



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.

secretary@melvilleunited.com

www.melvilleunited.com

519-826-9385, 519-835-8605

519-843-3841

**August 12, 2018**

**Melville United Church**

**Sunday, August 12, 2018**

**12<sup>th</sup> After Pentecost**

---

\* Congregation please stand as you are able.

**Bold print invites congregational response.**

Presiding today: Rev. Ruth Brown

**Prelude:**

**Welcome & Announcements:**

**Sharing the Light:** lighting the candles

**Call to Worship:**

All who hunger let us gather gladly, for holy manna is our bread.

**All who hunger let us sing together, for Christ Jesus is our living bread.**

**\*Hymn:** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

**VU 333**

**Opening Prayer for inner healing (Unison):**

**Bread of Life, we come from wilderness and wandering, seeking truth, longing to be fed.**

**We come from restlessness and roaming, open to joy as we keep Sabbath with you.**

**We were once lost and scattered, yet here we are found.**

**In love's common union, we may yet stand.**

**Bless us living bread, deliver us from sin and sorrow. Feed us till we want no more.**

**In your abundant presence, help us believe and live, day by day.**

**Amen**

**Words of Assurance:**

Here we remember God is good, grace is abundant, and love divine, all loves excelling, actually is, all around, keeping faith with us, as with all creation.

**Blessed be Bread of Life, given for the life of the world, given for you and me. Amen**

**Ministry of Music:**

**Theme Conversation:**

**\*Hymn:** Seek ye First the Kingdom

**VU 356**

**Scripture Readings, *The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation***

**2 Samuel 18:5-9,15, 31-33**

Meanwhile David instructed Joab, Abishai and Ittai, “Deal gently with young Absalom for my sake.” And all the troops heard David giving the commanders orders about Absalom.

The army marched out to take the field of battle against Israel; the battle was joined in the Forest of Ephraim. The Israelites were routed there with a great loss of life—20,000 died. The rout spread throughout the countryside and the forest claimed more lives that day than the sword. Some of David’s troops spotted Absalom fleeing on this mule. As the mule ran under the thick branches of a large oak tree, Absalom’s head was caught in its branches, while the mule ran out from under him. Then Joab’s ten armor-bearers cut him down and delivered the fatal blows.

Then the Cushite arrived, saying, “Sovereign ruler, I have good news. For God delivered you today from all who revolted against you.” David asked the Cushite, “Is young Absalom safe?”

The Cushite replied, "May all the enemies of the ruler and all the rebels intent on harming you, have the same fate as that young man."

David was deeply shaken and went up to the roof chamber over the gate and wept, crying out as he went," My child! Absalom, my son! My child Absalom! If only I had died instead of you! Absalom, my son, my son!"

**Psalm:** Psalm 130

**VU 853**

Out of the depths I cry to you God!

**God hears our voices!**

Let your ears be attentive to my voice God, my cries for mercy!

**If God kept track of our sins, who could stand before God?**

**But with God is forgiveness, and for this we revere God.**

So, I wait for you God, my soul waits,

**and in God's word, we place our trust.**

My soul longs for you God, more than sentinels long for the dawn,  
more than sentinels long for the dawn.

**We put our hope in God, for with God is abundant love  
and the fullness of deliverance;**

Come almighty to deliver from all my sin and want and sorrow.

**Gospel of John 6: 35, 41-51**

Jesus explained to them, "I am the bread of life.

No one who comes to me will ever be hungry; no one who believes in me, will be thirsty."

The temple authorities started to grumble in protest because Jesus claimed,

"I am the bread that came down from heaven." They kept saying, "Isn't this Jesus, son of Mary and Joseph? Don't we know his mother and father? How can he claim to have come down from heaven?"

“Stop your grumbling,” Jesus told them. “No one can come to me unless drawn by Abba God, who sent me— and those I will raise up on the last day.

It is written in the prophets: ‘They will all be taught by God.’

Everyone who has heard God’s word and has learned from it, comes to me.

Not that anyone has seen Abba God—only the one who is from God has seen Abba God.

The truth of the matter is, those who believe have eternal life.

I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate manna in the desert, but they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, and if you eat it you’ll never die. I myself am the living bread come down from heaven. If any eat of this bread they will live forever; the bread I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

**Message:** Bread of Life

**\*Hymn:** Come Touch our Hearts

**MV 12**

**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)**

**Gracious God, in all our giving and receiving, may the gifts of faith, hope and love be as loaves multiplied. Open to your Spirit at work in us and others, may Bread of Life be shared in abundance, for the redemption of all people, as for ourselves we pray. Amen**

**Joys and 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: Guide me, O thou Great Jehovah**

**VU 651**

**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:**

**Announcements:**

**Prayer of the week:**

August 12, 2018

6

**Partners in Prayer:** Central Pentecostal Church  
**Prayer Cycle for Hamilton Conference:** Vittoria  
**Prayer Tree Captain:** Alison Rainford

**Welcomers:** Mark Andrews, Elizabeth Stintson, Bob Zirk

**Counters:** Karen Smillie and Ralph Rainford