



March 16, 2025

Melville United Church

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Faith Formation & Youth

Ministry of Music Team

Office Administrator

Custodian

Chair of Church Council

Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain

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9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. T., Th. & F.

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Melville United Church

March 16, 2025

Second Sunday in Lent

Presiding: Rev. Felicia Urbanski

Ministry of Music: Colleen Weber, (piano & 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 (responsive)

We light this candle as a sign of God's Spirit at work in the world.

May its light brighten our spirits, may the light of God shining through us brighten the world.

Call to Worship (responsive)

God is our Light and our Salvation.

We have no need to fear.

God hears us when we call for mercy in times of need.

Let us worship God who blesses us with goodness.

Hymn: How Firm a Foundation **VU 660**

- 1 How firm a foundation, you servants of God,
 is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!
 What more can be said than to you has been said,
 to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

- 2 'Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed!
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 I'll strengthen and help you, and cause you to stand,
 upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand.

- 3 'When through the deep waters I call you to go,
 the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
 for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
 and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

- 4 'When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
 my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply:
 the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
 your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.

5 'The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not - I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake,
I'll never - no, never - no, never forsake!'

Opening Prayer

Music Ministry: Salut d'Amour by Edward Elgar. Played by Felicia Urbanski, violin and Colleen Weber, piano.

Children's Time:

1. **Song** (all are invited to join in singing)
2. **Story**
3. **Prayer**

Scripture Readings:

Psalm 27, with sung response: VU pages 754-755.

God is my light and my salvation, whom then shall I fear?

God is the stronghold of my life,
of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked close in to devour me,

it is they, my enemies and my foes, who stumble and fall.

If an army should encamp against me,

my heart shall not be afraid;

if war should arise against me,
even then I will not be dismayed.

God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.

One thing I have asked of God, for which I long:

that I may dwell in God's house all the days of my life,

to gaze on your beauty, O God,
and to seek you in your temple.

For in the time of trouble you will give me shelter;

you will hide me under the cover of your tent,
you will set me high upon a rock.

And now you have raised my head

above my enemies round about me.

Therefore I will offer in your dwelling
a sacrifice with great gladness.

God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.

Hear my voice, O God, when I call; have mercy and answer me.

Your face, O God, I seek.

Do not hide your face from me;
do not reject your servant in anger,
you who have been my helper.

Do not cast me off, or forsake me, O God my saviour.

Though my father and mother forsake me,

my God will take me up.

God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.

Teach me your way, O God,

lead me on a level path,

safe from those who lie in wait for me.

Do not give me up to the will of my enemies,

for liars and false witnesses arise against me.

I believe that I shall see God's goodness

in the land of the living.

Wait for God; be strong, and take courage;

yes, wait for God!

God is my light and saving health, I shall not be afraid.

Luke 13: 31-35 (CEB)

At that time, some Pharisees approached Jesus and said, "Go! Get away from here, because Herod wants to kill you."

Jesus said to them, "Go, tell that fox, 'Look, I'm throwing out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will complete my work. However, it's necessary for me to travel today, tomorrow, and the next day because it's impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those who were sent to you! How often I have wanted to gather your people just as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings. But you didn't want that. Look, your house is abandoned. I tell you, you won't see me until the time comes when you say, *Blessings on the one who comes in the Lord's name.*"

Reflection: Whom Shall We Fear?

Hymn: Precious Lord, Take My Hand VU 670

1 Precious Lord, take my hand,
 lead me on, let me stand,
 I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 through the storm, through the night,
 lead me on to the light:
 take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

2 When my way grows drear,
 precious Lord, linger near,
 when my life is almost gone,
 hear my cry, hear my call,
 hold my hand lest I fall:
 take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

3 When the darkness appears,
 and the night draws near,
 and the day is past and gone,
 at the river I stand,

guide my feet, hold my hand:
take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Joys and Concerns

- Birthdays
 - Cody Rawn celebrates on Mar. 16th
 - Suzanne Flewelling celebrates on Mar. 18th

Mission Story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8-qWCguU0dM>

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offertory Invitation

Whom should God send? Who will go for God's people?

Here we are, God is counting on us.

Let us share our gifts and our offerings in answer to God's call.

Offertory Song: VU 540

Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.

Offertory Prayer

Closing Hymn: O Lord My God (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

Household Prayer:

Loving God, during this Lenten journey, help us to lean into you.

When we stumble, support us.

When we falter, strengthen us.

When we wander, guide us back to you.

Caring God, in this time of worship,

We open our lives to your living, loving presence. Amen.

- *Martha Reynolds*

Welcomers: Havey & Vivian Andrews

Counters: Chris Hopewell, David Gohn

Worship Schedule

March 23	3 rd in Lent	Rev. Linda Butler
March 30	4 th in Lent	Rev. Tom Watson
April 6	5 th in Lent	Rev. Jeff Hawkins
April 13	Palm/Passion Sunday	Rev. Tom Watson

Council Meetings

April 2

May 7

Please reach out to a Council member if there is a concern or question to be shared with Council.