also he has permitted us knowledge beyond our wisdom, and granted us, in our unripeness, the power to destroy the earth,

I praise his fathomless mercy and thank him for his difficult grace.

All beings perform his covenant and act out his primal law:
that whatever we reap, we have sown, and what we give, we receive.

Amen.

Words of Affirmation: (Psalm 111, adapted by Stephen Mitchell, cont)

To know these truths is the beginning of wisdom; to live by them is the path of true life.

Thanks be to God.

Readings: 1 Kings 3:3-14 (The Voice)

3 Solomon's heart belonged to the Eternal. Solomon abided by the same laws as his father, David. The only difference was that Solomon offered sacrifices and incense at the high places.

4 Solomon went to Gibeon-the great high place-and presented 1,000 burnt offerings at the altar.

5 The Eternal revealed Himself to Solomon in a dream while he was still in Gibeon.

Eternal One: Tell me, what is your request of Me?

Solomon:

6 You have already revealed Your loyal love to my father, David, for he lived by Your truth and righteousness and honor during the days of his life. You have continued to show this loyal love to him by giving him a son who now reigns upon his throne.

7 Eternal One, my God, You have allowed me to serve as my father David served, but I am still young and inexperienced. I don't know much about anything,

8 yet I am supposed to lead Your chosen people who are innumerable and even uncountable.

9 Please give Your servant a listening heart for judging Your people and for knowing the difference between what is good and what is evil. Who is capable of judging Your chosen ones, a great people?

10 God was delighted by Solomon's request.

Eternal One:

11 Since you have asked for wisdom and not for an extended lifetime or for personal wealth or for the annihilation of your enemies, since you have instead asked for the ability to understand justice,

12 I will honor your request. I have planted the deepest human wisdom into your heart. There has never been nor will there ever be a man like you.

13 I have also given you the things for which you have not asked-wealth and an honorable reputation. There will be no other kings like you for as long as you live.

14 If you live a life devoted to Me, if you remain loyal to My laws and commands just as your father David did, then I will add days to your life.

Scripture: John 6:51-58 (NRSV)

Response: Listen, God is Calling MV 97

Reflection: Life Cycles

***Hymn:** Be Thou my Vision (vs. 1,2,4) VU 642

Invitation to the Offering:

Ministry of Music:

***Offering Response:** What Can I Do?

What can I do? What can I bring?
 What can I say? What can I sing?
 I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.

***Offertory Prayer:**

Gift of Life, receive these gifts we offer today. May they be used to restore, to build up, and to proclaim the Eternal Love which is found in our hearts. May they be used so others in turn may experience the Gift of Life that lives for all time. Amen.

Joys & Concerns:

Prayers of the People:

Prayer of Jesus:

***Closing Hymn:** Bless Now, O God, The Journey VU 633

Sending & Blessing:

***Parting Song:** Go Now in Peace

Go now in peace, never be afraid.
 God will go with you each hour of every day.
 Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
 Know God will guide you in all you do.
 Go now in love, and show you believe.
 Reach out to others so all the world can see.
 God will be there, around, within, above.
 Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
 Amen. Amen. Amen.

Postlude:

Partners in Prayer: Central Pentecostal Church, Elora

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Waterford

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Lynne Lamb & Isobel Glennie

Counters: Kallie Rawn & Lynne Lamb