



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	
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Church Secretary:	Gerri McCullough
Custodian:	Robert Mitchell
Chair of Church Council:	Allan Hons
Pastoral Care	Alison Rainford, Rev. Marion Loree
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April 28, 2019

**Melville United Church
Sunday, April 28, 2019
Easter 2**

* *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:

We believe in God, the creator and redeemer of all life.

We live, we love, we laugh, because we have been blessed by God.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who is risen to new life.

We live, we love, we laugh, because of the Good News of the Resurrection.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who moves us to live in joyous ways.

We live, we love, we laugh, because the Spirit is our inspiration and guide.

Let us rejoice with thankful hearts!

Let us worship God!

*(Written by Diane Bennett-Jones. **Gathering**, Lent/Easter 2013, page 43. Used with permission.)*

Opening Prayer:

Easter God, you broke open the tomb so long ago and set us free to live a life of laughter and freedom from fear. Be with us in this hour. Set aside our doubts, and open our ears to the Good News. Christ is risen indeed. Hallelujah and Amen!

***Hymn: "Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet" VU 245**

Prayer of Confession:

We doubt, God. We lock our doors and our hearts in fear, refusing to share lest we be ridiculed or worse. We keep the Good News of your resurrection to ourselves, and fail to show by our living that you are alive. Help us believe. Help us live that belief with joy and generosity...

(We reflect silently on those places in our lives where we need God's light)

Words of Assurance:

The God who greeted the women at the tomb, the God who showed Thomas what he needed to believe, the God who was with Peter in his preaching and imprisonment—that God is around us and within us each hour of every day, upholding us, prodding us on to better lives, and forgiving us when we fall short.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

A Time for the Young and Young at Heart

Hymn: “Give to Us Laughter” VU 624

New Testament Reading: Acts 5:27-32 (NRSV)

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Psalm 150

VU 874

Reader: Ruth Sproule

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31 (NRSV)**Jesus Appears to the Disciples**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Jesus and Thomas

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

The Purpose of This Book

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come

to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God!

Meditation: “The End of All Fear”

***Hymn: “Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah!” MV 121**

Offering:

Offering Song: “What Can I Do?” MV 191

What can I do? What can I bring?
 What can I say? What can I sing?
 I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
 I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

***Offertory Prayer (Unison):**

Laughing Giver of Life, we return here a portion of that life so that others may know joy and laughter too. Amen.

Prayer Prelude: “God, Listen to Your Children Praying” VU 400

God, listen to your children praying,
 God, send your Spirit in this place;
 God, listen to your children praying,
 Send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Prayers of the People:

Prayer of Jesus:

***Hymn: “Come, We That Love” VU 714**

Blessing/Sending Forth:

Live, laugh, love, for that is the heritage you have in Christ Jesus. Share what you have in gladness for what you have been given, and so that others might know the love of our God.

We go forth in joy and thanksgiving! Amen.

***Parting Song** “Melville Benediction”

Postlude

Prayer of the Week: God, so far today I’ve done all right. I haven’t gossiped. I haven’t lost my temper. I haven’t been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish or overindulgent. I’m very thankful for that. But in a few minutes, God, I’m going to get out of bed, and from then on, I’m probably going to need a lot more help. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: Elora/Bethany Pastoral Charge

Western Ontario Waterways: Rockwood-Stone Church

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Mark Andrews, Joan and John Cuming

Counters: Karen Smillie and Larry Broome