

Melville United Church
Sunday October 15, 2017
19th after Pentecost Sunday

** Congregation please stand as you are able.*

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding Today: Marion Loree



Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Sharing the Light

Call to Worship:

We are invited to worship and we rejoice!

We leave the anxieties of our daily lives behind.

We are invited to worship and we give thanks!

We realize the full extent of our gifted lives.

We are invited to worship and we remember!

We are aware of the love so graciously shown in Jesus.

We are invited to worship and we respond!

We are ready to act compassionately and justly and to follow the Christ.

***Hymn:** God is Here

VU 389

Opening Prayer:

Holy Presence, we gather to offer praise this day.

We join with all of creation in uttering our small words of thanks for the love which sustains us always.

We admit that we have trespassed against you.

We have taken part in activities of injustice.

We have failed to consider the wonder of your creation.

We have forgotten the steadfast love and abundance that is ours.

We have forgotten who we are to follow.

Forgive us and may our lives be lived as a song of praise. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

Beloved, be assured that our God forgives, saves, and gathers us as one, so that we might work together to share God's commonwealth of love.

Thanks be to God!

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:	
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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Theme Conversation:**Song:** I Can Feel You Near Me God.**MV 48****Children's Prayer:****Dear God,****help our lips to praise** (*touch lips*)**help our hands to serve** (*hold out hands*)**help our heart to love** (*fold hands across chest*)**Amen.****Scripture: Philippians 4:1-9** (*The Inclusive Bible: the First Egalitarian Translation*)
(*Rejoice in God always; again, I say rejoice*)

For these reasons, my sisters and brothers - you whom I so love and long for, you who are my joy and my crown - continue, my dear ones, to stand firm in Christ Jesus.

I implore Euodia and Syntyche to come to an agreement with each other in Christ. And I ask you, Syzygus, to be a true comrade and help these co-workers. These two women struggled at my side in defending the Good News, along with Clement and the others who worked with me. Their names are written in the Book of Life.

Rejoice in the Lord, always! And again I say, 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 106 **VU 830**
(*Give thanks for God is good*)**Scripture: Exodus 32:1-14** (*The Inclusive Bible: the First Egalitarian Translation*)
(*Worshiping the golden calf*)

Moses was an extremely long time in returning from the mountain,

and when the people saw this, they turned to Aaron and said, "Come and make a god for us, someone who will lead us. We don't know what has happened to that Moses, who brought us up from the land of Egypt."

Aaron replied, "Remove the gold earrings you are wearing - wives and husbands, sons and daughters alike - and bring them all to me." All the people brought their gold earrings to Aaron. Aaron took the gold, melted it down and cast it in a mold, and made it into a calf, a young bull.

Then the people said, "Israel, here is your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!"

When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before the idol, proclaiming, "Tomorrow we will have a feast in honour of YHWH!"

In the morning the people rose early, sacrificing burnt offerings and bringing communion offerings, and then they sat down to eat and drink, and lost themselves in debauchery.

YHWH said to Moses, "Go down, now! These people whom you led out of Egypt have corrupted themselves! In such a short time, they have turned from the way that I have given them, and made themselves a molten calf. Then they worshipped it and sacrificed to it saying, 'Israel, here is your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!'

YHWH then said to Moses, "I look at these people - how stubborn they are! Now leave me to myself so that my anger may pour out on them, and destroy them! But you I'll make into a great nation."

Then Moses soothed the face of YHWH, his God. "But why, my God, should you let your wrath pour out on these people whom you delivered from Egypt with great might, with a strong hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'Their God intended to destroy them all along, to kill them in the mountains, to erase them from the earth?' Turn your back on your rage; reconsider the disaster you intended for your people. Do not forget Sarah and Abraham, Rebecca and Isaac, and Leah and Rachel and Jacob, your chosen ones, to whom you promised, 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky; I will give to you all this land which I have promised - I will give it to your descendants, and they will enjoy its inheritance forever.'"

So YHWH relented, and the disaster that threatened the Israelites was forestalled.

Message: 5 Things I Still Believe About Jesus

Hymn: What a Friend We Have in Jesus **VU 664**

Offering:

***Offering Hymn:** For the Gift of Creation **VU 538**

***Offertory Prayer:**

Ever-giving God, we bring these gifts as a response to the many gifts we receive. We have been blessed in so many ways; may our response this day be a means of blessing others. Amen!

Joys and Concerns:

Prayer Prelude: Holy Sacred Spirit **MV 15**

**Holy sacred Spirit,
breathe your breath on us.
Holy sacred Spirit,
breathe your life in us. (Repeat)**

Prayers of the People:

Prayer of Jesus:

***Hymn:** What a Friend We Have in Jesus **VU 664**

***Blessing:**

Whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just:

we remember these things! We do these things!

Whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable:

we remember these things! We do these things!

Rejoice in God. Help one another.

**We trust that the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
will keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.**

Go in peace.

Amen.

***Parting Song:** You Shall Go Out with Joy

VU 884

Postlude:

Prayer of the Week:

Draw closer to us, God of the journey, for sometimes in our zeal to do what is right, we trespass against you, and lose our way; leaving us longing for your soothing words of comfort and challenge. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: Bethel Mennonite Church

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Caistorville

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Isabel Weaver, Bob Zirk,
Doreen and Larry Broome

Counters: David Gohn and Larry Broome