



** Congregation please stand as you are able.*

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today: Rev. Marion Loree

Prelude: Improvisation

Welcome & Announcements

Sharing the Light

Call to Worship:

People of God, come let us worship!

Let us offer to the Holy One our thanks and praise!

Come from the east!

And the west!

From the north!

And the south!

From all places in creation!

Let us call upon the Source of All Life!

For the Creator has blessed us and we are grateful.

Come, let us offer our thanks and praise as we worship together.

***Hymn:** Praise to the Lord - Psalm 113 **VU 835**

Opening Prayer:

From our hearts, with our hands,
through our voices, in our love,

we give thanks to God!

For every sunrise and sunset,

for every smile and tear,

for every moment that has passed,

and for every moment yet to come.

May our thanksgiving

fill the world with gratitude and joy. Amen.

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	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
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Prayer for Inner Healing:

Holy Presence, you are the source and reason for all the blessings of our lives.

Forgive us when we forget.

You provide us with everything we need.

Forgive us when we forget.

We live with so much bounty in this land.

Forgive us when we forget.

We have so many opportunities to give back.

Forgive us when we forget.

Turn our minds to recall your care and leading, and remind us

that it is in our living and loving

that your presence is known in the world. Amen.

Words of Affirmation:

God's love, forgiveness and grace are limitless. When we empty ourselves of ego's ambition God's love can shine through.

Thanks be to God. Amen!

Chorus: Jesus, You Fill Our Hearts MV 101

Jesus, you fill our hearts with your love,

our minds with your peace,

and our lives with your joy. (Repeat)

Theme Conversation:

Hymn: I Thank you, Thank You, Jesus

MV 188

Scripture: Philippians 4:4-9 (*The Inclusive Bible*) (*The peace of God which is beyond all understanding*)

Rejoice in the Saviour always! I say it again: Rejoice! Let everyone see your forbearing spirit. Our Saviour is near. Dismiss all anxiety from your minds; instead, present your needs to God through prayer and petition, giving thanks for all circumstances. Then God's own peace, which is beyond all understanding, will stand guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, my sisters and brothers, your thoughts should be wholly directed to all that is true, all that deserves respect, all that is honest,

pure, decent, admirable, virtuous or worthy of praise. Live according to what you have learned and accepted, what you have heard me say and seen me do. Then will the God of peace be with you.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 100

VU 824 (refrain 2)

(*Shout to God, all the earth*)

Reader: David Gohn

Scripture: Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (*The Inclusive Bible*) (*Giving the first fruits of the land*)

Once you have entered the land that YHWH, your God, is giving to you as your inheritance, and you have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the first fruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land that YHWH, your God, is giving to you, and put them in a basket. Take them to the place which YHWH, your God, will choose as a dwelling place for God's Name and say to the priest in office at that time, "This day I declare to YHWH, our God, that I have come to the land YHWH swore to our ancestors to give us." The priest will then receive the basket from you and will set it in front of the altar of YHWH.

Then you will declare before YHWH, "My ancestor was a wandering Aramean who went down to Egypt with a small household and lived there as an alien. There they became a nation great, strong and numerous. When the Egyptians mistreated and oppressed us, imposing hard labour upon us, we cried to YHWH, the God of our ancestors, who heard our cry and saw our affliction, our toil and our oppression. YHWH brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand and outstretched arm, with terrifying power, with signs and wonders; YHWH gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. Therefore, I have brought now the first fruits of the products of the soil that you, O God, have given me." Then you must set them before YHWH, and bow down before YHWH. Then you all, along with the Levites, and the foreigners that live among you, will feast on all the good things that YHWH, your God, has given to you and your household.

Message: Giving Thanks

***Hymn:** Grateful

MV 182

Offering:**Ministry of Music:** J. M. Martin (85) I Thank You Lord***Offering Hymn:** For the Gift of Creation VU 538

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.**

***Offertory Prayer:** *(written by Elaine Bidgood Sweet. Gathering, Pentecost 2 2016, pg 47. Used with permission)*

**Fill us with gratitude, O God.
From you, all blessings flow.
To you, all gratitude shall return.
Fuel us as a gracious people,
full of your Spirit, led by your love,
overflowing with compassion and power,
to shape our lives and your world for good. Amen.**

Joys and Concerns:**Prayer Prelude:** Deep in Our Hearts - vs 1 MV 154

**Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;
deep in our hearts there is a common song;
deep in our hearts there is a common story,
telling Creation that we are one.**

Prayers of the People: (beginning with *A Simple Thank-You* - Bruce Sanguin, *in If Darwin Prayed*)

Prayer of Jesus:***Hymn:** We Plough the Fields**VU 520*****Blessing:**

May we live with the blessing of the Holy One,
as we go now with gratitude and hope,
with generosity of spirit and an abundance of giving,
and so may the world be blessed.
Go now, knowing the Spirit of love goes with you.
Amen.

Parting Song:** May the God of Hope Go with Us (vs 1 + chorus) **VU 424*Postlude:** Improvisation on We Plough the Fields**Prayer of the Week:**

Generous God, provider of manna in the wilderness and daily bread, we thank you for the stories of our remembered history, for the knowledge of how you have been with people, sustaining them during times of trial and opening their hearts to share your joy. As we give thanks, inspire us to hunger for the bread of life. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: Centre Wellington Food bank**Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference:** Central, Port Colborne**Prayer Tree Captain:** Alison Rainford**Welcomers:**

Lynne Lamb, David Gohn,
Vivian and Havey Andrews