



Celebrating 176 Years



February 13, 2022

Melville United Church

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Melville United Church
February 13, 2022
The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Presiding today - Rev. Lynda Goy-Flint

Welcome

I greet you in the name of Jesus the Christ, the Light of the World.

We gather in community today – February 13, 2022 virtually and in person. We will continue to offer both in-person and on-line services with printed copies being distributed to those without internet access who are unable to attend in person. For those who are joining us online or by reading, we invite you to have a candle or tea light available.

As we gather this day, in the season after Epiphany, we focus on the gifts we have received from God, and how to offer our response.

Announcements

- Due to changes in the United Church **Broadview Magazine** procedures, new subscriptions and renewals for Melville will now take place in April. For further details contact Ralph Rainford. Thank you.
- **February 21st Family Day Opportunity to Support Families**
There are a rising number of Canadian families who can't make ends meet. Since COVID struck, visits to Canadian food banks have climbed 20 percent. Already, over 33 percent of food bank users are children. In 2022, food prices are predicted to rise another 5 to 7 percent. We can help support our friends and neighbours living in Canada. Support families by giving the gift of a meal through our Mission & Service partners or directly to the local food bank. A gift of just \$25 will provide a family of four with a warm, nutritious meal. \$50 will support a family with two meals. \$175 will ensure a family can eat a good, healthy meal every day of the week. [Make a gift](#) today!
- **Week of Guided Prayer and Spiritual Exploration** February 27 to March 5, 2022
Hope and Resilience in Uncertain Times Presented by the Guelph Ecumenical Guild of Ignatian Spiritual Direction. The Week of Guided Prayer is an opportunity to learn more about prayer, explore your spirituality, and develop and deepen a relationship with God. Listening, reflection and awareness are at the heart of the Week. Please register by Feb. 21st
- **Job Opportunity - Church Office Coordinator**
Trinity United Church, Guelph is looking to hire a Church Office Coordinator to oversee the Administrative process of Trinity United Church, and ensure that church operations function efficiently and with accountability. We are looking for someone who is able to communicate with compassion and be able to deal with families who may be in crisis and refer them to the proper staff. This is a 25 hour per week position with enrollment in the United Church Pension Plan and Group Insurance. If interested, please forward resume to mandp@trinityunitedguelph.ca.

- **World Day of Prayer 2022**

Each year, since 1927, a different host country has prepared the content of the World Day of Prayer service, highlighting its country's culture and regional justice issues. The 2022 service was written by the England, Wales and Northern Ireland World Day of Prayer Committee and adapted for use in Canada by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada. Viewers from all over the country will be able to virtually unite in prayer and action. We invite you to watch the video of the service available at <https://wicc.org/world-day-of-prayer-2022-service-video/> on or near Friday, March 4th.

- **2021-2022 Gifts with Vision** catalogues are out. These gifts are perfect for those difficult to buy for people. There's no going out, no standing in line, no wrapping. And you will be helping out those in need near and far. Items address healing and reconciliation, leadership, counter racism, wellness and safe spaces, education, poverty and hunger, the future, Mission & Service. Gifts range from \$5 to \$140. Gifts include food for the north, help build a well, purchasing Covid vaccines for the Global South and East, and much more. You can find the full catalogue at www.giftswithvision.ca.
- We continue to **collect items for the food bank**. A list of the most needed items was sent out, and if you need a printed copy, just let someone on the Social Justice team or Rev. Lynda know, and we will get it to you. In addition to non-perishable food items, the food bank is also looking for personal and feminine hygiene products as well as fresh vegetables, apples and oranges.
- Trinity United presents **Roast Beef in the Springtime ... A Drive Through**, Take Out Dining Experience – Thursday, March 31st in collaboration with Jesse's at the Guelph Country Club. Including roast beef, honey glazed carrots, peas, coleslaw, mashed potatoes & gravy and Trinity's own chocolate brownie with raspberry coulis. Cost is \$25/dinner. **Order by March 26** by calling Kathy at 519-829-9622 or emailing kathyrobertstephens@gmail.com. Pick up is between 4:15-6:30 pm.

