

Melville United Church
Sunday, February 14, 2016
1st Sunday of Lent

** Congregation please stand as you are able.*

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today: Rev. Marion Loree



Welcome & Announcements

Sharing the Light

Prelude/Centering Time: Improvisation

Call to Worship:

Come, faithful people,
and find that quiet centre where God may enter in.

We gather as God's people:

**hungry for holy presence,
ready for God's word to us.**

Let us worship God together.

***Hymn:** Love Is the Touch

MV 89

Opening Prayer:

**God of the wilderness, as we enter into worship
may this be a time of preparation,
of challenge and change.
May the journey through this worship experience,
and this season,
remind us of Jesus' journey
from the wilderness to the cross,
and from the cross to the empty tomb.
Open our hearts and minds
to receive your grace, peace, and strength. Amen.**

Lenten Rock Liturgy

Jesus wandered in the wilderness and was tempted. In that wilderness, he encountered rock and stone. They are the landscape of a harsh environment. As we enter Lent, we intentionally enter the harsh environment of pain and suffering in our lives and in the world. The

Melville United Church
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Team Ministry

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|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care | Rev. Marion Loree |
| Minister of Faith Formation & Outreach | Rev. Robin Osborne |
| Minister of Music: | Matthias Schmidt |
| Church Secretary: | Gerri McCullough |
| Custodian: | Robert Mitchell |
| Chair of Church Council: | Mary Lloyd |
| Pastoral Care | Alison Rainford, Rev. Marion Loree |
| 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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temptation is to avoid suffering and pain. (*The first rock is placed.*) The rock of temptation.

May God's spirit journey with us.

Chorus: Don't Be Afraid MV 90

**Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.**

**Don't be afraid. My love is stronger
and I have promised to be always near. (Repeat)**

Scripture: Luke 4:1-13 (the Inclusive Bible-The First Egalitarian Edition)
(Jesus is tested in the desert)

Jesus returned from the Jordan filled with the Holy Spirit, and she led him into the desert for forty days, where he was tempted by the Devil. Jesus ate nothing during that time, at the end of which he was famished.

The Devil said to Jesus, "If you are God's Own, command this stone to turn into bread." Jesus answered, "Scripture has it, 'We don't live on bread alone.'"

Then the Devil took Jesus up higher and showed him all the nations of the world in a single instant. The Devil said, "I'll give you all the power and the glory of these nations; the power has been given to me and I can give it to whomever I wish. Prostrate yourself in homage before me, and it will all be yours."

In reply, Jesus said, "Scripture has it: 'You will worship the Most High God; God alone will you adore.'"

Then the Devil led Jesus to Jerusalem, set him up on the parapet of the Temple and said, "If you are God's Own, throw yourself down from here, for scripture has it,

'God will tell the angels to take care of you;
with their hands they'll support you,
that you may never stumble on a stone.'"

Jesus said to the Devil in reply, "It also says, 'Do not put God to the test.'"

When the Devil had finished all this tempting, Jesus was left alone.

The Devil awaited another opportunity.

Here ends the first reading.

Reader: David Gohn

Scripture: Romans 10:8b-13 (the Inclusive Bible-The First Egalitarian Edition)
(Declare with your mouth; believe with your heart)

"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart." This is the Word of faith. For if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Sovereign and believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved. Faith in the heart leads to being put right with God, confession on the lips to our deliverance.

Scripture says, "No one who believes in God will be put to shame." Here there is no difference between Jew and Greek; all have the same Creator, rich in mercy toward those who call: "Everyone who calls on the name of the Most High will be saved."

Message: You Are What You Believe

***Hymn:** VU 375 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Offering:

Ministry of Music: J. Raney - Bread of Life

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:**

Lenten God, we start this journey wondering what is before us. We know that for some it is a journey of hunger and loneliness. So it is that we share these offerings. Receive them and transform them into your love. May our gifts and our lives be an extension of your love and presence to others who are in need this day. Amen.

Joys and Concerns:

***Communion Hymn:** On Eagle's Wings (Psalm 91) **VU 808**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

The elements of communion today will be served by intinction. At the appropriate time, you will be invited to come forward to one of the stations, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and return to your seat. Please take the time you need. For anyone who cannot come forward please remain seated and you will be served in your seat.

Invitation:

As we come to this table....
, are welcome here.

The Spirit of God be with you.

And also with you.

Turn to God, the source of life,

We lift our hearts in prayer.

Let us give thanks.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Thanks and praise be to you, O God,

.....as we sing together:

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!

Loving God, Holy Oneness....

.... to sing the mystery of our 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 also remember....

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

The Lord's Prayer:

VU 959

Words of Institution:

Bread. Simple bread.....

.... May it be so.

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 the Elements:

The body of Christ - bread for the journey.

The blood of Christ - the wine of arrival.

Post Communion Prayer:

We give thanks that bread broken brings wholeness;

that wine poured out replenishes;

that time spent with the Risen Christ

and one another is gift and grace. Amen.

***Hymn:** Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights (vs 1, 3, 4, 6) **VU 108**

***Blessing:**

As we head out into the coming week,

we will be tempted with meeting practical needs and forgetting the spiritual.

Jesus said. "One does not live by bread alone."

We will be tempted to control others and gain personal advantage.

Jesus said. "Worship and serve God alone."

We will be tempted to ask God to change situations which are beyond our own power to change.

Jesus said, "Do not test God."

In every temptation, know that the Spirit of God is your strength.

Thanks be to God. Amen!

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

Postlude: J. G. Walter - Jesus Priceless Treasure

Prayer of the Week:

Journey with us, O God, through this day, through this season. May we follow your leading and draw strength from your presence beside us. And in those times and places we feel alone, help us to trust you will bring good to us and to all. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: Elora/Bethany Pastoral Charge

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Melrose, Hamilton

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Isabel Weaver, Karen Smillie,
David Gohn

Counters: Mary Lloyd, Brenda Ecclestone