



**October 13, 2024**

Melville United Church

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Faith Formation & Youth

Ministry of Music Team

Office Administrator

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Melville United Church  
October 13, 2024 – Thanksgiving Sunday

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*Presiding: Rev. Felicia Urbanski  
Musicians: Colleen Weber and the Melville Choir*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Announcements**

**Land Acknowledgement**

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

O God, Great Teacher: we give you thanks for the wisdom of Indigenous peoples, and the unique insights of the many expressions of faith and spiritual practice in the human family. Wherever there has been hatred, oppression, and exploitation, bring truth-telling, reconciliation, and respectful communion. Amen.

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Call to Worship** (responsive):

In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

**We recognize God as the source of all goodness.**

All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

**love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are all of God.**

We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.

**We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.**

**Hymn: Sing to the Lord of Harvest VU 519**

- 1 Sing to the Lord of harvest,  
sing songs of love and praise,  
with joyful hearts and voices  
your hallelujahs raise;  
by whom the rolling seasons  
in fruitful order move;  
sing to the Lord of harvest  
a joyful song of love.
  
- 2 God makes the clouds drop fatness,  
the deserts bloom and spring,  
the hills leap up in gladness,  
the valleys laugh and sing.  
God fills them all with fullness,  
all things with large increase,  
and crowns the year with goodness,  
with plenty and with peace.

3 Bring to this sacred altar  
all things God's goodness gave,  
the golden sheaves of harvest,  
the souls Christ died to save:  
    your hearts lay down before him  
    when at his feet you fall,  
and with your lives adore him  
who gave his life for all.

**Opening Prayer** (responsive)

Almighty, Majestic, Sovereign God, for the grandeur of your Creation, for worlds known and unknown, galaxies beyond galaxies, filling us with awe and challenging our imaginations, to you O Lord: ***We give thanks this day.***

For this beautiful, yet fragile planet earth, its times and tides, its sunsets and seasons, to you O Lord; ***We give thanks this day.***

For the miracle and joy of human life, its wonders and surprises, its hopes and achievements, to you, O Lord: ***We give thanks this day.***

For our human community, children made in your image, for our common past and our future hope, for our oneness which transcends all separation, for the capacity of brave people to work for peace and justice in the midst of hostility and oppression, to you O Lord: ***We give thanks this day.***

For high hopes and noble causes, for sacrifice and commitment, for understanding when views are not shared, to you O Lord: ***We give thanks this day.***

For all who have labored and suffered for a more peaceful world, for all who have died so that others might live in dignity and freedom, to you O Lord: ***We give thanks this day.***

For our free will, for your divine presence among us, for opportunities to change and grow, to work and play, to experience this gift of life, to you O Lord: ***We give thanks this day.***

And for you, O God, whose steadfast love endures forever, whose grace knows no bounds, whose peace passes all understanding, and who is ever present in our time of need, to you O Lord: ***We give thanks this day.***

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*(By O. Eugene Pickett)*

**Children's Time**

## **Music Ministry/ Choir Anthem: For the Beauty of the Earth**

*Words by F.S. Pierpoint, Music by Conrad Kocher, Arranged by Sally DeFord - Sung by the Melville United Church Choir, directed and accompanied by Colleen Weber and accompanied by Felicia Urbanski, violin*

## **Scripture Readings: Philippians 2:1-5, 4: 4-9**

*Imitate Christ*

Therefore, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort in love, any sharing in the Spirit, any sympathy, complete my joy by thinking the same way, having the same love, being united, and agreeing with each other. Don't do anything for selfish purposes, but with humility think of others as better than yourselves. Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others. Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus:

Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others. Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus:

Though he was in the form of God,

he did not consider being equal with God something to exploit.

But he emptied himself

by taking the form of a slave

and by becoming like human beings.

When he found himself in the form of a human,

he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Therefore, God highly honored him

and gave him a name above all names,

## **Hymn: Let All Things Now Living VU 242**

- 1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;  
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
by guiding us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night;  
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,  
as forward we travel from light into Light.
  
- 2 By law God enforces, the stars in their courses  
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration a song let us raise:  
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,  
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

## **Sermon: Cultivating Gratitude**

## Joys and Concerns

- Birthdays

- Elsie Lively celebrates on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>
- Ioan Shortt celebrates on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>
- Chantel McIntosh celebrates on Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>
- Paula Bott celebrates on Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>
- Lynda Rivet celebrates on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>
- Karen Smillie celebrates on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>

## Mission Story – Social Justice & Outreach Committee

### Music Ministry: *The Mission/ How Great Thou Art*

*Composers – Ennio Morricone and Stuart K. Hine*

*Arrangers – Jon Schmidt, Al van der Beek, and Steven Sharp Nelson*

*Played by Felicia Urbanski, violin; Colleen Weber, piano*

## Prayers of the People

### The Lord's Prayer

#### Offertory Invitation (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

“Remember this — a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop.

But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop.

You must each decide in your heart how much to give.

And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure.

'For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.'

And God will generously provide all you need.

Then you will always have everything you need

and plenty left over to share with others.”

Our offering will now be given and 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:

Gracious God,

You call us to let go of the things we cling to

and step out in faith,

trusting in Your love and provision.

Give us courage to step out boldly,

to plant our small seeds generously, and without fear.

Use our gifts to accomplish more than we could possibly imagine,

so that, through us, Your kingdom might come

and Your will be done

on earth as it is in heaven. Amen

**Closing Hymn: How Great Thou Art                      VU 238**

- 1            O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
              consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
              I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
              thy power throughout the universe displayed.  
                  Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
                  How great thou art! How great thou art!  
                  Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,  
                  How great thou art! How great thou art!
- 2            When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
              I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
              when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
              and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. R
- 3            But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
              sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
              that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
              he bled and died to take away my sin. R
- 4            When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
              and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
              Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
              and there proclaim, 'My God, how great thou art!' R

**Benediction and Commissioning**

**Postlude**

**Welcomers:** Barb Gregory, Alison Rainford

**Counters:** Mary Lloyd, David Gohn

**Worship Schedule**

October 20	World Food Sunday	Rev. Tom Watson
October 27	23 <sup>rd</sup> after Pentecost	Rev. Gord Dunbar