I invite you to join us now for a time of worship and contemplation.

Land Acknowledgement *Peter Chynoweth, **Gathering: Pentecost 2, 2021**, p.25. Used with permission.*

Land is sacred and holy.

Our relationship to the land is sacred and holy.

Our relationship with each other on this land is sacred and holy.

It calls for respect and appreciation.

And so we offer our appreciation, our thanksgiving, and our respect

that we can gather in this place and on this land

as a result of the welcome that comes through the Haldimand Treaty and the Simcoe Patent -

Treaty No. 4,

which allow for peaceful and respectful living on this land.

Thanks to the

Petun,

Haudenosaunee,

Anishinabewaki,

Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation,

Odawa and

Mississauga people

who have lived on and walked these lands for thousands of years.

We acknowledge that we are connected with the people who have lived here for all these years because of the treaties.

Because we are treaty people, we must honour the responsibilities that come with it.

May we be people who remember this with gratitude and respect.

Sharing the Light:

(If you are watching this on-line or reading it from a page I invite you to take a moment to light a candle, centre yourself and prepare to enter in to a time of worship and prayer. As you light your candle repeat the following words)

There once was someone who said such wonderful things and did such amazing things

teaching

healing

helping

loving

inviting everyone to join in

that people wondered who he was.

Finally they just couldn't help it. They had to ask him who he was.

When they asked him who he was, he said, "I am the light of the world."

So we light this candle to remember and remind ourselves that the Light of the World, and the love, healing and welcome offered are with us here in this time

Call to Worship: *Spill the Beans Resources Team, spill the beans: worship and learning resources for all ages, Issue 41, p. 107. Copyright 2021, alt.*

Caught hold by a story,
the Word of God—

**is the lure that attracts us,
a message of love for all.**

Redeemed by Jesus—

**is the net that gathers all in,
a promise of Love for all.**

In that assurance of unconditional love,

**we worship,
the God who draws all in.**

Hymn: We Praise You, O God **VU 218**

1 We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

2 We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

3 With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Opening Prayer (in unison): *Barbara Johns, Gathering: Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2021-2022, p.45. Used with permission.*

Loving God, we yearn to be your faithful disciples.

We lift our hearts to you, O God.

We come with our fears, our secret thoughts, our hidden selves.

We lift our hearts to you, O God.

We ask for courage to embrace new beginnings in our lives.

We lift our hearts to you, O God.

Keep us close in your sacred covenant of love and grace.

We lift our hearts to you, O God.

Help us share your gospel message of love and hope,

as fishers of people who have answered Jesus' call. Amen.

Ministry of Music: "Thank You God, for Your Blessings on Me" by the Easter Brothers, *sung by Lillian Gohn, accompanied by Suzanne Flewelling*

Call to Reconciliation *Reverend Thom M. Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies: Liturgy w/ Communion for February 6, 2022 (Epiphany 5 – C). Used with permission.*

It is so simple to say, yet so difficult to live out - 'do not be afraid!'

Yet, whatever fear burdens us, God will lift from our souls.

Whatever foolishness we have uttered, God whispers mercy to us.

Whatever wrong we have done, God's forgiveness is poured out upon us.

I invite you to join with me as we pray to the One

whose love is constant in every moment, in every place, of our lives,

Prayer Seeking Forgiveness and Reconciliation (in unison) *Reverend Thom M. Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies: Liturgy w/ Communion for February 6, 2022 (Epiphany 5 – C). Used with permission, alt.*

God of wonder and joy,

we look in the mirror and do not see holiness reflected back.

We long to be sisters and brothers with others,

but don't want to be an intrusion in our friends' lives.

We yearn to be more compassionate,

yet it is often spite and malice we offer to someone else.

