

Melville United Church
Sunday, May 8, 2016
Christian Family Sunday/Mother's Day



** Congregation please stand as you are able.*

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today: Rev. Marion Loree

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Sharing the Light

Call to Worship:

We are one,

One in the body of Christ.

We are one,

One in the household of God.

We are one.

Mother, father, sister, and brother,

Gramma and Grampa, aunt or uncle,

Nephew or niece... single or in community...

One family connected by God's love.

So we come together...

As God's family, brought together

at Christ's call - to sing, to pray, to share,

and to worship together.

***Hymn:** I Have Called You by Your Name **MV 161** (vs 1,2,3)

Opening and Healing Prayer:

We expect to find you in church, O God,

but you are also where we do not expect you to be.

We know you in the joy and celebration of family reunion,

but you are also there in the struggle to resolve family conflict.

We know you in the confidence and trust of friendship,

but you are also there when a friend lets us down.

You are there when our faith is a strength and an inspiration.

But you are also there when we struggle and doubt.

May 8, 2016

<p>Melville United Church St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON: 519-843-1781 Team Ministry</p>	
Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care	Rev. Marion Loree
Minister of Faith Formation & Outreach	Jen Auger
Minister of Music:	Matthias Schmidt
Church Secretary:	Gerri McCullough
Custodian:	Robert Mitchell
Chair of Church Council:	Allan Hons
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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You are there in the Bible story and sayings of Jesus,

but you are also there in the deeds and words of those who do good.

Forgive us when we forget you.

Remind us that you are with us always. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

Being accepted into the Christian family of faith today is Hudson Jamieson Luxton, child of Jami-Lynn and James.

Statement of Purpose:

From the beginning of time, people have come before God and their community to celebrate the miracle of life, and to give thanks to God for the special gift that our children are to us. That is what we do in our sacrament of baptism. We give thanks to God, we express our own faith in God as central to our lives, and we commit ourselves afresh to the nurturing of our children in the Christian church.

The sacrament of baptism proclaims and celebrates the grace of God. By water and the Spirit, we are welcomed as children of God, we are claimed by Christ, we are united with the Christian community of every time and place and we are commissioned to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice.

Presentation of the one to be Baptized

On behalf of the congregation of Melville United Church I present Hudson Jamieson Luxton, child of James and Jami-Lynn for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism.

(family comes forward)

Scripture: Galatians 3:27-29 (The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation)

Each one of you is a child of God because of your faith in Christ Jesus. All of you who have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. In Christ there is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female. All are one in Christ Jesus. Furthermore, if you belong to Christ, you are the offspring of Abraham, which means you inherit all that was promised.

Profession of faith by the parents:

You have brought your child here for baptism. In baptism we are joined to the Christian family through the sign and seal of God's eternal love. Do you believe in God and God's love?

Yes, I do so believe.

Do you believe that God is revealed to us in Jesus the Christ who lived and died, and who lives on in the Christian church?

Yes, I do so believe.

Do you believe that God, through the Holy Spirit, is active in the world to direct and to strengthen you?

Yes, I do so believe.

Will you do your best to provide a Christian home for your child, encouraging her to grow in her own faith and to seek confirmation?

Yes I will, God being my helper.

Commitment by Congregation (*congregation stands*)

We are to receive this child as part of our faith community. In so doing, we remember our calling to share life together, and to be open to the future that he contains. We are also called to support this family and this child with love and Christian teaching. Are you willing, as you are able to share in this responsibility?

We are willing, God being our helper.

Let us remain standing as we repeat "A New Creed" together.

Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed VU 918

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,**

**to live with respect in Creation,
 to love and serve others,
 to seek justice and resist evil,
 to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
 our judge and our hope.
 In life, in death, in life beyond death,
 God is with us.
 We are not alone.
 Thanks be to God.**

Blessing of the Water (*children bring water and people call out blessings*)

The Baptism

Hudson Jamieson Luxton, you are baptized in the name of God, our mother and father whose arms are open wide;
 in the name of Jesus, the Son, who teaches us how to love;
 and in the name of the Holy spirit, whose presence will encourage and guide you.

Sign of the Cross and Blessing

Hudson, child of God, we bless you with water and the sign of the cross, know that you are a beloved child of God.

Laying on of Hands/Blessing

May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you. May God look upon you with kindness and bring you peace.

Lighting of the Baptismal Candle

Your parents will now light your candle. The candle represents the light of Christ which shines in you and in each one of us and it reminds us that the light of God's presence is with us always.

Children are introduced to the congregation.

Hymn: God, We Pray at This Beginning - verse 1 **VU 443**

Prayer

Gracious God, keep this child in your grace as he grows in mind and body. Keep his parents in your love as they give guidance to their children. Keep us all that we may be ever faithful to you. Through Christ. Amen.

Presentation of Certificates

Children's Musical: Life of the Party - The Story of Mary and Martha

Offering:

***Offering Hymn:** 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.

I'll bring my love. I'll do my share. (Repeat)

***Offertory Prayer:**

Loving God, you invite all who are thirsty to come and drink from the waters of life. Use our gifts, our time, our talents, to spread that good news, that all who are thirsty - for justice, for new life, for another chance, for a glimpse of hope - may find it. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Joys and Concerns:

Prayer Prelude: Nothing Can Trouble VU 290

Nothing can trouble. Nothing can frighten.

Those who love God will never go wanting.

Nothing can trouble. Nothing can frighten.

God alone fills us. (Repeat)

Prayers of the People:

The Prayer of Jesus:

***Hymn:** Go Make a Difference

MV 209

***Blessing:**

Go into the world and cherish your family, and your friends.
Go into the world and be family, be a friend to someone who needs you.
Go as servants of Jesus the Christ, to make a difference in the world.

We go as disciples to share God's love with all of God's children.

Amen!

***Parting Song:** Melville Benediction

Postlude:**Prayer of the Week:**

Holy Spirit, may we be attentive to ways that surprise us. Keep us open to those who unnerve us. Keep us faithful in the ministries that result from these unexpected opportunities. Remind us that in tending to others, we find ourselves attending to you. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: Alma United Church

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Scotland

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Doreen and Larry Broome,
Bob Zirk, Peggie Dickie