



Sunday August 9, 2026
11th after Pentecost

Melville United Church

300 St. Andrew Street West, Fergus, ON N1M 1N9

Mailing address: PO Box 41, Fergus, ON N1M 2W7

519-843-1781

Team Ministry

Ministry Lead

Kate Keilty

Faith Formation & Youth

Ann Ward

Ministry of Music Team

Colleen Weber, Suzanne Flewelling

Office Administrator

Lan Ha

Custodian

Suzanne Flewelling

Chair of Church Council

Lara Johnston

Chair of Pastoral Care & Prayer Chain Captain

Alison Rainford 519-843-3841

Office hours

Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 2:30pm

E-Mail

secretary@melvilleunited.com

Web Site

www.melvilleunited.com

Melville United Church Worship

Sunday, August 9, 2026

Presiding: Kate Keilty

Ministry of Music: Suzanne Flewelling

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

Gathering Hymn: It's a Song of Praise to the Maker MV 30

It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the thrush sings high in the tree.
It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the gray whale sings in the sea,

Chorus:

And by the Spirit you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.

It's a call of life to the Giver
when waves and waterfalls roar.
It's a call of life to the Giver
when high tides break on the shore,

Chorus

It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the bumblebees hum along.
It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the summer breeze joins the song,

Chorus

It's the chorus of all creation;
it's sung by all living things.
It's the chorus of all creation;
a song the universe sings,

Chorus

Call to Worship

(adapted from *Flames of the Spirit* by Ruth C. Duck)

One: God calls us in the midst of our lives:

All: "Be still and know that I am God."

One: God calls us from our lofty ambitions, our haughtiness, from our occupations with marvels and matters beyond our scope:

All: "Let be and learn that I am God."

One: Come, behold the astounding things God has done in the world.

All: God, the Creator, brings the gift of the Spirit into the whole of our lives, and meets us now in worship.

Welcoming the Light of Christ

Again Jesus spoke to [his followers], saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

**All: We light the Christ candle,
reminding us that the light of life lives on in us
and we are called to share that light with the world.**

Opening Prayer

Children's Time

Ministry of Music: The River

Words and Music by: Brian Doerksen

Verse 1

To the river I am going
Bringing sins I cannot bear
Come and cleanse me, come forgive me
Lord I need to meet you there.

Verse 2

In these waters, healing mercy
Flows with freedom from despair
I am going, to that river
Lord I need to meet you there.

CHORUS

Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender every care
Take my hand now, lead me closer
Lord I need to meet you there.

Precious Jesus, I am ready
To surrender every care
Take my hand now, lead me closer
Lord I need to meet you there

VERSE 4

Come and join us, in the river
Come find life beyond compare
He is calling, He is waiting
Jesus longs to meet you there.
He is calling, He is waiting
Jesus longs to meet you there.

Scripture and Additional Readings

Reader: Susan Barth

Matthew 26:26–28 (NRSV translation)

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.”

Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

A reading from *The Didache*:

But after you are filled [with the Communion meal], thus give thanks: We thank You, holy Father, for Your holy name which You caused to tabernacle in our hearts, and for the knowledge and faith and immortality, which You made known to us through Jesus Your Servant; to You be the glory forever. You, Master almighty, created all things for Your name's sake; You gave food and drink to men for enjoyment, that they might give thanks to You; but to us You freely gave spiritual food and drink and life eternal through Your Servant. Before all things we thank You that You are mighty; to You be the glory forever. Remember, Lord, Your Church, to deliver it from all evil and to make it perfect in Your love, and gather it from the four winds, sanctified for Your kingdom which You have prepared for it; for Yours is the power and the glory forever.

Sermon Series: It's Our Summer, We Can Preach What We Want To: Tending to Our Fragmented Lives

Today's Reflection: Religion vs. Spirituality: Are We Lost in the 'Versus'?

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision VU 642, vv. 1, 2, 4

Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that thou art,
thou my best thought by day or by night;
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;
I ever with thee and thou in my life;
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

- **Birthday**
 - Rev. Paul Parkin celebrates Aug 10
 - Marion McKeown celebrates Aug 15
- **Anniversary**
 - Don & Laurelyn Grant celebrate August 10

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Offering Is Received

Offering Hymn: What Can I Do? MV 191

What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share. (x2)

Dedication Prayer (unison)

Gracious God,
We offer our gifts in support of your work in the world.
May our practice of generosity be also a practice of love—
 turning the other cheek,
 giving our shirt,
 praying for those we disagree with.
God, bless these gifts, and bless our hearts so that they may be open and generous to all.
Amen.

Closing Hymn: Like a Healing Stream MV 144

Like a healing stream in a barren desert,
Spirit water bringing life to dusty earth,

God is trickling through our lives as in a dream unfolding,
Promising revival and rebirth...
Like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain on a thirsty garden,
Spirit water come to nourish tiny seed,
God is bubbling through the soil to coax a new creation,
Yearning for an end to want and need...
Like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong with a restless current,
Spirit water rushing on to distant shore,
God is carving out a channel in a new direction,
Calling for an end to hate and war...
Like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea reaching far horizons,
Spirit water with a love both deep and wide,
God is working in our hearts to shape a new tomorrow;
God will always challenge and provide!
Like a mighty sea,
Like a river strong,
Like a gentle rain,
Like a healing stream.

Blessing

Postlude: Called By The Earth And Sky Words and Music by: Pat Mayberry
Refrain:

Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.
Precious this gift, the air we breathe; wind born and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place, our gathering and our grace.

Refrain:

Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.
Precious the fire that lights our way, bright dawning day.

Fire of passion, sorrows undone, our faith and justice one.

Refrain:

Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.

This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.

Welcomers: Doreen and Larry Broome

Counters: Chris Hopewell, David Gohn

Worship Schedule

Aug 16 th	12 th after Pentecost	Rev. Linda Butler
Aug 23 rd	13 th after Pentecost	Kate Keilty
Aug 30 th	14 th after Pentecost	Kate Keilty
Sept 6 th	15 th after Pentecost	Rev. Karen Boivin