We are so busy listening to those internal i-Pods,

that we have trouble hearing the cries of loneliness coming from those around us.

Forgive us, God who longs to be enthroned in our hearts.

You call us to different lives,

so we might make a difference for all who hurt.

You invite us into your kingdom,

so we might show the others the way.

You challenge us to take a risk by following Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,

so we might become your children once again.

Silence is kept

Words of Assurance *Reverend Thom M. Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies: Liturgy w/ Communion for February 6, 2022 (Epiphany 5 – C). Used with permission, alt.*

The One who alone is Holy
became wholly human so we might see the face of grace.

The One who is seated in the heavens
endured the cross so we might see the face of salvation.

This is our good news: we are forgiven!

**By God's grace, with God's grace,
we are who we are meant to be:
forgiven, restored, called people.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13) (NRSV)

I saw God seated upon the throne

A Vision of God in the Temple

In the year that King Uzziah died,

I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty;
and the hem of his robe filled the temple.

Seraphs were in attendance above him;

each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

And one called to another and said:

‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.’

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called,
and the house filled with smoke.

And I said: ‘Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips,
and I live among a people of unclean lips;
yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!’

Then one of the seraphs flew to me,

holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs.

The seraph touched my mouth with it and said:

‘Now that this has touched your lips,
your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.’

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,

‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’

And I said, ‘Here am I; send me!’

And he said, ‘Go and say to this people:

“Keep listening, but do not comprehend;
keep looking, but do not understand.”

Make the mind of this people dull,

and stop their ears,

and shut their eyes,

so that they may not look with their eyes,

and listen with their ears,

and comprehend with their minds,

and turn and be healed.’

Then I said, ‘How long, O Lord?’ And he said:

‘Until cities lie waste

without inhabitant,
and houses without people,
and the land is utterly desolate;
until the Lord sends everyone far away,
and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.
Even if a tenth part remains in it,
it will be burned again,
like a terebinth or an oak
whose stump remains standing
when it is felled.
The holy seed is its stump.

“...In the Midst”

May we find God in the midst of all our days.

Hymn: Take My Life and Let It Be VU 506

Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, all for thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be
swift and purposeful for thee.

Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee;
take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love: and I will pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Scripture:

Prayer *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1.** Copyright 2012, alt.*

God of Exodus and Resurrection,
we are grateful for the gift of Scripture.
By the power of the Holy Spirit,
enliven your Word,
that we might know the good news
and share it with others.
For the sake of Christ we ask it. **Amen.**

Scripture: Luke 5:1-11 (NRSV)

Jesus calls Simon and James and John

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

May God bless to our understanding these readings from scripture. Amen.

Prayer *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1.** Copyright 2012.*

Holy One, *Isa. 6:3*
earth and heaven reverberate with your glory,
and humans and angels alike sing your praises.
Open our minds to your breathtaking work in the world,
even as you call us
to spread the good news of Jesus Christ, our mentor and savior,
in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

May the words I speak and the reflection that we all share
find a response that is worthy of you,
most Just, most Loving, and most Compassionate God. Amen.

David Sparks, Summerland, B.C.

Reflection: Fishing for People

I have always had a soft spot for the stories of Jesus' call of the disciples. And that only increased when I first heard a song by East Coast Canadian singer-songwriter Lenny Gallant called "Peter's Dream." In the song, Lenny sings about the impact overfishing is having on the lives of the fisherfolk of PEI and the Maritimes.

"How could they have let this happen
We saw it coming years ago
The greedy ships kept getting bigger and bigger

And the sonar told them where to go”

“Where am I gonna go now
What about this boat I own
What about this old piano
What about my father’s bones”

He sings about one of the fisherfolks’ despair over the state of the fishery—despair so deep that he goes down to the harbour, destroys his fishing boat, and all the fishers who have been commiserating with him watch it sink beneath the water.

