



**Celebrating
178 Years**



May 26, 2024

Melville United Church
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Minister of Pastoral Care

Faith Formation & Youth

Ministry of Music Team

Office Administrator

Custodian

Chair of Church Council

Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain

Office hours

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Web Site

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Melville United Church

May 26, 2024

*Presiding: Rev. Jeff Hawkins
Ministry of Music: Colleen Weber*

Welcome

Announcements

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, welcome! Please join us for refreshments and conversation in the parlour after the service.

- **Broadview subscriptions are now due!** To renew your subscription or to sign up, please see Ralph Rainford. The cost is \$30.00. A great magazine at a reasonable cost.
- Fun, Funds and Fellowship's message to all: Our weekends have been very successful, seeing money going into Melville's coffers, week after week, thanks to your donations, which we still need!!! Our Committee is having **on-going Garage Sales**, which started **Friday and Sat, May 3rd and 4th, 8-4pm**. We will include Plants and Baking, so we ask that you bake ahead and freeze it. If you could package your items in 2's, 4's, or 6's, that would be a huge help. Please put your Baking in the upstairs kitchen by Thursday evening with your name on it. Please donate any items that you don't need, to our efforts. We are using the Chapel and the Heritage Hall on the main floor, so you may leave your items inside the Chapel, in the aisles, or in the Heritage Hall (leaving the left side vacant for the Quilters on Thursdays). We will also be selling Melville's frozen Meat Pies at the sales, when available. For info: call Lorna Bevcar 519-787-0570.
- **Thyme with God Garden.** Welcome to the 2024 season... it feels good to be back in the garden! We have planted potatoes, spring greens and snap peas so far and the fun is just beginning. :) Feel free to join us on Mondays at 6pm for conversation, watering, planting, harvesting and a little bit of weeding during the growing season. See you in the garden!
- **Rev. Marion Loree** is here on Fridays during Coffee Hour and is also available for an hour or two afterwards.
- **Rides needed for seniors:** Can you help? Rides to Friday Morning Coffee (10 - 11am), and Sunday Service (11am - Noon). Please speak to Lorna Bevcar
- **Friday or Sunday Coffee Time** – We encourage people to sign up to host either a Friday or a Sunday Coffee Time. It is not difficult! We'd be pleased to show you how. Sign-up sheets are at the Parlour Door. Please speak to Lorna Bevcar or Marg Frayne.
- **The Bells Are Back in Town.** The Bells of Westminster **Tuesday, June 4th 7:00 pm**. Westminster United Church 247 Broadway, Orangeville. Free will offering.
- Thank you for your donations to the **Food Bank** there is an **ongoing need** of nonperishables, toiletries, or a gift card. Baskets are in the sanctuary.

Land Acknowledgement:

Let us take time to acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial.

God, help us to be thankful and to become better neighbours and stewards that we might continue to honour these lands.

Call to Worship:

Loving God: you call us together

To worship God as the people of God.

You call us by name and just as we are: you know each of our needs; you know our experiences; you know what rests in our minds and our hearts, and in your love you call us:

To worship God as the people of God

We come together, our heads, our hearts and our hands and feet yearning to be remade and redirected to paths of justice, and in ways of love. Help us, Jesus, to walk in the paths of justice and love that you yourself have walked:

To worship God as the people of God.

God invites us to worship as beloved and loving people! Mold us, Holy Spirit:

To worship God as the people of God.**Opening Hymn: All Creatures of Our God and King****VU 217**

- 1 All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing:
 hallelujah, hallelujah!
Bright burning sun with golden beam,
soft shining moon with silver gleam,
 sing praises, sing praises,
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

- 2 O rushing winds and breezes soft,
O clouds that ride the winds aloft,
 sing praises, hallelujah!
O rising morn, in praise rejoice;
O lights of evening, find a voice:
 sing praises, sing praises,
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

- 3 Earth, ever fertile, day by day
brings forth rich blessings on our way:
 sing praises, hallelujah!
The flowers and fruits that verdant grow,
let them God's glory also show:
 sing praises, hallelujah!
 hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

- 4 And everyone of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part:
 sing praises, hallelujah!

All who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and yield up all your care:
sing praises, hallelujah!
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

5 Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness:
sing praises, hallelujah!
Praise God eternal, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one:
sing praises, hallelujah!
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Opening Prayer:

Voices join the song and proclaim your goodness, your grace, your justice, and your peace. With Jesus as our example, let our words become actions that reflect your will for the thriving of all people, all creation. May your Spirit of love flow abundantly into every corner of the world.

Children's Time

Ministry of Music: God So Loved the World *by Jack Hayford*

Prayer of Confession:

God of mystery and mercy, we confess we have not always paid attention to the urging of your Spirit to follow your will and your way. Too often we claim to belong to Jesus, yet we ignore his teaching. You created us to love one another, but we resist loving those who differ from us. Stir our hearts with your Holy Spirit. Transform who we are, and direct who we shall become through Christ's redeeming love.

Assurance of Pardon:

We confess our brokenness, God. We come before you with all that we are - and all that we fail to be. With all we have done, and all we have failed to do. God of mercy, in you we know we can find healing and wholeness. Amen.

Scripture: John 3: 1-17

3 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. **2** He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." **3** Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." **4** Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" **5** Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. **6** What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. **7** Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' **8** The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." **9** Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" **10** Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? **11** "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. **12** If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you

believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Sermon: Lifesaver

Hymn: God, Whose Almighty Word VU 313

- 1 God, whose almighty word
 chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight,
 hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day
 sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light.

- 2 Jesus, who came to bring
 on your redeeming wing, healing and sight,
 health to the troubled mind, sight to the Spirit-blind,
 O now to humankind let there be light.

- 3 Spirit of truth and love,
 lifegiving, holy dove, speed forth your flight;
 move on the water's face, bearing the lamp of grace,
 and in earth's darkest place let there be light.

- 4 Blessed and holy three,
 glorious trinity, wisdom, love, might,
 boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride,
 through the world far and wide, let there be light.

Prayers and Lord's Prayer

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

- **Birthdays**
 - Bunny Russell celebrates on Mon May 27th
 - Marion Maine celebrates 95 years on Fri May 31st

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. (x2)

Offering Prayer

Parting Song: I, the Lord of Sea and Sky VU 509

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? R

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? R

Postlude: Seek Ye First by Karen Lafferty and Johann Pachelbel, Arranged by Douglas E. Wagner

Welcomers: Barb Gregory, John Cuming

Counters: Chris Hopewell, Lynne Lamb

Worship Schedule

June 2	Pride Sunday	Social Justice & Outreach
June 9	3 rd Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Jeff Hawkins
June 16	Indigenous Day of Prayer/Communion	Rev. Tom Watson
June 23	5 th Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Felicia Urbanski