



## UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA MELFORT ETHELTON PASTORAL CHARGE

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Office: (306) 752-2288 Email: [melfortuc@sasktel.net](mailto:melfortuc@sasktel.net)

Website: [www.melfortunitedchurch.com](http://www.melfortunitedchurch.com)

Worship Time: 10:30 AM

Ministers: All of us

Lead Minister: Emmanuel Menyereye

Music: Jodi Allen

Music Director: Mavis Peters

Office Administrator: Denise Todosichuk

Caretaker: Faye Greier

Today's Greeter: Gina Woodard

Scripture Readers: Robin Miazga, Stacey Kleiboer

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost - Year C

### WE GATHER AS A COMMUNITY OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*As we gather for worship today we acknowledge that the land on which we gather is Treaty 6 Territory. We honour the Cree and Métis people for whom this place has been a homeland for thousands of years. We respect the sacredness of our home and the ground on which we walk and we are grateful to gather here in peace and hope.*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNIVERSARIES & CONCERNS:**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

All who are bent over with worry,  
**this is a place of sanctuary.**

All who are burdened with life,  
**this is a house of care.**

All who are lost to community,  
**this is a place of welcome.**

All who travel with questions,  
**this is a community of seekers.**

All who reach out to God,  
**this is a sacred space of worship.**

Come, let us worship.

**HYMN (MV 27)** *"Creator God you gave us life."*

**OPENING PRAYER:**

We come to you, O God, bound by the world.

**Speak your liberation to us.**

We come to you, O God, burdened by life.

**Teach us how to laugh again.**

We come to you, O God, weighed down by anxiety.

**Give us a new rhythm to follow.**

Smooth our crumpled living, O God.

**That we might move confidently into life with you. Amen.**

**HYMN (VU 326)** *"O for a thousand tongues to sing"*

**PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE:** *(in unison)*

**Liberating God, the voice of Jesus Christ calls us out of shadows into new life. Yet sometimes, we ignore that voice even when it calls within our heart. We may think ourselves unworthy or too busy, or too unskilled to be prophets and disciples. At other times, we may discredit the ministry of others, believing that you would only call certain kind of people to proclaim your word. Liberate us again, O God. Set us free from our misunderstandings and help us to embrace and embody your hopes and dreams. Amen.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

God's Spirit has given us life.

**Christ has set us free!**

God forgives us.

**Christ has set us free!**

Let us live by the Spirit.

**Christ has set us free! Alleluia! Amen.**

## **PRAYER RESPONSE (MV 115)**

*"Behold, behold I am making all things new"*

### **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD TO US**

**ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN:**

**HYMN (VU 570)** *"Jesus' hands were kind hands"*

**MINUTE FOR MISSION:**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

**RESPONSIVE READING:**

**PSALM 71:1-6 (VU p. 789 Part One):**

*A mighty fortress, a sheltering rock is God.*

**GOSPEL READING:**

**LUKE 13:10-17:**

*Jesus heals the bent-over woman on the Sabbath.*

**SERMON:**

### **OUR RESPONSE**

**OFFERING:**

**OFFERTORY HYMN (VU 538)** *"For the gift of creation"*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION:**

Loving God, you will turn these gifts into smiling faces, new endeavours, words of comfort, moments of reflection, and laughing children.

**You will enable these gifts to go to work among the homeless, and among the distressed in distant lands, whose names we will never know.**

You can make these gifts a blessing to so many, and for this we thank you. **Amen.**

## **PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE:**

God of all people, you call us to be prophets, to proclaim your word in all places. Fill us with your spirit; empower and encourage us to believe in ourselves, and to be true disciples of Jesus. Guide us to challenge, within ourselves and our world, every tradition that binds freedom, every belief that limits imagination, every custom that refuses change. Help us carry one another's burdens, O God, and set one another free.

God of love and eternity, we live in a world burdened with prejudice. People call one another names, people live in fear, people hide truths about themselves, people are hurting, people are bent over with loads of scorn, oppression, and hurt. Help us carry one another's burdens, O God, and set one another free.

