



Melville United Church  
St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON: 519-843-1781  
Team Ministry

Minister of Worship & Pastoral Care  
Minister of Faith Formation & Outreach

Minister of Music Team:

Church Secretary:

Custodian:

Chair of Church Council:

Pastoral Care

Chair of Pastoral Care

& Prayer Chain Captain

Secretary's Office hours:

E-Mail:

Web Site:

Pastoral Care Numbers

Rev. Marion Loree

Rob White, Suzanne Flewelling

Gerri McCullough

Robert Mitchell

Allan Hons

Alison Rainford, Rev. Marion Loree

Alison Rainford

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. T., T. & F.

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**Melville United Church**

**Sunday, July 29, 2018**

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\* 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 – based on 1 John 1:1-4 (Responsive):**

Why are we here?

**We have come to testify to the Word of Life—that which was from the beginning, which we have seen and heard and touched.**

What do we proclaim?

**We proclaim that Jesus is Life, so that all may have fellowship with us and with God.**

And why do we do this?

**We do this so that our joy may be complete.**

**Opening Prayer (Unison):**

**God of Love and Life, you have known us from the beginning, and we will be with you beyond the ending of the world.**

**Strengthen us in this hour, that we might know you better, and that your word might live within us. Fill us, so that our joy might be complete in you. Amen.**

**\*Hymn: Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love      VU 574**

**Prayer of Confession (Unison):**

**O God, we have sinned in many ways. We have not loved you with all our hearts. We have not loved one another as we should. Sometimes we have let pride rule us, sometimes anger; sometimes our sin has been carelessness, sometimes resentment, or impatience, or greed. Forgive us. We need your love. (*We reflect in silence...*)**

**Words of Assurance:**

Anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether;  
the past is finished and gone;  
everything has become fresh and new.  
Friends, believe the Good news of the Gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen!**

**A Time for the Young & Young at Heart:**

**Children's Song:** Jesus Loves Me

**VU 365**

**First Reading:** 1 John 4:7-21 (NRSV)

***God Is Love***

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen

God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

**Psalm:** Psalm 33

**VU 760**

**Gospel Reading:** John 15:9-11 (NRSV)

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Meditation:** "Who is This Jesus, Anyways?"

**\*Hymn:** I Am a Child of God

**MV 157**

**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)**

**Giver of all good gifts, we bring to you the work of our hands  
and the love of all of our hearts. Bless these gifts and us, use  
them and us to show your love to a hurting and divided world, in  
the name of the One who came to love and heal and unite us.  
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:**

**Prayer of Jesus:**

**\*Hymn:** Let All Things Now Living

**VU 242**

**Blessing/Sending Forth:**

**Go out into the world, knowing that God loves you.  
We go, knowing we are not alone.**

Go out into the world and tell others that they too are loved.

**We go, called to love and serve others.**

As you go, may the everlasting love of God, the companionship of the Holy Spirit, and the wisdom of Jesus Christ be with you all.

**Amen!**

**\*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:**

**Announcements:**

**Prayer of the week:**

Lover of all that is, open my heart this day and always to accept Your abundant blessings, and open my eyes and my mind and my heart to Your world and all that is in it, that I may more clearly reflect Your love to all. Amen.

**Partners in Prayer:** Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

**Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference:** Trinity, Grimsby

**Prayer Tree Captain:** Alison Rainford

**Welcomers:** Lynne Lamb, Chris Hopewell, Mark Andrews

**Counters:** Lynne Lamb and Chris Hopewell