

Melville United Church
Sunday, November 5, 2017
Remembrance Day Sunday

** Congregation please stand as you are able.*

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today: Ruth Cooke



Welcome & Announcements

Sharing the Light

Prelude/Centering Time

Call to Worship:

In silent fields, poppies blow.

In empty streets, silence dwells.

In vacant rooms, photos sit.

War does not end with a pen or a parade.

Into the silence, the emptiness, the sorrow,

let us bring the peace, the song, the hope of Holy Love.

Let us worship.

***Hymn:** Weep for the Dead

VU 526

Opening Prayer:

God of peace, we gather today to remember the loss of so many of your children through the horrors of war. This sacred task of remembrance calls us to ensure that the scourge of war must end. Because, through remembrance, we understand what is truly lost when nations resort to war. Your creation, which should bring joy to the world, seems lost and in chaos because too often we are unable to live at peace with ourselves and others. So let this day of remembrance be an inspiration to our witness. Let us prepare the way for your vision of peace revealed to us by your son Jesus. Amen.

Prayer of Confession:

The escape from slavery and the purifying in the desert:
we remember, O God, and we rejoice.

The young rabbi with the message of comfort and discomfort:
we remember, O God, and we give thanks.

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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The bombs, the screams, the camps, and the sacrifice:

we remember, O God, and we mourn.

The colours, the smells, the music, and the fear:

we remember, O God, and we pray.

Join humankind into one society of peace and support.

Forgive those of us who have done evil, Redeemer God.

Gentle the memories of those who are troubled by the past.

**Stir the memories of your goodness in every age,
that we might learn the ways of peace.**

(A time of silence,

while we ponder our shortcomings and pray for guidance)

Word of Assurance *(adapted from Psalm 78)*

What we have heard and known,

what our parents have told us,

we will not hide from their grandchildren,

that they should put their trust in you,

and not forget that you are a loving, forgiving, and healing God. Amen.

Service of Remembrance

(Please stand as you are able throughout the service)

***Hymn:** O God Our Help In Ages Past

VU 806

***Poem: In Flanders Fields** - Lt. Col. John McCrea

In Flanders fields the poppies blow

Between the crosses, row on row,

That mark our place: and in the sky

The larks still bravely singing fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead: Short days ago,

We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,

Loved and were loved: and now we lie

In Flanders fields!

Take up our quarrel with the foe

To you, from failing hands, we throw

The torch: be yours to hold it high

If ye break faith with us who die,

We shall not sleep, though poppies grow

In Flanders fields

***Reading of the Roll Call**

They shall not grow old,

As we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them,

Nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun

And in the morning

We shall remember them.

From "For The Fallen" - Robert Laurence Binyon

***Last Post**

***We remember in silence**

***Reveille**

They were young, as we are young.

They served, giving freely of themselves.

To them we pledge, amid the winds of time,

To carry their torch and never forget.

We will remember them.

"Commitment to Remember"

an invocation recited at war memorial services.

***O Canada**

VU 524

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 2: 1-5 *(The Message)*

The Message Isaiah got regarding Judah and Jerusalem:

There's a day coming

when the mountain of GOD's House

Will be The Mountain-

solid, towering over all mountains.
 All nations will river toward it,
 people from all over set out for it.
 They'll say, "Come,
 let's climb GOD's Mountain,
 go to the House of the God of Jacob.
 He'll show us the way he works
 so we can live the way we're made."
 Zion's the source of the revelation.
 GOD's Message comes from Jerusalem.
 He'll settle things fairly between nations.
 He'll make things right between many peoples.
 They'll turn their swords into shovels,
 their spears into hoes.
 No more will nation fight nation;
 they won't play war anymore.
 Come, family of Jacob,
 let's live in the light of GOD.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5: 1-12 (*The Message*)

When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:

"You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.

"You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.

"You're blessed when you're content with just who you are--no more, no less. That's the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought.

"You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat.

"You're blessed when you care. At the moment of being 'care-full,' you

find yourselves cared for.

"You're blessed when you get your inside world--your mind and heart--put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.

"You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.

"You're blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom.

"Not only that--count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens--give a cheer, even!--for though they don't like it, *I* do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God!

Meditation: Let There Be Peace On Earth

Hymn: When Will People Cease Their Fighting?

VU 687

Offering:

Offering Song:

***Offertory Prayer:** (Unison)

Oppression, inequality, scarcity, and intolerance are the kindling for conflict. Through our offerings, Gracious God, address injustice, encourage dialogue, and fill minds and stomachs to put out the embers before they become the fires of war. Amen.

Prayer Prelude:

Holy Sacred Spirit

MV 15

Joys & Concerns:**Prayers of the People:****Prayer of Jesus:**

***Hymn:** God Is Passionate Life **VU 695**

***Blessing/Sending Forth** **VU 692**

O God, lead us from death to life,

From falsehood to truth;

Lead us from despair to hope,

From fear to trust;

Lead us from hate to love,

From war to peace.

Let your peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.

Go forth to a hurting world, and take with you the peace of God,
the love of our Saviour,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

***Parting Song:** You Shall Go Out with Joy **VU 884**

Postlude**Prayer of the Week** (*VU 693*):

God of many names, lover of all nations, we pray for peace in our hearts, in our homes, in our nations, in our world. For the peace you willed, we pray. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Cookeville, Mississauga

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Ruth Sproule, Mary Hume,
Mary Lloyd, Elizabeth Stintson

Counters: Mary Lloyd, Art Russell