



# Celebrating 178 Years



**June 23, 2024**

**Melville United Church**

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Ministry of Music Team

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Melville United Church

June 23, 2024

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*Presiding: Rev. Felicia Urbanski*

*Musician: Suzanne Flewelling, piano*

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome**

## **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.

## **Lighting the Christ Candle**

We light a light 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.

## **Call to Worship** (responsive)

Like the welcome aroma of cooking from a distant fire; like the feeling of solid ground under a tired swimmer's feet; like the singing of the birds after the longest night – we lift up our call to worship to you, our Creator and Life-bringer.

**We join our hearts and voices with creatures everywhere to give praise and thanks.**

Let us sing and worship together!

## **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.

### **Opening Prayer**

As the gliding loon calls over the lake at twilight, as the canoe's paddle calls to the water, as the crackling campfire calls out with a familiar scent, so you call to us, O Holy One. Call us now to a place of hope, of growth, of joy.

Be within our hearts as we sing, pray and worship together, reminding each other of how much we enjoy your precious gift of nature, and how we want to preserve and share that gift with our children and our children's children. As we ponder the experiences of being outdoors, let this become a springboard for deepening our connection with you. Amen.

**Music Ministry: Summertime** *music and lyrics by George Gershwin, DuBose and Dorothy Heyward and Ira Gershwin. Played by Felicia Urbanski, violin, and Suzanne Flewelling, piano*

### **Children's Time**

#### **Scripture Readings: Jeremiah 17: 7-8**

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,  
whose trust is the LORD.  
They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.  
It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;  
in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

#### **Psalms 139: 1-6, 13-18**

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.  
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O Lord, you know it completely.  
You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

**John 4: 14**

but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.

**Sermon: Camping.... or Glamping?**

**Hymn: For the Beauty of the Earth VU 226** (sung to the tune of VU 81)

1. For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies;  
God of all, to you we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon, and stars of light;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.

God of all, to you we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.

3. For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.

God of all, to you we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.

4. For each perfect gift sublime  
to our race so freely given.  
Graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven.

God of all, to you we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.

### **Prayers of the People**

Great and loving God, we give thanks for this day, and each day, each breath, each moment of life.

We praise you for the beauty of your earth, for each creature, each plant, each star. Whether we are outdoors at camp, or in our own backyard, you help us to learn about nature. Help us to learn more about how to care for your creation. We are sorry for the ways we hurt the earth. Forgive us when we waste things, or let the tap run without thinking.

We give thanks for the shimmering, slithery creatures of water.

We give thanks for the green growing life of trees and plants.

We give thanks for the creatures with wings, the song of the birds, and the work of the bees.

We know that we are all connected. Forgive us when we forget that we are made to live together.

Thank you for your love, growing in us all – in each branch, each wing, each wiggle, each breath. Hear us as we pray for your earth...

We pray also for our brothers and sisters. We are blessed to live amongst the diversity of all human beings. We pray for any of us who are sick or lonely, for those who struggle with chronic illness, and those who are in constant pain.

Hear us as we pray for our suffering humanity...

We pray also for peace in the parts of the world suffering from war and conflict, especially in the Middle East and in the Ukraine....

We pray as one family, in a world of many different cultures and many different faith traditions. We thank you, Jesus, for showing us the way. Help us to stay on a path of your choosing. We turn to you for hope, for truth, and for life itself.

We pray now in the words that Jesus taught us....

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn: All Things Bright and Beautiful**      **VU 291**

All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful  
in love, God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,  
each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colours,  
God made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountains,

the river running by,  
the sunset and the morning  
that brightens up the sky.

The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden:  
God made them every one.

The rocky mountain splendor,  
the lone wolf's haunting call,  
the great lakes and the prairies,  
the forest in the fall.

God gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is God our maker,  
who has made all things well.

All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful  
in love, God made them all.

## **Joys and Concerns**

### **Offertory Invitation**

#### **Offertory Song: One More Step VU 639 (verse 1)**

One more step along the world I go, one more step along the world I go.  
From the old things to the new, keep me travelling along with you.  
And it's from the old I travel to the new, keep me travelling along with you.

### **Offertory Prayer**

#### **Hymn: This is God's Wondrous World VU 296**

This is God's wondrous world,  
and to my listening ears  
all nature sings, and round me rings  
the music of the spheres.  
This is God's wondrous world;  
I rest me in the thought  
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,  
God's hand the wonders wrought.

This is God's wondrous world:  
the birds their carols raise;  
the morning light, the lily white,  
declare their Maker's praise.

This is God's wondrous world:  
God shines in all that's fair;  
in the rustling grass or mountain pass,  
God's voice speaks everywhere.

This is God's wondrous world:  
O let me ne'er forget  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet.  
This is God's wondrous world:  
why should my heart be sad?  
Let voices sing, let the heavens ring:  
God reigns, let earth be glad!

### **Benediction and Commissioning**

Wherever we journey this week let us be a message of justice and love,  
Let us listen to the voices of others—especially those who are new to our table and spaces.  
Let us encourage others with patience.  
Let us live our life joyfully.  
And as we leave this time and place, remember that we are called to bring justice, compassion  
and love to the world.  
In this task, we are not alone. Amen.

### **Postlude**

#### **Household Prayer:**

*Bless our little trailer, Lord,  
And those who sleep within it,  
Please watch and keep us from all harm  
Through every mile and minute.  
Oh, guide the hands of him who drives,  
And help him keep alert.  
Let no disturbance come along,  
And accidents avert.  
And when we reach a camping place  
We know You will be there.  
Your Spirit is within us, Lord,  
Your love goes everywhere.  
If other campers we should meet  
Though many or a few,  
We'll ask no gain if they need help,  
We'll do it, Lord, for You.  
The walls are close in this small room.  
And closer drawn are we  
To eat and sleep and play and pray,  
Wherever we may be.  
Our mode of living is relaxed,  
But grace is asked the same.*

*Lord, bless our food and those who eat,  
We ask in Jesus' Name.  
And when the time has come to leave  
And we are homeward bound,  
We will recall the memories  
Again at home when safe and sound.  
So bless our little trailer, Lord,  
And fill it with Your peace,  
That all who enter in its door  
Will find their worries cease.  
Amen*

*Author unknown*

*From <https://www.withagratefulheart.com/2008/10/campers-prayer.html>*

**Welcomers:** Vivian and Havey Andrews

**Counters:** Chris Hopewell, Mary Lloyd

#### **Worship Schedule**

June 30	6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Tom Watson
July 7	7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Jeff Hawkins
July 14	8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Tom Watson
July 21	9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Jeff Hawkins