



Melville United Church
November 17, 2019
23rd Sunday after Pentecost



** Congregation please stand as you are able.*
Bold print invites congregational response.
Presiding today - Rev. 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

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

Welcome & Announcements

Joys, Concerns & God Moments/Moments of Awe

Sharing the Light

We light a candle

**in the name of the God who creates life,
in the name of the Christ Presence who loves life,
in the name of the Spirit who is the fire of life.**

Centering words:

Lord, you give me an open heart to find you everywhere,
to glimpse the heaven enfolded in a bud,
and experience eternity in the smallest act of love.

-Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)

Gathering Hymn: We Praise You, O God

VU 218

Time with the Younger Ones: Stone Soup

***Hymn: The Sharing Song**

-Raffi

Children's Prayer:

<p>Melville United Church 300 St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON N1M 1N9 Mailing address: PO Box 41, Fergus, ON N1M 2W7 519-843-1781 Team Ministry</p>	
<p>Minister of Worship, Pastoral Care & Outreach</p>	<p>Rev. Marion Loree</p>
<p>Faith Formation & Youth</p>	<p>Martha Duncan</p>
<p>Ministry of Music Team:</p>	<p>Suzanne Flewelling</p>
<p>Office Administrator:</p>	<p>Lynda Rivet</p>
<p>Custodian:</p>	<p>Robert Mitchell</p>
<p>Chair of Church Council:</p>	<p>Allan Hons</p>
<p>Pastoral Care</p>	<p>Alison Rainford, Rev. Marion Loree</p>
<p>Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain</p>	<p>Alison Rainford</p>
<p>Office hours:</p>	<p>9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. T., T. & F.</p>
<p>E-Mail:</p>	<p>secretary@melvilleunited.com</p>
<p>Web Site:</p>	<p>www.melvilleunited.com</p>
<p>Pastoral Care Numbers</p>	<p>519-835-8605, 519-843-3841</p>

WE WORSHIP TOGETHER**Call to Worship:**

From a world where more is considered best
we come to talk of sharing.

From a world where people look out for number one
we come to follow Jesus' concern for others.

From a world that tries hard not to feel
we come to open our hearts to God's love.

As we worship together in song and prayer
may we be filled with a new understanding.

Come, people of God, let us worship in love together.

Opening Prayer:

Source of Life, when we are hungry,
feed us with bread and fish for the journey.

When we struggle,
sustain us with words of wisdom and stories of hope.

When we wrestle with unknown forces,
touch us with companionship and love.

When we avoid you because we do not want
to wrestle with what weighs on our hearts
forgive us and draw us near.

When we do not want to deal with things we know we should
forgive us and give us strength.

Remind us that time spent with you
is time spent with our most inner selves.

Lead us inward into love and peace. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

The Good News is that we are a forgiven people.
Holy Presence guides us and will continue to guide us.
All we need is to open our hearts and minds to allow it.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Scripture: Exodus 16:11-18, 31, 35 (The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Edition)

(Food is provided for the Israelites in the desert)

Then YHWH spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the people of Israel. Say this to them 'In the evening you will eat meat, and in the morning you will have your fill of bread. Then you will know that I, YHWH, am your God.'"

So it came about that in the evening quail flew in and all around the camp. And in the morning there was a layer of dew all around the camp; when the layer of dew evaporated, there on the surface of the desert were flakes of something: delicate, powdery, fine as frost.

When they saw this, the people of Israel said to each other, "What is it?" - not knowing what it was. But Moses told them, "This is the bread YHWH has given you to eat.

"This is the command YHWH gave you," he continued. "Each one is to gather just enough to eat. Let everyone collect a two-quart measure of it for each person in your tent." The Israelites did as they were told. Some took a large amount. Some took very little. But when they measured it by the two-quart measure, those who took a large amount did not have too much, and those who gathered very little did not have too little. Each had just as much as they needed.

The Israelites called the food "manna." It was white like coriander seeds and it tasted like wafers made with honey. The Israelites ate manna for the forty years it took to come into the region of Canaan.

Words to Ponder: Random Acts of Kindness

-Leo Buscaglia,
Born for Love

The majority of us lead quiet, unheralded lives as we pass through this world. There will most likely be no ticker-tape parades for us, no monuments created in our honour. But that does not lessen our possible impact upon the world, for there are scores of

people waiting for someone just like us to come along: people who will appreciate our compassion, our encouragement, who will need our unique talents. Someone who will live a happier life merely because we took the time to share what we had to give.

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have a potential to turn a life around.

Reader: Millie Cumming

Scripture: Matthew 14:13-21 (The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Edition)

(Jesus feeds the crowd)

When Jesus heard about the beheading of John, he left Nazareth by boat and went to a deserted place to be alone. The crowds heard of this and followed him from their towns on foot. When Jesus disembarked and saw the vast throng, his heart was moved with pity, and he healed their sick.

As evening drew on, the disciples approached Jesus and said, "This is a deserted place and it is already late. Dismiss the crowds so they can go to the villages and buy some food for themselves."

Jesus said to them: "There is no need for them to disperse. Give them something to eat yourselves."

"We have nothing here," they replied, "But five loaves and a couple of fish."

"Bring them here," Jesus said. Then he ordered the crowds to sit on the grass. Taking the five loaves and two fish, Jesus looked up to heaven, blessed the food, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, who in turn gave it to the people. All those present ate their fill. The fragments remaining, when gathered up, filled twelve baskets. About five thousand families were fed.

Message: - What Would Jesus Say?

Guest Speaker - Fred Aleksandrowicz - Manager of Centre Wellington Food Bank

Hymn: I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

VU 509

WE RESPOND

Offering:

***Offering Hymn:** For the Gift of Creation **VU 538**

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.**

***Offertory Prayer:**

With these gifts we bring our hopes

for a world where there is enough for all.

Enough bread for this day,

enough trust for tomorrow,

enough joy to fill your people with song,

enough faith to know that these gifts are your gifts to us.

May they be magnified to heal, to create, and to bless.

Amen.

Prayer Prelude: Mother and God

VU 280

Mother and God, to you we sing;

wide is your womb, warm is your wing.

In you we live, move and are fed

sweet flowing milk, life giving bread.

Mother and God, to you we bring

all broken hearts, all broken wings.

Prayers of the People:

Lord's Prayer:

WE PREPARE TO LEAVE

***Hymn:** When I Needed a Neighbour (vs 1,2,3,5) **VU 600**

***Blessing:**

God calls us again and again
and showers us with love
that we might do the same for others.

**We go into the world to love
and serve God in our neighbour.**

Go, knowing you never go alone
for Holy Oneness is within and around 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.

Postlude:

Prayer of the Week:

Loving God, hold us in all our longing. Speak within us and whisper our names. Unfold your grace in all our living. Wait with us and attend to us, as we meet you with our lives fully open. Lift us, restore us as we find healing space in you. Amen.

Partners in Prayer: The Door Youth Centre
Western Ontario Waterways: Bruce Peninsula Cluster
Prayer Tree Captain: Alison Rainford

Welcomers: Mark Andrews, Mary Lloyd, Graeme Chalmers, Bob Zirk

Counters: Mary Lloyd and Richard Wright