



**August 25, 2024**

Melville United Church

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Ministry of Music Team  
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*Presiding: Rev. Felicia Urbanski*

*Musician: Colleen Weber, piano and organ*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Announcements**

**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):

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life."

**We are hungry for the bread of heaven.**

Jesus said, "The bread of God gives life to the world."

**We are hungry for eternal life.**

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life.

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

**We are here to become what we already are:  
the body of Christ, food for a hungry world.**

We join together now in joyful worship.

**Hymn: All Who Hunger      VU 460**

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered, in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.  
Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

**Opening Prayer** (in unison):

**God of forgiveness and new beginnings,  
you feed our hearts with compassion,  
and nourish our souls with the bread of heaven.  
As Jesus fed the hungry crowds,  
knowing that they needed both physical bread  
and the bread of heaven,  
fill us with your generous spirit  
and make us one with Christ. Amen.**

## **Children's Time**

**Music Ministry:** *Air* (from the orchestral suite in D major) by J.S. Bach, played by Felicia Urbanski, violin, and Colleen Weber, piano

**Scripture Reading:** **John 6:56-69** NRSV (Updated Edition)

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which the ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in a synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who were the ones who did not believe and who was the one who would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

**Hymn: Eat This Bread** **VU 466** (we will sing this several times through)

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

**Sermon: "Jesus Isn't Fast Food"**

## **Joys and Concerns**

- **Birthdays**
  - Vivian Andrews celebrates on August 25<sup>th</sup>
  - Marilyn Stickney celebrates on August 27<sup>th</sup>
  - Lorna Bevcar celebrates on August 29<sup>th</sup>
- **Anniversaries**
  - Barry & Rossie Rawn celebrates on August 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Linda & Norm Porritt celebrates on August 29<sup>th</sup>

## **Prayers of the People**

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

#### **Offertory Invitation**

With gratitude for God's faithfulness and with thanksgiving for all that we have received, let us bring our gifts to God. We consider how our blessings might become a blessing for others. Our offering will now be given and gratefully received.

#### **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**

Generous, merciful God,  
you invite us to the heavenly feast,  
promising to fill us with every good thing.  
Bless these ordinary gifts,  
that we may be kneaded and pressed  
into one holy, living body,  
in the name of Christ, who lived and died  
and rose again. Amen.

#### **Hymn: My Faith Looks Up to Thee      VU 663**

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Saviour divine.  
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away.  
O let me from this day be wholly thine.

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide.  
Bid darkness turn today, wipe sorrows tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray from thee aside.

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire.  
As thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee  
pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire.

#### **Benediction and Commissioning**

Go into the world with all humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another in love,  
in the unity of the Spirit, the bond of peace, and the name of Jesus, who is the Bread of Life.

**Amen.**

#### **Postlude**

#### **Household Prayer:**

#### **You Ask Why I Follow This Jesus?**

You ask why I follow this Jesus?  
Why I love Him the way that I do?

When the world's turned away from His teachings,  
And the people who serve Him are few.

It's not the rewards that I'm after  
Or gifts that I hope to receive.  
It's the Presence that calls for commitment.  
It's the Spirit I trust and believe.

The Lord doesn't shelter His faithful.  
Or spare them all suffering and pain.  
Like everyone else I have burdens,  
And walk through my share of rain.

Yet He gives me a plan and a purpose.  
And that joy only Christians have known.  
I never know what comes tomorrow,  
But I do know I'm never alone.

It's the love always there when you need it  
And the words that redeem and inspire.  
It's the longing to ever be with Him  
That burns in my heart like a fire.

So you ask why I love my Lord Jesus?  
Well, friend, that's so easy to see.  
But the one thing that fills me with wonder  
Is why Jesus loves someone like me.

*~Author Unknown*

**Welcomers:** Alison Rainford, John Cuming

**Counters:** Ruth Sproule, Chris Hopewell

#### **Worship Schedule**

September 1	15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Tom Watson
September 8	Creation Time Begins	Rev. Felicia Urbanski
September 15	17 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Rev. Linda Butler
September 22	18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	Social Justice Committee