It might just be a gloomy song, but Lennie Gallant has called it Peter’s Dream for a reason:

“Last night I dreamed that I was sailing
Out on the Sea of Galilee
We cast our nets upon the waters
And Jesus pulled them in with me.”

He is, of course, referencing this scripture passage, and how Jesus told Simon Peter to head out to deep water and cast the nets again, even though the night’s efforts have been for naught. And so Simon Peter does, and the haul of fish is more than one fisher, or even two fishing boats can readily manage.

But Jesus doesn’t just leave it there, he tells Peter and James and John to follow him, that they will fish for people from now on. The gift of this is having a purpose, being part of the establishment of God’s kin-dom on earth.

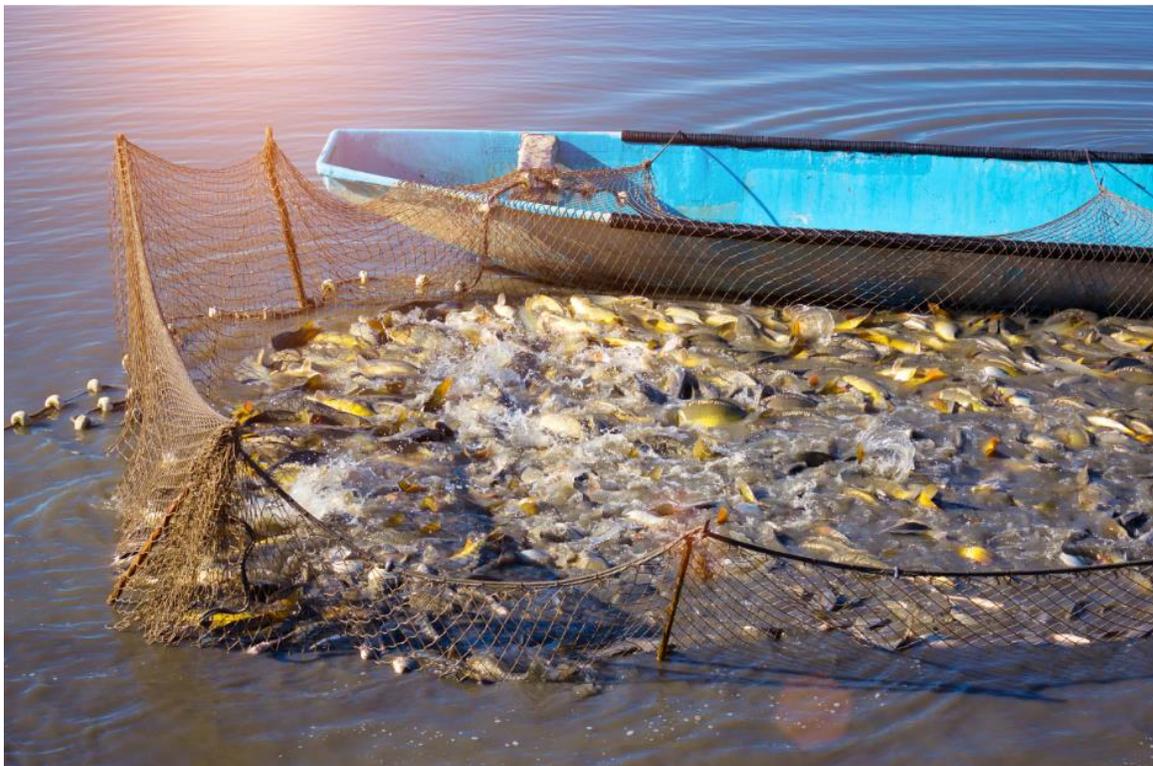
Now much as I like the call story, I do struggle more than a bit with the idea of fishing for people. Fishing is essentially predator chasing and killing prey. It may actually seem to us like an odd image for Jesus to offer. Clearly the people to whom he was speaking would understand him, as they were fisher folk, but for those of us hearing it, there is the idea of the powerful taking advantage of the weaker, of the sentient beings “winning” at the expense of the creaturely fish.

