



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

**Minister of Worship, Pastoral Care
& Outreach**

Faith Formation & Youth

Minister of Music Team:

Church Secretary (summer):

Custodian:

Chair of Church Council:

Pastoral Care

**Chair of Pastoral Care
& Prayer Chain Captain**

Office summer hours:

E-Mail:

Web Site:

Pastoral Care Numbers

Rev. Marion Loree

Martha Duncan

Rob White, Suzanne Flewelling

Heather Watson

Robert Mitchell

Allan Hons

Alison Rainford

Rev. Marion Loree

Alison Rainford

9:00 am - 1:00 pm Tuesday

9:00am – 2:00 pm Thurs & Fri

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Melville United Church
5th after Pentecost
Sunday July 14th, 2019

** Congregation please stand as you are able.*

Bold print invites congregational response.

Presiding today: Marion Loree

We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality and culture of the Indigenous peoples with whom Treaty 4 - also known as the Haldimand Tract - was signed and the territory wherein our church resides, and we acknowledge our responsibilities as treaty members.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Sharing the Light

Call to worship:

Come neighbours and strangers.

Come prophets and seekers of justice.

Come, those who need a helping hand.

Come, those who have something to offer.

Whether your faith is weak or strong.

Come, let us be neighbours in this place,

Come, let us worship God together.

***Hymn:** Come, Touch Our Hearts **MV 12**

Opening Prayer:

God of love and compassion,

you call us to be a people of compassion, too.

In this time of worship

speak to us again your words of love

and remind us again of what it means to be a neighbour.

God of grace:

When we see our neighbours in need and turn away,

forgive us.

When we assume we are too busy, or too important, to get involved,

forgive us.

When we ignore or discredit today's prophetic voices,

forgive us.

When we fail to measure up to being your people,

forgive us.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the ultimate neighbour.

Amen.

Ministry of Music

Words to Ponder: Psalm 82 (a paraphrase by James Taylor, *Everyday Psalms*)
(Tough love)

God sits at the head of the table.

“How long,” God demands,

“Will you keep making the wrong choices?”

How long will your policies favour injustice?

I expect you to be fair to everyone,

including those with no economic weight:

to defend the rights of those who have no voice,

and no one to speak for them:

to protect the weak and the struggling from exploitation.

Of all people, they need your protection most.

They do not have education, or money,

or friends in high places.

They have suffered devastating losses in their lives.”

God says: “You think you have taken over my responsibilities.

But you are not God.

When your time comes,

you will die like everyone else.”

Come, God.

Come judge the earth.

We are yours to judge.

Scripture: Amos 7:7-17 (The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Edition)
(God holds a plumb line in the midst of God’s people)

This is what the Sovereign YHWH showed me: God was standing by a wall, a plumb line in hand. “What do you see, Amos?” YHWH asked me. “A plumb line,” I said. Then God said to me, “Look, I am going to measure my people Israel by plumb line. I will no longer excuse their atrocities. The high places of Isaac are going to be ruined, the sanctuaries of Israel destroyed. With sword in hand, I will attack the House of Jeroboam.”

Amaziah the priest of Bethel then sent the following message to Jeroboam ruler of Israel: “Amos is plotting against you in the midst of the House of Israel. The country can no longer tolerate what he keeps saying. For this is what he says, ‘Jeroboam is going to die by the sword, and Israel is going into exile from its land.’”

Amaziah told Amos, “Go away, seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there. Do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel. This is the royal sanctuary, the national Temple!”

Amos answered Amaziah: “I am no prophet. Nor am I the disciple of a prophet. I was a shepherd, and gathered figs for food. But YHWH took me from herding the flock, and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ So listen to the word of YHWH! You say: ‘Do not prophesy against Israel. Utter no oracles against the House of Isaac.’ Very well, this is what YHWH says: “Your spouses will be forced to take the most demeaning work, your children will fall by the sword, your land will be parceled out by measuring lines, and you yourself will die on unclean soil. And Israel will go into exile, for from its own land.”

Reflection: Hearing the Truth

Hymn: Holy Spirit, Truth Divine **VU 368**

Scripture: Luke 10:25-37 (The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Edition)
(Parable of The Good Samaritan)

An expert on the Law stood up to put Jesus to the test and said, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit everlasting life?”

Jesus answered, “What is written in the law? How do you read it?”

The expert on the Law replied: “You must love the Most High God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.”

Jesus said, “You have answered correctly. Do this and you’ll live.”

But the expert on the Law, seeking self-justification, pressed Jesus further: “And just who is my neighbour?”

Jesus replied, “There was a traveler going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, who fell prey to robbers. The traveler was beaten, stripped naked, and left half-dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road; the priest saw the traveler lying beside the road, but passed by on the other side. Likewise there was a Levite who came the same way; this one, too, saw the afflicted traveler and passed by on the other side.

“But a Samaritan, who was taking the same road, also came upon the traveler and, filled with compassion, approached the traveler and dressed the wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then the Samaritan put the wounded person on a donkey, went straight to an inn and there took care of the injured one. The next day the Samaritan took out two silver pieces and gave them to the innkeeper with the request, ‘Look after this person, and if there is any further expense, I’ll repay you on the way back.’

“Which of these three, in your opinion, was the neighbour to the traveler who fell in with the robbers?”

The answer came, “The one who showed compassion.”

Jesus replied, “Then go and do the same.”

Reflection: Neighbours

Hymn: Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love **VU 593**

Offering:

***Offering Hymn:** 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.

(Repeat)

***Offertory Prayer:**

God of grace and compassion, may our gifts enable this church to be a place where strangers become friends, outcasts are welcomed, seekers receive, and doubters find faith. Amen.

Joys and Concerns:

Prayer Prelude: Send Your Holy Spirit

VU 370

Send your Holy spirit

on your gathered people,

merciful and loving God,

hear us, as we pray.

(Repeat)

Prayers of the People:

The Lord's Prayer:

***Hymn:** He Leadeth Me **VU 657**

***Blessing:**

Go from this gathering to meet your neighbour
with open hands and an open heart,
giving and receiving the goodness of God's love!

**We go to love God,
and to love our neighbours
as we love ourselves. Amen.**

Parting Song: Dance With the Spirit **MV 156**

**Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',
Walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.
Work and hope for the new life a-bornin',
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.**

(Repeat)

Postlude:

Prayer of the Week:

O God of justice and love implant within us hearts of faithfulness,
hearts that lead our hands in works of compassion. From your great
love for us, inspire us to love our neighbours, that all might come to
know your plan for our world. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: Grand River Community Church

Western Ontario Waterways: Wesley: Cambridge

Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Vivian and Harvey Andrews,
Lynne Lamb

Counter: Lynne Lamb and Phil Brown