



*Celebrating  
179 Years*



**August 10, 2025**

Melville United Church  
300 St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON N1M 1N9  
Mailing address: PO Box 41, Fergus, ON N1M2W7  
519-843-1781

Team Ministry

Minister of Pastoral Care  
Faith Formation & Youth  
Ministry of Music Team  
Office Administrator  
Custodian  
Chair of Church Council  
Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain  
Office hours  
E-Mail  
Web Site

Rev. Marion Loree 519-835-8605  
Ann Ward  
Suzanne Flewelling, Colleen Weber  
Lynda Rivet  
Suzanne Flewelling  
Allan Hons  
Alison Rainford 519-843-3841  
9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. T., Th. & F.  
[secretary@melvilleunited.com](mailto:secretary@melvilleunited.com)  
[www.melvilleunited.com](http://www.melvilleunited.com)

**Melville United Church**  
**August 10, 2025**  
**The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

---

*Presiding: Rev. Linda Butler*  
*Ministry of Music: Colleen Weber*

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Lighting the Christ Candle** *(from United Church Service-Prayers-Vocation)*

One: You assure us, Jesus, that wherever two or three are gathered in your name, you are there.

**All: We light this candle to remind ourselves and to celebrate your constant presence.**  
**May we always seek your guiding light in our lives.**

**Call to Worship** *(based on Psalm 50 Psalms for Praying)*

One: The Beloved, through the energy of Love, brought forth the world.

**All: From the rising to the setting sun,**  
**Love radiates out to all the nations.**

One: The universe forever proclaims justice,

**All: And, the Beloved's Indwelling Presence**  
**guides those who hear with their heart's ear.**

One: All who surrender to the love of the Great Mystery,  
whose hearts are merciful and kind,

**All: will know Love's Companioning Presence.**

**Hymn: Come, Let Us Sing    VU 222**

- 1     Come, let us sing to the Lord our song,  
      we have stood silently too long;  
      surely the Lord deserves our praise,  
      so joyfully thank God for our days.
- 2     O thirsty soul, come drink at the well;  
      God's living waters will never fail.  
      Surely the Lord will help you to stand,  
      strengthened and comforted by God's hand.
- 3     You dwell among us and cause us to pray,  
      and walk with each other following your way;  
      our precious brothers and sisters will grow  
      in the fulfilling love they know.

4      Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing  
to the desire of all living things.  
Come, all you creatures, high and low,  
let your praises endlessly flow.

### **Opening Prayer**

#### **Hymn: Dance with the Spirit MV 156**

Dance with the Spirit early in the mornin',  
walk with the Spirit throughout the long day.  
Work and hope for the new life a-bornin',  
listen to the Spirit to show you the way.

### **Children's Time**

#### **Music Ministry: Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier** *by J.S. Bach (BWV 731)*

#### **Hebrew Scripture Reading: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20** *reader John Cuming*

The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah son of Amoz saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Hear the word of the Lord,  
you rulers of Sodom;  
listen to the instruction of our God,  
you people of Gomorrah!  
"The multitude of your sacrifices—  
what are they to me?" says the Lord.  
"I have more than enough of burnt offerings,  
of rams and the fat of fattened animals;  
I have no pleasure  
in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.  
When you come to appear before me,  
who has asked this of you,  
this trampling of my courts?  
Stop bringing meaningless offerings!  
Your incense is detestable to me.  
New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—  
I cannot bear your worthless assemblies.  
Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals  
I hate with all my being.  
They have become a burden to me;  
I am weary of bearing them.  
When you spread out your hands in prayer,  
I hide my eyes from you;  
even when you offer many prayers,  
I am not listening.

Your hands are full of blood!  
Wash and make yourselves clean.  
Take your evil deeds out of my sight;  
stop doing wrong.  
Learn to do right; seek justice.  
Defend the oppressed.<sup>[a]</sup>  
Take up the cause of the fatherless;  
plead the case of the widow.  
“Come now, let us settle the matter,”  
says the Lord.  
“Though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be as white as snow;  
though they are red as crimson,  
they shall be like wool.  
If you are willing and obedient,  
you will eat the good things of the land;  
but if you resist and rebel,  
you will be devoured by the sword.”  
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

### **Sermon: Shaken from Complacency**

#### **Hymn: As a Fire Is Meant for Burning VU 578**

- 1 As a fire is meant for burning  
with a bright and warming flame,  
so the church is meant for mission,  
giving glory to God's name.  
Not to preach our creeds or customs,  
but to build a bridge of care,  
we join hands across the nations,  
finding neighbours everywhere.
- 2 We are learners; we are teachers;  
we are pilgrims on the way.  
We are seekers; we are givers;  
we are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle, loving actions,  
we would show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit,  
we would live to God's delight.
- 3 As a green bud in the springtime  
is a sign of life renewed,  
so may we be signs of oneness  
mid earth's peoples, many-hued.  
As a rainbow lights the heavens  
when a storm is past and gone,

may our lives reflect the radiance  
of God's new and glorious dawn.

### **Joys / Concerns**

- **Birthdays**
  - Joan Foster celebrates on Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>
- **Anniversaries**
  - Don & Laurelyn Grant celebrates on Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Prayers of the People:**

#### **The Lord's prayer**

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kin-dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kin-dom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.*

### **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**

#### **Hymn: Live into Hope        VU 699**

- 1     Live into hope of captives freed,  
      of sight regained, the end of greed.  
      The oppressed shall be the first to see  
      the year of God's own jubilee!
- 2     Live into hope the blind shall see  
      with insight and with clarity,  
      removing shades of pride and fear,  
      a vision of our God brought near.
- 3     Live into hope of liberty,  
      the right to speak, the right to be,  
      the right to have one's daily bread,  
      to hear God's word and thus be fed.
- 4     Live into hope of captives freed  
      from chains of fear or want or greed.  
      God now proclaims our full release  
      to faith and hope and joy and peace.

**Benediction and Commissioning**

One: May we be filled with a deep certainty of God's presence.

**All: May we be inspired by Jesus' ministry that is ever before us.  
May we be comforted and challenged by the Holy Spirit.**

One: 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.

**All: Amen.**

**Postlude**

**Welcomers:** Alison Rainford, John Cuming

**Counters:** Ruth Sproule, Chris Hopewell

**Worship Schedule**

August 17th	10th after Pentecost	Rev. Tom Watson
August 24th	11th after Pentecost	Rev. Linda Butler
August 31st	12th after Pentecost	Rev. Felicia Urbanksi
September 7 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup> after Pentecost	Rev. Jeff Hawkins