



September 29, 2024

Melville United Church

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Faith Formation & Youth

Ministry of Music Team

Office Administrator

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Chair of Church Council

Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain

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Melville United Church

September 29, 2024

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

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:

We are called together

To worship God as the people of God.

God calls us by name and knows what rests in our minds and our hearts, and calls us:

To worship God as the people of God.

We come yearning to be transformed and redirected to paths of justice and in ways of love so that in truth we can turn to God:

To worship God as the people of God

God invites us to worship as beloved and loving people and together:

To worship God as the people of God.

Opening Hymn: Though Ancient Walls VU 691

- 1 Though ancient walls may still stand proud
 and racial strife be fact,
 though boundaries may be lines of hate,
 proclaim God's saving act!
 Walls that divide are broken down;
 Christ is our unity!
 Chains that enslave are thrown aside;
 Christ is our liberty!

- 2 When vested power stands firm entrenched
 and breaks another's back,
 when waste and want live side by side,
 it's Gospel that we lack. R

- 3 The truth we seek in varied scheme,
 the life that we pursue,
 unites us in a common quest
 for self and world made new. R

- 4 The church divided seeks that grace,
 that newness we proclaim;

a unity of serving love
that lives praise to God's name! R

5 This broken world seeks lasting health
and vital unity.
God's people by God's Word renewed,
cast off all slavery! R

Opening Prayer

Holy and loving God, blessed are you in all the universe:
your goodness is seen in creation, your holiness is incomprehensible,
your truth and wisdom are radiant, your justice rolls down like waters,
your love is wider than all the universe and your mercy greater than the heights of heaven. and
so, with our lips we sing your praises, and we join with your good creation in joyful praise of you
as Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.

Ministry of Music: Be Still, My Soul *by Jean Sibelius, arranged by Harold DeCou*

Children's Time

Prayer of Confession

We confess that we have failed to comfort those in pain, ignored the needs of others, and not
sought peace or worked for justice. And we confess the sins of your church in running
residential schools that separated children from their families.

We confess that in our cultural arrogance where there was laughter, we stifled it;
where families lived warmly together, we broke them up, and where there was dignity, and we
stole it. We repent of our past sins and pray for the strength to walk a new good way with you
and one another.

Assurance of Pardon

By God's grace we have been saved and this is not our own doing;
it is a gift of God.

Scripture: Matthew 5: 1-11

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples
came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom
of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Sermon: Sinner to Saint

Hymn: O for a World VU 697

- 1 O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways, where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.
- 2 O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved, where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.
- 3 We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.
- 4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise. Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.
- 5 O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace, where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

- **Birthdays**
 - Shannon Rawn celebrates on September 30th
 - Bruce Lloyd celebrates on October 3rd
 - Morvin McCorquodale celebrates on October 5th
- **Anniversary**
 - Edith and Dennis Hons celebrate on September 30th

Prayers and Lord's Prayer

Offering Hymn 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: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace VU 684

- 1 Make me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you:

- 2 Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;
where there is darkness, only light;
and where there's sadness, ever joy.
O Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

- 3 Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Postlude

Welcomers: John Cuming, Barb Gregory

Counters: Chris Hopewell, Karen Smillie

Worship Schedule

October 6	World Communion	Rev. Jeff Hawkins
October 13	Thanksgiving Sunday	Rev. Felicia Urbanski
October 20	World Food Sunday	Rev. Tom Watson
October 27	23 rd after Pentecost	Rev. Gord Dunbar