It has made me wonder just what Jesus thinks of us. Elsewhere he equates humanity with sheep, and sheep who get lost and have to be watched over. Now he speaks of fishing for people, that somehow deception and artifice will gather in the people who would be his followers. It makes me a little squeamish.

But in preparing for our service today, I came across a commentary on Luke 5 that offered a different perspective. Jesus, as he offer does, offers a metaphor for the would-be disciples of fishing, because he wants his message to be relatable, and what better way to talk to fisher folk?



And as is often the case, we need to put ourselves in the position of those to whom Jesus is directly speaking, instead of listening in with our 21st century ears and experiences. Fishing for us is about attaching bait to a hook, or using a deceptively real-looking lure or fly, and fooling the fish into thinking there is something good for them in this activity, when at the best, it will be their last meal, and at worst it will prey upon their instincts while giving them nothing.



But Fr. George Smiga points out, that is not how Peter and his associates fish. They fish with nets, which offers an entirely different understanding. It's no longer about "baiting" or "hooking" the individual; it is about gathering together. This idea of gathering with a net has been used elsewhere in the Bible. For instance, Jeremiah talks about God calling upon fishers, who will catch or gather the exiles from Babylon and return them to their own country (Jer 16:16). And in another part of the gospels, Jesus speaks of the kin-dom of heaven being like a fishing net that is let down into a lake and caught all kinds of fish (Matt 13:47-48).

In the gathering together, there is an invitation to unity and community. Not that those individuals gathered by the disciples will be used and consumed, but that they will be gathered together, to work co-operatively for and within the kin-dom of God. And in Jesus' reckoning, those doing the gathering are not the strongest, brightest, wealthiest people. They are simple people who have lived a hard life, have needed to work together to scrape out a living, and most importantly, have recognized their fallible, imperfect, weak humanity, who know they have missed the mark, fallen short and are not worthy to do the life-saving work to which Jesus is calling them.

Jesus' message is that through community, through coming together, working with Jesus, we will realize the kin-dom of God. People will not be left to fend for themselves. There will be no one left on the side of the road to beg for their livelihood. God will provide by drawing people together.



These past days have shown us cracks in the foundation of our shared humanity, the humanity that we all were striving to see cared for, amidst of the pandemic. Now we see protests pitting protestors against governmental authorities, residents, even employers, in several cities across the country, and increasingly around the world. There is a palpable sense of "us" and "them." And our inclination is to strategize how to make the best use of might.

What would Jesus do? I think Jesus would like nothing better than to gather us all up with a net, and show us the power, the purpose, the necessity of unity and community. I think Jesus would say that the way to thrive in this world is by seeing the other as we look at ourselves, by honestly recognizing and accepting our brokenness and failings, and even in the face of that, by committing to trying to do the best that we can. If we can do that, we will see the grace of God acted out among us, for us. This is the good news Jesus offers. We do the will of God even as we see our many flaws. And as we strive to live and work together, we get caught up in the saving net of God's love. This is God's grace.

For in life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us, we are not alone. Thanks be to God.
Amen.

Hymn: Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore **VU 563**

Jesus, you have come to the lakeshore
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only asked me to follow humbly.

O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.

You know so well my possessions;
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;
- you will find there my nets and labour.

O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.

You need my hands, full of caring
through my labours to give others rest,
and constant love that keeps on loving.

O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.

You, who have fished other oceans,
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me.

O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.

Joys and Concerns

Preparation for Prayer

Let us practice the art of Praying with our Eyes Wide Open, that in seeing the world and those within it we are called to tend we may be *opening the eyes of our hearts to all in need around us* (Lamont Koerner '81 MDiv God Pause for Thursday, September 16, 2021 from Luther Seminary):

Prayers of the People *Spill the Beans Resources Team, spill the beans: worship and learning resources for all ages, Issue 41, p. 109. Copyright 2021, alt.*

Lord God,
it is hard for us to imagine
what it must have been like to hear
Jesus' teaching for the first time;
the actual, original words,
from his very own mouth,
spoken with such passion and conviction
that crowds gathered everywhere he went,
pushing forward so as not to miss a single word.

