

**Melville United Church**  
**Sunday, April 1, 2018**  
**Easter Sunday**



*\* Congregation please stand as you are able.*

**Bold print invites congregational response.**

Presiding today: Rev. Marion Loree & Jen Auger

**Prelude:**

**Welcome:**

The tomb is empty - he is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

Hallelujah!

**Hallelujah!**

**Call to Worship:** Christ the Lord is Risen Today **VU 157**

*(Decorations, flowers, candles, etc. are brought in & black cloths are removed)*

**Opening Prayer:**

Dear God, we come today as did your followers so long ago.

**We wonder if it can really be true that Jesus lives.**

We are amazed that it could be so.

**We are joyful that your love lasts forever.**

Your love is stronger even than death.

**We give thanks and shout "Alleluia!"**

Help us remember to follow in Jesus way.

**We give thanks that Jesus is with us now and always!**

**Hallelujah! Amen!**

**Moderator's Message:**

**Ministry of Music:** This Day of Resurrection arr. Stan Pethel

**Scripture:** Psalm 118 (Parts 1,2,3) **VU 837**

**Hymn:** And On This Path

**MV 8**

**April 1, 2018**

<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 Team:	Rob White, Suzanne Flewelling
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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**Dramatic Scripture Reading:** *(based on John 20:1-18)**Performed by Bob and Joanne Mitchell)***Story:** Phillip's Easter Egg**Song:** Every Morning is Easter Morning**Offering:****Ministry of Music:** The Lily of the Valley Fry/Hays**Offering Song:** As Long As We Follow **MV 140****As long as we follow in the way that God is leading,  
we know God's reign will surely come.****As long as we act there is a future for creation,  
a future for the universe.****We know this, we know this,****Yes, God's reign will surely come.****\*Offertory Prayer:****Holy Presence, you have given us new life and hope. In joyous  
thanksgiving we offer our gifts of time, talents, and resources, that  
hope and new life may be shared with people here and throughout  
the world. Amen.****Joys and Concerns:****Prayer Prelude:** Where Two or Three Are Gathered **MV 14****Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am there, I am there.****Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am there, I am there.****Prayers of the People:**Leader:Loving God, we remember once again those who went to the tomb,  
heartbroken. They had lost the one who had changed their lives. Theyhad lost hope. There are many people in our world who know how the  
women felt, and we remember them this morning. We remember those  
who...Youth:Like the youth who wonders what future there is in a world where work  
is hard to find, where millions go hungry each day, and where the very  
future of our planet is threatened.**Hear our prayer, O God, and give new life.**Woman:

Like the parents who have lost a child, and are overwhelmed by grief.

**Hear our prayer, O God, and give new life.**Child:Like the child or youth who is afraid to go back to school because all the  
kids will make fun of them again, and who sometimes wonders why  
they were even born.**Hear our prayer, O God, and give new life.**Man:Like the people who have lost hope for food to feed their children, for  
land to grow a crop, for leadership that will end oppression, for love to  
nourish their spirit,**Hear our prayer, O God, and give new life.**Senior:Like those who find themselves shut-in or cut off due to illness,  
struggling with pain or new limitations.**Hear our prayer, O God, and give new life.**

...Our prayers continue...

**Prayer of Jesus:****\*Hymn:** You Shall Go Out with Joy (sing 2X)**VU 884****\*Blessing/Sending Forth:**

The stone has been rolled away.

The power of death is broken.

**Christ is risen, he is with us.****We are not alone.****Thanks be to God!**

**\*Parting Song:** Take Up His Song

**MV 213**

**Take up his song of peace and go into the world.**

**Take up his song of hope in ev'ry moment.**

**In ev'ry moment of the journey,**

**we're laying down our lives;**

**lay them down, in love, lay them down,**

**and take up his song. (Repeat)**

**Prayer of the week:**

God of radical hope, you meet us in the garden of our daily lives. You help us to tend hearts that are broken, love that is lost, hope needing resurrection. Give us an encounter that springs joy, shines love and light as we meet the Christ today. Amen.

**Partners in Prayer:** Knox Presbyterian Church, Elora

**Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference:** Pelham Community Church

**Prayer Tree Captain:** Alison Rainford

**Welcomers:**

Barb Gregory, Diane Maloney,  
Mark Andrews, Larry Broome

**Counters:**

Norma Martin, Larry Broome