



*Celebrating
178 Years*



September 15, 2024

Melville United Church
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Team Ministry

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Ministry of Music Team
Office Administrator
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Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain
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Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

Lighting the Christ Candle

One: Blessed are you, God, the Maker of all things.

All: You have brought all things into being.

One: You give us light,

You give us love,

All: You give us yourself.

Call to Worship *(based on selected verses from Psalm 19 in **Psalms for Praying**)*

One: The heavens declare the glory of the Creator;

All: the firmament proclaims the handiwork of Love.

One: The law of Love is perfect reviving the soul;

**All: The precepts of Love are right, rejoicing the heart;
the authority of Love is pure, enlightening the eyes.**

One: The spirit of Love is glorious, enduring forever.

**All: The rites of Love are true, awakening compassion.
May we be guided by them**

Hymn: Praise with Joy the World's Creator **VU 312**

1 Praise with joy the world's Creator,
God of justice, love, and peace,
source and end of human knowledge,
God whose grace shall never cease.
Celebrate the Maker's glory,
power to rescue and release.

2 Praise to Christ who feeds the hungry,
frees the captive, finds the lost,
heals the sick, upsets religion,
fearless both of fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence:
friend and stranger, guest and host.

3 Praise the Spirit sent among us,
liberating truth from pride,
forging bonds where race or gender,
age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure:
foolishness none dare deride.

- 4 Praise the Maker, Christ, and Spirit,
one God in community,
calling Christians to embody
oneness and diversity.
This the world shall see reflected:
God is One and One in Three.

Opening Prayer

Music Ministry: Touch of the Master's Hand *sung by Jo Anne Hall, accompanied by Suzanne Flewelling and Rene Crespo*

Children's Time: Who Are You?

Hymn: I Have Called You by Your Name MV 161

- 1 I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you;
all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen;
you are mine.
2. I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name,
speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus' body given long ago.
3. I know you will need my touch as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out,
choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus' robe,
then let it go.
4. I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul,
make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people
they are mine.

Epistle Reading: James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will face stricter judgment. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is mature, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of life, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse people, made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth comes a blessing and a curse. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Gospel Reading: Mark 8:27-33

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi, and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Sermon: Words that Wound / Words that Heal

Joys and Concerns

- Birthdays
 - Marlene Murray celebrates on the 19th

Prayers of the People:

Sung Response: O God, Hear My Prayer VU 948

O God hear my prayer, O God hear my prayer,
When I call, answer me,
O God hear my prayer, O God hear my prayer,
come and listen to me.

The Lord's prayer

Offertory invitation

Offertory Song: Take, O Take Me as I Am MV 85

Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart
and live in me. *Repeat*

Offertory Prayer (adapted from *Flames of the Spirit*)

Hymn: We Are Pilgrims

VU 595

- 1 We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
- 2 Sister, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.
- 6 Brother, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

Benediction and Commissioning (*adapted from **Flames of the Spirit***)

One: Friends,
Continue your journey walking in love.
Care for one another, care for the earth.

Seek justice and make peace.
God goes before you.
Live boldly, celebrate and sing!

**All: And may we all take with us
the blessing of God, the Source of Love,
Jesus, the Love Incarnate and
the Holy Spirit, Love's Power, Amen.**

Postlude: Give Thanks *sung by Jo Anne Hall, accompanied by Suzanne Flewelling and Rene Crespo*

Welcomers: Alison Rainford, Barb Gregory

Counters: Chris Hopewell, Ruth Sproule

Worship Schedule

September 22	18 th Sunday after Pentecost	Social Justice Committee
September 29	National Day of Reconciliation	Rev. Jeff Hawkins
October 6	World Communion	Rev. Jeff Hawkins
October 13	Thanksgiving Sunday	Rev. Felicia Urbanski