It is much easier for us to put ourselves
in the shoes, or maybe the sandals,
of Simon and his partners,
James and John, sons of Zebedee.
All night long they had fished and caught nothing.
The bills would go unpaid that week
and their children would go hungry.

Living God, there are too many people
in our world today
who struggle to make ends meet,
and we pray for them:
the ones for whom poverty
is all they have ever known,
and the once-privileged ones
who thought it could never happen to them.

We pray for the coming of your kingdom,
where justice is the norm
and real, lasting peace flows from it.
But it feels a long way off,
and our prayer is a costly one,
because you have no-one
other than us to do the work
of kingdom-building.

And we are tired, God:
bone-achingly, soul-shakingly weary.

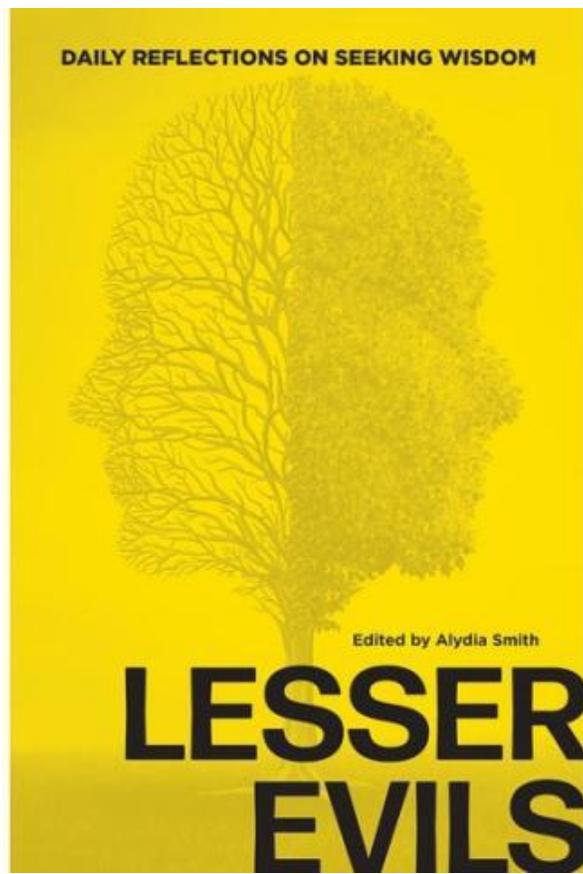
We have been doing what we thought you wanted—
fishing for people,
or at least doing our best to keep the church going,
and it hasn't worked.
Our nets are empty.
We have no more to give.

And so our prayer today is for ourselves,
but it is not a selfish one.
We want your kingdom to come.
because the world needs it, more than ever.
We want to be part of something good and hopeful,
because we need it.
And we do not know where to begin.

Loving God, speak to us the Word of life
that alone can energise and empower us.
Help us to stop and listen,
not for what you once said to someone else,
but for what you are saying to us today.
Stop us in our tracks,
bring us to our knees,
and fill us with new hope, new vision,
and new confidence for the future.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kin-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Minute for Mission: Choosing the Lesser Evil



Have you ever had to make a decision knowing that all of the choices in front of you felt wrong somehow? As if you were caught between a rock and a hard place? Regardless of how righteous we might feel about our decisions, we choose evils every day, hoping that we are choosing the lesser ones.

The United Church's Lenten book and study guide [Lesser Evils](#) (opens in a new tab), published by United Church Publishing House, explores everyday dilemmas of seeking the good while choosing the lesser evil from a Christian perspective. This collection of devotions challenges all followers of Jesus to faithfully attempt to do and seek good in our actions and choices.

