



**Melville United Church
Sunday, July 1, 2018**

Canada Day

* Congregation please stand as you are able.
Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today: Ruth Cooke



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	
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.
E-Mail:	secretary@melvilleunited.com
Web Site:	www.melvilleunited.com
Pastoral Care Numbers	519-826-9385, 519-835-8605 519-843-3841

Welcome & Announcements

Sharing the Light

Prelude/Centering Time

Call to Worship (Responsive):

God has given us this beautiful earth,
All that grows, all that lives upon it.

Thanks be to God!

God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

Thanks be to God!

God has gathered us into a community of care and worship.

Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving and praise.

Opening Prayer (Unison):

**We feel your welcome, gracious God, in this time of worship.
You welcome young and old, all seeking peace, and all brimming
over with energy. You welcome newcomers and long-time
members, all seeking a familiar expression of praise and prayer,
and all seeking a startlingly new celebration of faith. You
welcome us all, welcoming God. Amen.**

***Hymn: Let Us Build a House**

MV 1

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

**We need your healing, merciful God: give us true repentance.
Some sins are plain to us, some escape us, some we cannot face.
Forgive us. Set us free to hear your word to us. Set us free to
serve you.**

(we pray in silence...)

Words of Assurance:

God is the love that over and around us lies,
The grace that is totally unearned,
And the healing that makes the earth whole.
Give thanks to God; we are forgiven!
Amen.

A Time for the Young & Young at Heart:

Children's Song: Over My Head **MV 88**

First Reading: Ezekiel 16: 49-50 (New Revised Standard Version)

This was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy. They were haughty, and did abominable things before me; therefore I removed them when I saw it.

Psalm: Psalm 23 Refrain 2 **VU 749**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 7: 3-5

Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
Thanks be to God!

Meditation: "Let's Make Canada Great!"

***Hymn:** O Canada **VU 524**

Offering:

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.
We know this, we know this.
Yes, God's reign will surely come.**

***Offertory Prayer: (Unison)**

**Caring God, may we offer not only our material gifts, but our
whole selves to you and to all those who need our support in the
quest for justice.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Liberator. Amen.**

Prayer Prelude: Spirit of Life **VU 381**

**Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me..**

Prayers of the People (Responsive):

Eternal God,
 whose image lies in the hearts of all people,
 we live among peoples whose languages are different from our
 own, whose faiths are foreign to us, whose ways we fail to
 understand.

**Help us to remember that you embrace all people with your
 love,
 that all religion is a response to you,
 that the yearnings of other hearts are much like our own, and
 are known to you.**

Help us to recognize you in words of truth, things of beauty,
 and actions of love about us.
 We pray in the name of the One who calls us to be neighbor and
 friend,
 and who taught us when we pray to say:

Prayer of Jesus:

***Hymn:** Though Ancient Walls **VU 691**

Blessing/Sending Forth:

***Parting Song:** Go Now In Peace

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
 God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
 Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
 Know God will guide you in all you do.
 Go now in love, and show you believe.
 Reach out to others so all the world can see.
 God will be there, within, around, above.
 Go now in peace, in faith and in love.
 Amen. Amen. Amen.**

Postlude**Prayer for the Week:**

God of all nations, we thank you for the life and history of our
 country, for its vast beauty, its wilderness, and wealth of forest,
 mine and sea. We praise you for its people, the people whose
 ancestors have been here for thousands of years, and those who
 have just arrived. We thank you for the variety of our traditions
 and our cultures, the riches of our spiritual and religious
 heritages, and the strength of our democratic institutions.

We pray for Canada, for our fellow Canadians and for our
 governments that working together we may face the future with
 confident hope and faith in your purpose for our world. In Jesus'
 name we pray.
 Amen.

Partners in Prayer: Maranatha Canadian Reformed Church, Fergus
Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Tansley, Burlington
Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Doreen and Larry Broome
 Barb Gregory

Counters: Kaillie Rawn, David Gohn