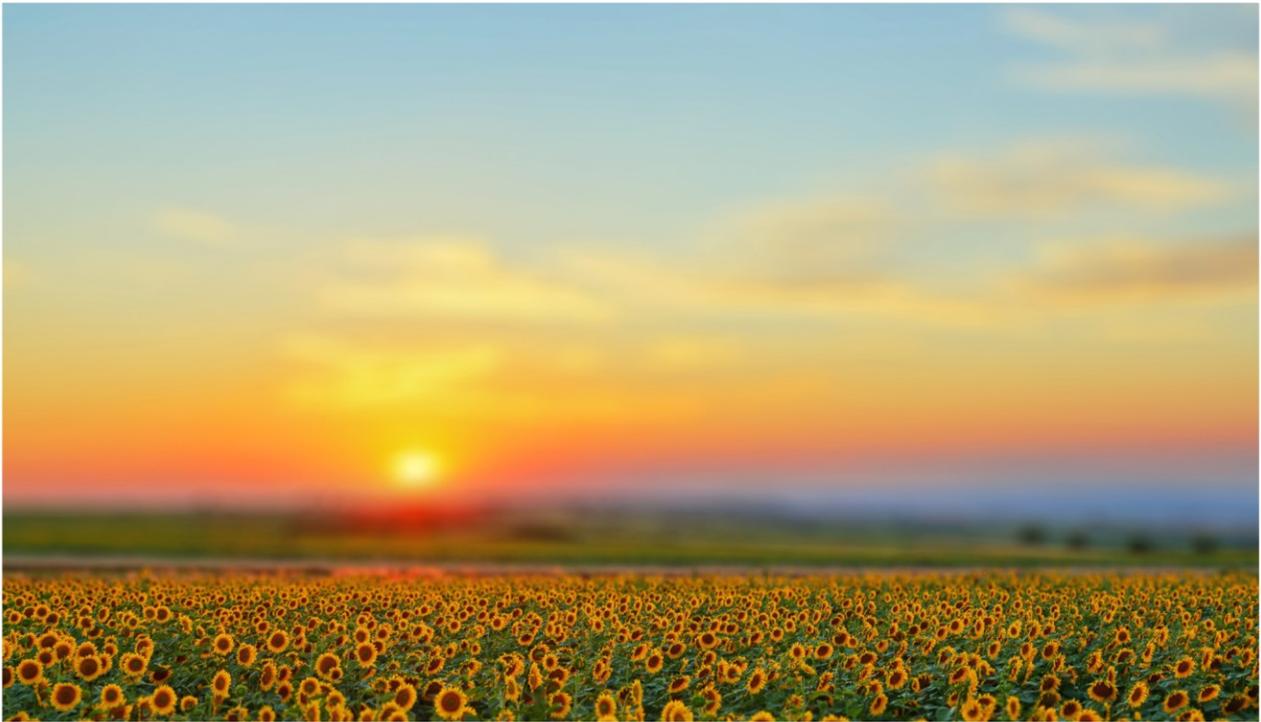




*Celebrating
179 Years*



August 24, 2025

Melville United Church
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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
www.melvilleunited.com

Melville United Church
August 24, 2025
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Presiding: Rev. Linda Butler
Ministry of Music: Suzanne Flewelling

Prelude

Welcome & announcements:

Land Acknowledgement

Lighting the Christ Candle

One: We light this candle as a sign of Christ's presence among us.

**All: May this light brighten our spirits;
may the light of God shining through us brighten the world.**

Call to Worship (*from Seasons of the Spirit*)

One: All who are bent over with worry,

All: this is a place of sanctuary.

One: All who are burdened with life,

All: this is a place of care.

One: All who are lost to community,

All: this is a company of welcome.

One: All who travel with questions,

All: this is a community of seekers.

One: All who reach out for God,

All: this is a sacred place of worship.

Hymn: Let Us Build a House MV 1 (*verses 1,2,4,5*)

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

- 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Opening Prayer

Hymn: Jesus Bids Us Shine VU 585

- 1 Jesus bids us shine with a pure, clear light,
like a little candle burning in the night.
In this world is darkness, so let us shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.
- 2 Jesus bids us shine first of all for him;
well he sees and knows it if our light grows dim:
Jesus walks beside us to help us shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.
- 3 Jesus bids us shine, then, for all around;
many kinds of darkness in the world are found:
sin, and want and sorrow; so we must shine,
you in your small corner, and I in mine.

Children's Time: One Little Candle

Music Ministry: You Are Mine *words and music by David Haas*

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:10-17 *reader: Neil Dunsmore*

On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God. Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, "There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath." The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"
When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.

Sermon: Liberation Day

Hymn: In Suffering Love VU 614

- 1 In suffering love the thread of life

is woven through our care,
for God is with us, not alone
our pain and toil we bear.

- 2 There is a rock, a place secure
 within the storm's cold blast;
 concealed within the suffering night
 God's covenant stands fast.
- 3 In love's deep womb our fears are held;
 there God's rich tears are sown
 and bring to birth, in hope newborn,
 the strength to journey on.
- 4 Now to our hearts your joy commit,
 into our hands your pain;
 so send us out to touch the world
 with blessings in your name.
- 5 In suffering love our God comes now,
 hope's vision born in gloom;
 with tears and laughter shared and blessed
 the desert yet will bloom.

Joys / Concerns

- **Birthdays**
 - Vivian Andrews celebrates on August 25th
 - Marilyn Stickney celebrates on August 27th
 - Lorna Bevcar celebrates on August 29th
- **Anniversaries**
 - Barry and Rossie Rawn celebrate on August 28th
 - Norm and Linda Porritt celebrate on August 29th

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: 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.

Benediction and Commissioning

**All: Touched by the presence of God,
may we be a healing presence in the world.
Upheld by the Spirit of Christ,
may we stand firm for all that is just and true.**

One: And may the love of God surround us,
the Holy Spirit keep us,
and the grace of Christ attend us,
now and always.

All: Amen.

Postlude: On The Wings of Song *words and music by Greg Gilpin*

Welcomers: Barb Gregory, John Cuming

Counters: Karen Smillie, Ruth Sproule

Worship Schedule

August 31st	12th after Pentecost	Rev. Felicia Urbanski
September 7 th	13 th after Pentecost	Rev. Jeff Hawkins
September 14 th	Creation Time Begins	Social Justice
September 21 st	15 th after Pentecost	TBA