"We confront dilemmas every day: Do I wear this mask? Do we close in-person gatherings? Do I take this parking space? People are trying to work for good. There are a lot of holier than thou judgements going on these days. We wanted to write about making tough decisions. What's hopeful about this book is the faithfulness of the struggle," says editor Alydia Smith.

Your generosity through Mission & Service helps deepen faith by lowering the cost of important faith resources such as *Lesser Evils* and the accompanying book study webinar. Hosted online through United In Learning, the study runs every Tuesday at 1 pm ET from March 8 to April 12, 2022.

"What does it mean to be Christian in this time when we don't always feel good about the many choices before us?" says Smith. "When systems are broken and we are in those systems, how do we deal with it? *Lesser Evils* is really for all of us coping with uncertainty. This book is about being faithful while wrestling with what's best."

Offering Invitation *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word**® Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1. Copyright 2012.*

We are invited to cast our nets into God's abundance, *Luke 5:4, 7*
and to share what we have received with others.
As we give our offerings of our gifts and ourselves today,
we put our trust in the one who has called us to follow him:
Jesus Christ, the great Fisher of people.

Offering

If you would like to do your part by making a monetary donation to Melville United Church, there are several ways to do that.

1. By leaving your offering envelope on the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary.
2. Cheque (post-dated cheques are welcome): made payable to Melville United Church-which can be mailed to the church at P.O. Box 41, Fergus ON N1M 2W7 or put in the mail slot beside the parking lot door.
3. Donate online through the Canada Helps website
<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/melville-united-church>
4. Call or email Lynda, to arrange Pre-Authorized Remittance payments (PAR).
5. E-transfer directly from your bank. E-mail to secretary@melvilleunited.com

Thanks to all of you who continue to contribute so much to make Melville the caring community of faith that it is. May you be blessed.

Offering Prayer *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word**® Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1. Copyright 2012.*

Holy One, we give you thanks
for your generosity to us.
Bless these gifts and multiply them,
for the sake of those in need around us;
in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Hymn: Called by Earth and Sky **MV 135**

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

Precious these waters, endless seas,
deep ocean's dream,
waters of healing, rivers of rain,
the wash of love again.

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

Precious this gift, the air we breathe;
wind born and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace.

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

Precious these mountains, ancient sands;
Vast fragile land.
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,
Creation's faithful song.

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

Precious the fire that lights our way,
bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone,
our faith and justice one.

Called by earth and sky,
promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust,
treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky,
called by earth and sky.

Commissioning *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1**. Copyright 2012.*

Don't be afraid to put out into the deep water; *Luke 5:4, 7*
we are not alone.
We have partners in other boats beside us,
and Christ has gone before us.
Let down your nets,
expecting God's abundant provision.

Change the Light/Blessings

Watch. I am going to change the light and I invite you to change your light.

I'm not going to put it out, just change it.

See how it is only in one place?

Change Light

Can you see it? Now it is moving everywhere, to everyone, with everyone.

Now everywhere you go today, the light will go with you.

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May the Holy One fill you with awe; *Ps. 138:3*

May Christ, the Teacher, amaze you with grace;

And may the Holy Spirit increase your strength of soul.

Household Prayer: Morning *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word**® **Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1.** Copyright 2012.*

God, I give you thanks this morning *Isa. 6:3, 8; Ps. 138:3*

as I watch the beauty of the newborn light,
listen to the first stirrings of a new day in nature,
and ponder the miracle of my own breathing
and your presence in it all.

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Increase my strength of soul today.

And whenever I see a need,
help me to respond, "Send me!" Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening *Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from **Feasting on the Word**® **Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1.** Copyright 2012.*

Thank you, God, for the gift of this day. *Luke 5:8, 10*

Like the fisher folk who became disciples,
I have put in a day of work.

As evening comes, it is time to rest.

If, as I review my day, I am tempted to say,

"I am not worthy of your presence, God,"

reassure me with the calming words of Jesus,

"Do not be afraid, come be with me." Amen.