



Melville United Church  
November 3, 2019  
All Saints Sunday



Melville United Church  
 300 St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON N1M 1N9  
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 Team Ministry

Minister of Worship, Pastoral Care & Outreach	Rev. Marion Loree
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*\* 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:**

Life is eternal; and love immortal; and death is only a horizon; and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.

- Rossiter Worshington Raymond 1840-1918.

**\*Gathering Song:** For All the Saints (tune VU 705, words g. vosper)

**For all the saints, who from their labours rest,  
who lived the faith that burned within their breast,  
that held them true unto life's purest quest.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Hope was their rock, their fortress, and their might;  
it held them fast e'en in the deepest night;  
hope, in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!  
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
their courage strengthens all we call divine.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest shore,  
from wounded hearts, the light of love shows forth;  
and still their vision shines forevermore.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**Time with the Younger Ones:** Who/What is a Saint?

**Song:** I Can Feel You Near Me God **MV 48**

**Children's Prayer:**

### WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

**Call to Worship:** (based on Psalm 149)

Praise God! Sing a new song, all you who love God.

**Let us be glad in our Creator!**

**Let all God's children rejoice!**

Let us praise God's name with dancing;

let us make music with instruments of all kinds.

**God loves the people**

**and honours those who are humble.**

The faithful ones can be happy and sing for joy.

**They can celebrate as they help**

**end the evils of injustice, abuse, and tyranny.**

God will turn the world upside down

and bring honour to the saints who are faithful and true.

**God delights in the people.**

Come let us worship God together!

**Opening Prayer:**

Great mystery, we, your saints,

gather to worship and praise this day.

**We celebrate the saints who have served you**

**and been an example for us in the past.**

We give thanks for the joy of being part of

the communion of saints scattered around the globe.

**Open us to your Spirit that we may continue**

**to be the saints you have called us to be.**

Sometimes we see others who we think do not belong.

**Forgive us and bless us.**

Sometimes we close our ears to the cries of the needy.

**Forgive us and bless us.**

Sometimes we do not appreciate the gifts others offer.

**Forgive us and bless us.**

Open our hearts, our ears and our minds,

**and teach us how to love as you love. Amen.**

**Words of Assurance:**

God surprises us with a love that seeks and embraces.

God's graceful welcome is so affirming that it is life-changing.

When you embrace God's welcoming Spirit

with gratitude and joy, you, too may live with such love.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Ministry of Music:** Never Give Up.

**Scripture:** 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18a (The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Edition)

(I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race)

As for me, my life is already being poured out like a libation. The time of my dissolution is near. I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. Now a laurel wreath awaits me; on that day our God, the just Judge, will award it to me - and not only to me, but to all who have longed for Christ's appearing.

Christ stood by my side and gave me strength, so that through me the proclamation might be completed and all the nations might hear the Gospel. That's how I was saved from the lion's jaws. Christ will continue to rescue me from all attempts to do me harm, and will bring me safe to the higher realm.

**Words to Ponder:** Good Rules by Luck

(Source unknown)

There was an old man in ancient China who had one son and one horse. One day the horse escaped from its corral and fled into the forest. "Bad luck," said the neighbours. "How can you be sure?" asked the old man. Next day the horse returned bringing back ten wild horses. "Good luck," said the neighbours. "How can you be sure?" asked the old man. Next day the man's son was thrown while trying to tame one of the wild horses, and broke his leg. "Bad luck." said the neighbours. "How can you be sure?" asked the man. Next day an enemy invaded the village and carried off all able-bodied men. The old man's injured son was left behind.

**Reader:** Susan Barth

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1:11-23 (The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Edition)

(The hope to which you are called)

In Christ we were willed an inheritance; for in the decree of God - and everything is administered according to the divine will and counsel - we were predestined to praise the glory of the Most High by being the first to hope in Christ. In Christ you too were chosen. When you heard the Good News of salvation, the word of truth, and believed in it, you

were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the pledge of our inheritance, the deposit paid against the full redemption of a people who are God's own - to the praise of God's glory.

From the time I first heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all the holy ones, I have never stopped thanking God for you and remembering you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Saviour Jesus Christ, the God of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation, to bring you to a rich knowledge of the Creator.

I pray that God will enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see the hope this call holds for you - the promised glories that God's holy ones will inherit, and the infinitely great power that is exercised for us who believe. You can tell this from the strength of God's power at work in Jesus, the power used to raise Christ from the dead and to seat Christ in heaven at God's right hand, for above every sovereignty, authority, power or dominion, and above any other name that can be named - not only in this age, but also in the age to come. God has put all things under Christ's feet and made Christ, as the ruler of everything, the head of the church, and the church is Christ's body; it's the fullness of the One who fills all of creation.

**Message:** Our Inheritance

**Hymn:** Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart **VU 378** (vs1,2 4)

### 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:**

We offer our whole selves to you, O God, creator of everything. It is a joy and a blessing to share our gifts with one another. As we offer these things for the work of your church, help us to be mindful of all that we can do together as the Body of Christ.  
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:**

....Thank you for your saints, O God:

(Response) **Help us to be like them.**

**Lord's Prayer:****WE PREPARE TO LEAVE**

**\*Hymn:** O Jesus, I Have Promised

VU 120 (vs 1,2,4)

**\*Blessing:**

Go now in peace to be the saints of God.

**We will treat others as we would have them treat us.**

And may Holy Mystery give you a spirit of wisdom that you might come to know the hope to which you have been called.

**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:**

Holy Presence, we give thanks for Spirit's working in the lives of all the saints. Give us faith to engage the world according to your ways, living in hope and confidence of your gifts of love and guidance. Amen.

**Partners in Prayer:** Melville United Church

**Western Ontario Waterways:** Villages United: Granton

**Prayer Tree Captain:** Alison Rainford

**Welcomers:**

Bob Zirk, Mark Andrews, Doreen and Larry  
Broome

**Counters:**

Kaillie Rawn and Larry Broome