

Melville United Church
Sunday July 8, 2018
7th Sunday after Pentecost

** Congregation please stand as you are able.*

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today - Rev. Marion Loree



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
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Prelude:

Welcome & Announcements:

Sharing the Light:

Call to Worship:

This is God's place

there are no entry fees or dress codes,

no restriction on age or height,

no capability test, no exclusion zone,

no right way to come.

This is a place where we can find shelter, whatever the weather.

Here we are family, whoever we are,

here we are home, wherever we've been,

here in God's house,

God's grace is all we need.

Come, let us worship together.

Hymn: Come In, Come In and Sit Down

VU 395

Opening Prayer:

Come. Sit amongst us today, Spirit and friend, for we are open to hearing your wisdom and being influenced by your teaching. Open our minds, our ears and our hearts to know you more fully. Amen.

Prayer For Inner Healing:

Have you gotten a bit dusty?

God calls us to brush away the dust of places and circumstances

**that hold us back from living fully in God's grace
and being our true selves.**

Brush away emotions that do us no good -

malice, jealously, anger, resentment, anxiety.

Brush away other people's ideas and expectations that do us harm -

**unattainable and confining ideas of success and goodness,
wrong preconceptions.**

Brush away restrictions we put on ourselves -

I'm not good/talented/brave/intelligent enough.

Brush away the things that cause us to harm others -

greed, rudeness, impatience, lack of integrity.

Brush away the things that cause us to withhold compassion -

prejudice, intolerance, unkind thoughts.

Shake off all the things that keep us from developing into our best selves.

Amen.

Words of Affirmation:

Know that you are God's precious child,

held in God's care and brushed clean by grace.

Leave behind the dust of things which hold you back

and step into life restored and renewed

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Ministry of Music:

Theme Conversation:

Hymn: We Are Marching

VU 646

Children's Prayer:

Dear God,

Help my lips to praise.

Help my hands to serve.

And help my heart to love. Amen

Reading for Reflection: *(For the month of July a poem or reading other than a Psalm will be offered for contemplation.)*

Have I Left the Eagle to Soar in Freedom? -by Chief Dan George *in My Spirit Soars.*

The time will soon be here when my grandchild will long for the cry of a loon, the flash of a salmon, the whisper of spruce needles, or the screech of an eagle. But he will not make friends with any of these

creatures and when his heart aches with longing he will curse me.

Have I done all to keep the air fresh? Have I cared enough about the water? Have I left the eagle to soar in freedom?

Have I done everything I could to earn my grandchild's fondness?

Scripture: Mark 6:1-6 *(The Message)*

(Jesus is rejected in Nazareth)

He left there and returned to his hometown. His disciples came along.

On the Sabbath, he gave a lecture in the meeting place. He made a real hit, impressing everyone. "We had no idea he was this good!" they said.

"How did he get so wise all of a sudden, get such ability?"

But in the next breath they were cutting him down: "He's just a carpenter - Mary's boy. We've known him since he was a kid. We know his brothers, James, Justus, Jude, and Simon, and his sisters. Who does he think he is?" They tripped over what little they knew about him and fell, sprawling. And they never got any further.

Jesus told them, "A prophet has little honour in his hometown, among his relatives, on the streets he played in as a child." Jesus wasn't able to do much of anything there - he laid hands on a few sick people and healed them, that's all. He couldn't get over their stubbornness. He left and made a circuit of the other villages, teaching.

Reflection: Side One: Who Do You Think You Are?

Song: I Am the Dream

MV 106

Scripture: Mark 6:7-13: *(The Message)*

(Jesus send the 12 out in pairs)

Jesus called the Twelve to him, and sent them out in pairs. He gave them authority and power to deal with the evil opposition. He sent them off with these instructions:

"Don't think you need a lot of extra equipment for this. *You* are the equipment. No special appeals for funds. Keep it simple.

"And no luxury inns. Get a modest place and be content there until you leave.

"If you're not welcomed, not listened to, quietly withdraw. Don't make a scene. Shrug your shoulders, shake off the dust, and be on your way."

Then they were on the road. They preached with joyful urgency that

life can be radically different; right and left they sent demons packing; they brought well-ness to the sick, anointing their bodies, healing their spirits.

Reflection: Side Two: Brush it off. You are the equipment.

Hymn: One More Step Along the World I Go **VU 639**

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.**

**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:**

**Source of Life, with your guidance we seek to become wise in how
we live in this world. We seek to have an impact for the sake of
goodness and justice and to deliver the message that all are loved
and embraced. May these gifts assist us in this calling. 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.

Prayers of the People:

Prayer of Jesus:

***Hymn:** Be Thou My Vision (vs 1,2,4,5) **VU 642**

***Blessing/Sending Forth:**

Just as Jesus sent the disciples out to proclaim the Good News,

So we are sent.

Just as they were equipped to be disciples,

So we receive what we need

to do what we are called to do.

Just as he called them to live in trust,

so we are called to trust that our needs will be met.

Go, knowing the love of God, the peace of Christ
and the companionship of the Holy Spirit is with you - always.

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.

Prayer of the week:

Lead us, O God, into relationships that give strength. May we find in your presence the discovery of our call and empowerment for its practice. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: Elora Christian Reformed Church

Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference: Tara

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Karen Smillie, Chris Hopewell,
Mark Andrews

Counters: Karen Smillie and Chris Hopewell.