

Melville United Church
Sunday June 24, 2018
Worship in the Garden



** Congregation please stand as you are able.*

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today - Rev. Marion Loree

Prelude:

Gathering: Come All You People

MV 2

**Come all you people, come and praise your Maker,
Come all you people, come and praise your Maker,
Come all you people, come and praise your Maker.
Come now and worship your God.**

Welcome & Announcements:

Sharing the Light:

Call to Worship:

God never fails us;

in testing times God is there.

God gives us strength.

In our moments of weakness God is there.

God is our companion.

When we feel alone, God is there.

God is to be trusted.

God is always with us!

Come, let us worship 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	
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
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June 24, 2018

Hymn: God, We Praise You for the Morning (VS 1-4) **VU 415**

- 1 **God, we praise you for the morning;
hope springs forth with each new day,
new beginning, prayer, and promise,
joy in work and in play.**
- 2 **God, we praise you for creation,
mountains, seas, and prairie land.
Waking souls find joy and healing
in your bountiful hand.**
- 3 **God, we praise you for compassion,
all the loving that you show;
human touching, tears, and laughter,
help your children to grow.**
- 4 **God, we praise you for your Spirit,
Comforter and daily friend,
restless searcher, gentle teacher,
strength and courage you send.**

Opening Prayer: (In honour of National Aboriginal Day of Prayer

-written by Vera Dery)

**Creator, it is us. Thank you for today's sunrise, for the breath
and life within us, and for all of your creations. Creator, hear
our prayer and honour our prayer.**

Facing East:

As the day begins....

....with honesty and dignity

Facing South:

Spirit keeper of the South....

..... in all ways.

Facing West:

Spirit Keeper of the West....

....awareness to our spirits.

Facing North:

Spirit Keeper of the North....

....as we walked along our path

**Mother Earth, thank you for your beauty, and for all you have
given us. Remind us never to take from you more than we
need, and remind us to always give back more than we take.**

Amen

Prayer For Inner Healing:

Loving God, we are so often afraid

of ideas that confront us,

of people who seem different,

of challenges we would rather not face.

And in response to our fears, we draw in closer.

We make barriers and exclude others.

Open our eyes and our hearts to see as you see

and to love as you love. Amen.

Words of Affirmation:

God speaks peace and stillness into our fears.

God encourages and restores us.

With Spirit's help we can see and act clearly
as people of faith in God's world.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Ministry of Music: Choir and Band - Put Your Hand in the Hand -

Gene MacLellan

Responsive Reading: A Summer Blessing By Joyce Rupp *The Circle of Life*

Blessed are you, summer,

season of long days and short nights,
you pour forth light from your golden orb,
energizing the earth and calling forth growth.

Blessed are you, summer,

with your generous gift of heat.
Your warm breath animates creation,
encouraging all growing things
to stretch toward the sun.

Blessed are you, summer,

you call us into playfulness,
encouraging us to pause from work.
You renew our spirits.

Blessed are you, gracious season of summer,

you surprise us with a variety of gifts from the earth.
We, too, gaze into the earth of ourselves,
beholding gifts waiting to be honoured.

Blessed are you, nurturing season of summer,

your fruits and vegetables appear on our tables,
changing them into altars.
Tasting of your life, we are made strong.

Blessed are you, summer,

host of a star that shines with passion.
Sun-soaked, we reach for your energy
that drives us upward and onward.

Blessed are you, sacrament of summer,
nature's green season, sweet echo of spring.

You speak to us in living colour as you renew the earth
with symbols of life for our bodies and souls.

Blessed are you, summer,

season of roots that reach for water.
Even through the cracks in the sidewalk
the song of your seed can be heard.

Blessed are you, summer,

season rooted in reality.
Even as the perspiration collects on our brow,
we experience your earthy joy.

Blessed are you, summer,

with your firefly evenings
you minister to the child in us.
You feed our hunger for beauty.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 17:1-49

(The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation)

(David and Goliath)

Reflection:

Hymn: Wheel of Friendship

CIRCLE right in a wheel of friendship.
TURN the other way and **CIRCLE** again.
BRING the wheel into the **CENTRE**.
GIVE a friendly handshake and sing Amen.

JUMP for joy our God is with us.
SKIP all day for God is near.
RUN for fun for God will guide us.
GIVE a friendly handshake and have no fear.

TURN around and thank our God.
RAISE you arms and praise God's name.
WAVE your hands and shout Hosanna.
GIVE a friendly handshake and play our game.

CIRCLE right in a wheel of friendship.
TURN the other way and **CIRCLE** again.
BRING the wheel into the **CENTRE**.
GIVE a friendly handshake and sing Amen.

Scripture: Mark 4: 35-41: *(The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation)*
(Jesus calms the storm)

Reflection:

Hymn: Come and Find the Quiet Centre

VU 374

1 Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.

2 Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, face to face,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.

3 In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

Offering:

Offertory: Let It Be - John Lennon and Paul McCartney

*Offertory Prayer:

O God, you do not ask for more than we can give. Bless these gifts, we pray, that they might be building blocks for the kin-dom of heaven. Amen.

Joys & Concerns:

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.

A summer Prayer: -Joyce Rupp in *Circle of Life*

May you breathe in the beauty of summer with its power of transformation.

May this beauty permeate all that feels un-beautiful in you.

May the God of summer give us beauty.

May you seek and find spaces of repose during these summer months.

May these moments refresh and restore the tired places within you.

May the God of summer give us rest.

May you be open to times of celebration and recreation that are so much a part of summer.

May you find happiness in these times of play and leisure.

May the God of summer give us joy.

May your eyes see the wonders of summer's colours.

May these colours delight you and entice you into contemplation and joy.

May the God of summer give us inner light.

May you feel the energy of summer rains penetrating thirsty gardens, golf courses, lawns, and farmlands.

May these rains remind you that your inner thirst needs quenching.

May your inner self be refreshed, restored, and renewed.

May the God of summer give us what we need for healing.

May you savour the fresh produce that comes to your table and enjoy the fruits of summer's bounty.

**May the God of summer give us a sense of satisfaction
in the work of our hands.**

May you find shelter when the stormy skies of summer threaten your safety.

**May the God of summer give us shelter
when inner storms threaten our peace of mind and heart.**

May you enjoy the unexpected and find surprises of beauty and happiness as you travel the roads on summer vacation.

**May the God of summer lead us to amazing discoveries
as we travel the inner roads of our soul as well.**

Our prayers continue...

Prayer of Jesus:

*Hymn: How Great Thou Art (vs 1,2,4) **VU 238**

**1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed.**

**Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

**2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

**4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, 'My God, how great thou art!'
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

***Blessing/Sending Forth:**

Go from here and enjoy this summer season:

at home or away, God is with you.

In good times and challenging times,

God will support us.

As we face our challenges and fears,

God will steady us.

As we strive to be as Christ to others,

God will ask us to open hands and hearts.

Go with confidence, go with hope, for God goes with you

Amen!

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

Go now in peace, never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of every 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 around, within, above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Postlude: One in Love - Judith A. Helms

Prayer of the week:

Living God, when we find ourselves afraid, may Jesus' words, "Peace! Be still!" Strike against the rim of our singing-bowl hearts. May your love reverberate through us allowing us to stand in your strength and carry out your will. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: Bethel Baptist Church, Fergus

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: St. Mark's, Dundas

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Mary Lloyd, Bob Zirk
Joan and John Cuming

Counters: Mary Lloyd, Chris Hopewell