



**August 31, 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 31, 2025

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*Presiding: Rev. Felicia Urbanski*

*Musician: Keenan Reimer-Watts, piano*

### 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, and may the light of God shining through us brighten the world.**

### Call to Worship

### Hymn: Come In, Come in and Sit Down VU 395

Come in, come in and sit down,  
you are a part of the family.

We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.

- 1 You know the reason why you came,  
yet no reason can explain;  
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,  
for we are a part of the family. R
  
- 2 God is with us in this place,  
like a mother's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace,  
for we are a part of the family. R
  
- 3 There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;  
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.  
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,  
but we are a part of the family. R
  
- 4 There's rest for the weary and health for us all;  
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.  
So come in and worship and answer the call,  
for we are a part of the family. R

### Opening Prayer

### Children's Time

**Music Ministry: Spiegel im Spiegel (Mirror in the Mirror) by Arvo Pärt,**  
*Played by Keenan Reimer-Watts and Felicia Urbanski*  
[NOTE: We are presenting a concert TODAY from 12:30 to  
1:30 p.m. All are invited! Bring your mug of coffee into the  
sanctuary if you wish.]

**Scripture Reading: Luke 14:1, 7-14** *reader: Alison Rainford*

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

**Reflection: We are All at the Same Table**

**Hymn: The Servant Song VU 595**

- 1 We are pilgrims on a journey,  
fellow travellers on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.
- 2 Sister, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping,  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
till we've seen this journey through.
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,

born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

- 6 Brother, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

### **Joys and Concerns**

- **Birthdays**

- Ken McCorquodale celebrates on September 1<sup>st</sup>
- Marjorie Lister celebrates on September 1<sup>st</sup>
- Larry Broome celebrates on September 1<sup>st</sup>
- Kaillie Rawn celebrates on September 5<sup>th</sup>

- **Condolences**

- We extend our deepest condolences to the family of Rev. Stephen Huntley who passed away on Saturday, August 23, 2025 Please keep the family in your prayers.

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **Offertory Invitation**

#### **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: Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love VU 574**

- 1 Come, let us sing of a wonderful love,  
tender and true, tender and true,  
out of the heart of the Father above,  
streaming to me and to you:  
wonderful love, wonderful love  
dwells in the heart of the Father above.
- 2 Jesus the Saviour this gospel to tell  
joyfully came, joyfully came,  
came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell,  
sharing their sorrow and shame,  
seeking the lost, seeking the lost,  
saving, redeeming at measureless cost.
- 3 Jesus is seeking the wanderers yet;  
why do they roam? why do they roam?  
Love only waits to forgive and forget;  
home, weary wanderers, home!

Wonderful love, wonderful love  
dwells in the heart of the Father above.

- 4        Come to my heart, O thou wonderful love!  
          Come and abide, come and abide,  
          lifting my life till it rises above  
          envy and falsehood and pride:  
          seeking to be, seeking to be  
          lowly and humble, a learner of thee.

## **Benediction and Commissioning**

### **Postlude**

#### **Household Prayer:**

Disturb us, Lord, when  
We are too well pleased with ourselves,  
When our dreams have come true  
Because we have dreamed too little,  
When we arrived safely  
Because we sailed too close to the shore.

Disturb us, Lord, when  
With the abundance of things we possess  
We have lost our thirst  
For the waters of life;  
Having fallen in love with life,  
We have ceased to dream of eternity  
And in our efforts to build a new earth,  
We have allowed our vision  
Of the new Heaven to dim.

Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,  
To venture on wider seas  
Where storms will show your mastery;  
Where losing sight of land,  
We shall find the stars.

We ask You to push back  
The horizons of our hopes;  
And to push into the future  
In strength, courage, hope, and love.

*- Attributed to Sir Francis Drake, c. 1577*

**Welcomers:** Larry Broome, Alison Rainford

**Counters:** Kaillie Rawn, David Gohn

### Worship Schedule

September 7 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup> after Pentecost	Rev. Jeff Hawkins
September 14 <sup>th</sup>	Creation Time Begins	Social Justice
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup> after Pentecost	TBA
September 28 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup> after Pentecost	Rev. Tom Watson