God of creation and justice, in a world of terrible imbalance between rich and poor, between those who control and those who are controlled, guide us to challenge the structures that keep one person healthy and another weak, every idea that forces one to serve another, practices that destroy the earth, this fragile home you have given to all people. Help us carry one another's burdens, O God, and set one another free.

We pray for ourselves. Call us this day to a new level of faith and commitment. Blaze through us with a fire of conviction that will burn away the old attitudes and structures of familiar practice that might stand in the way of new and difficult decisions, that are part of the birthquakes announcing this new beginning within. Strengthen our will to follow your leading into new and exciting areas of service and faith.

We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

### **SENDING FORTH**

**HYMN (VU 635)** *"All the way my saviour leads me"*

## **COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:**

Go forth into the world rejoicing, sure of the healing God offers. Share the good news with all, seeking those who feel unknown and forgotten.

Be strengthened in your faith, and trust in the kingdom that cannot be shaken.

May the blessing of God, like a mother's love sustain you;  
may the peace of God, like a strong castle, protect you;  
may the hope of God, like a consuming fire, enlighten you,  
this day and forevermore.

## **CHORAL BLESSING (VU 963)**

*"May the grace of Christ attend us"*

### **PRAYER RESOURCES:**

*\*Seasons of the Spirit - Seasons FUSION Pentecost 1 2019;  
Worship for an Easter People; Prayers to Share Year C.  
Responsive Prayers for each Sunday of the Church Year;  
Feasting on the Word. Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2,  
Trinity Sunday through Reign of Christ Worship Companion;  
The United Church of Canada Pentecost 1 2019 Year C  
Gathering Resources for Worship Planners. Used with permission.*

### **NEXT WEEK'S (SEPTEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019) READINGS:**

*Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16;  
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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***Welcome:***

***Welcome to worship here today. Whether you are worshipping with us today for the first time or you have been here before or longer than you can remember, you are welcome to be here and to participate however you feel comfortable. Sometimes you may be invited to stand and you want to stay sitting, or you might feel comfortable standing but no***

*one else is. Do what feels right and comfortable for you. We each bring something of ourselves to worship, and it enhances the experience for each of us. Regardless of your age, stage, gender, sexual identity, or how great or small you feel your faith is, God, through us, welcomes you to worship.*

*Please remember to sign our guest book at the entrance of the church, and stay back for a cup of coffee and conversation at the CE Centre immediately following the service.*

## **THIS WEEK AT MELFORT UNITED CHURCH**

### **Rev. Emmanuel's Office Hours & Contact Information**

Office Hours:

Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Office Number: 306.752.4312 Cell Number: 306.930.4093

For emergency pastoral care call 306.930.4093

### **Confirmation / Transfer or Applying for Membership**

If you want your child to be confirmed or you wish to transfer or apply for membership in our church, please contact the church office or a member of the Membership Committee.

### **Fall Newsletter**

The Fall Newsletter will be coming out soon. All people wishing to contribute to the newsletter are asked to get their submissions in by 9am on Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup>. Submissions can be dropped off at the church office or emailed to [melfortuc@sasktel.net](mailto:melfortuc@sasktel.net).

### **Fall Service Announcements**

Sunday, Sept 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School resumes. Noon lunch (ham, baked potatoes and yummy, seasonal vegetables will be served).  
Sunday, Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> - "Gather in September"- a special Sunday to welcome those who have been away during summer months.

Mark your calendars.

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**Fall Garage Sale**

Friday, Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, 9- 5 & Saturday, Sept 14<sup>th</sup>, 9 -12  
The volunteer signup sheet is on the easel in the CE foyer.

**Don't Be A Victim**

Recently there have been a couple of thefts from cars left unlocked outside the church. Remember to lock your doors and take your keys with you. Do not leave valuables in sight.

**FundScrip**

The next FundScrip order date will be Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The order will be available for pick up on Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

***Stewardship Seconds***

*Taking care of God's creation is a seven-day-a-week job.*