



UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA MELFORT ETHELTON PASTORAL CHARGE

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

Website: www.melfortunitedchurch.com

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: Maureen Groat

Scripture Readers: Bryan & Gerri Wurtz

ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 26, 2020

Third Sunday after the Epiphany Year A
[SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM SERVICE]

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:

Jesus called out to brothers, fishers by the sea: "Come and follow me."

They laid aside their nets and followed him.

Sisters and brothers, Jesus still calls to us; how shall we respond?

We will lay everything aside and worship the Christ this day!

Come let us worship.

HYMN (VU 562) *“Jesus calls us”*

OPENING PRAYER: *(in unison)*

Faithful God – your invitation comes like the tide rolling in and rolling out, sometimes gentle, sometimes thunderous, but always calling, calling, calling us to follow. Surround us with your loving presence this day, as we gather to worship you and listen for your voice. Amen.

HYMN (VU 508) *“Just as I am”*

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE: *(in unison)*

Holy One, you create us, you provide for us, you seek us out – then you call us to follow.

Such a simple command – follow me – but one that requires that we turn to you, listen to you, trust you and put you first, ahead of our personal goals and preoccupations.

For times when we shy away from such a commitment, pretend not to hear you, ignore your invitation, and turn away from your light.

Forgive us.

See past our self-centredness and accept our feeble response. Help us be the people that you invite and encourage us to be: your sons and daughters, children of God, willing and ready to respond to your call. We make our prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

The Good News is this: the Kin-dom of God is near!

As near as the Spirit moving among us this day.

As near as the love of Christ whom we worship this day.

The Good News is this: in Christ, we are loved, and called, and redeemed.

Thanks be to God for this very Good News!

PRAYER RESPONSE (MV 85) *“Take, O take me as I am”*

CHOIR ANTHEM: *“What a Friend we have in Jesus”*
– Besig & Price

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD TO US

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN:

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

(see insert)

HYMN (VU 644) *“I was there to hear your borming cry”*

MINUTE FOR MISSION:

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

RESPONSORIAL READING:

PSALM 27 (VU pp.754-755):
God is my light and my salvation.

HEBREW READING:

ISAIAH 9:1-4:
The people have seen a great light.

EPISTLE READING:

1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-18:
Overcome divisions and find unity.

GOSPEL READING:

MATTHEW 4:12-23:
Jesus begins his ministry.

SERMON:

OUR RESPONSE

OFFERING:

OFFERTORY HYMN (VU 540) *“Grant us, God, the grace”*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

Great God, these gifts are our witness to kindness and generosity.

May they be found useful in bettering this community and the kin-dom of God on earth. May they support the ways of being that Jesus taught each of us. May they be the fulfillment of all that this community of Christ holds dear. Amen.

[Written by Jim McKean, A/C/E 2019-2020 Gathering Year A, page 52].

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Gracious God, you have called us by name and invited us to be your disciples. You have claimed us as your children, and we are grateful.

We are grateful for the gift of this day, and this beautiful planet where we live, work, worship and play. Help us preserve its beauty and the natural life it supports.

We are grateful for the communities in which we live. Grant us willing hearts and hands to make them places of welcome, work, and opportunity.

We are grateful for the people in our lives: our co-workers, neighbours, friends, and families; those near and far, those we see often, and those we can only see in our fondest memories.

We call on you this day to be near to those whose lives, bodies, and spirits are broken. We pray especially for... *(include prayers for your own community)*.

We call on you this day to give wisdom and prudence to our leaders, that they may seek to do your will. We call on you this day to bring peace where conflict rages, and comfort where despair looms large.

And we remember with thanksgiving the faithful and blessed departed, and our beloved ones whom you have taken to yourself praying that you bring us with them to those things which eye has not seen, nor ear heard, which you have prepared for those who love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER: *(in unison)*

SENDING FORTH

HYMN (VU 626) “*I heard the voice of Jesus say*”

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

Follow the call, answer the invitation,
live the adventure – taking the love
of God, the grace of Christ,
and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit with
you every step of the way. **Amen.**

CHORAL BLESSING “*My Peace*” – K. Routledge

PRAYER RESOURCES:

**Seasons of the Spirit – SeasonsFUSION Advent,
Christmas, Epiphany 2019-2020; The Book of Common
Prayer of the United Church of Canada; The United Church
of Canada Advent, Christmas, Epiphany 2019-2020
(Year A) Gathering Resources for Worship Planners.
Used with permission.*

NEXT WEEK'S (FEBRUARY 2, 2020) READINGS:

*Micah 6:1-8;
Psalm 15;
1 Corinthians 1:18-31;
Matthew 5:1-12.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baptism:

**We congratulate, Jaxon Clarence Doehl,
son of Nicole Ashley Keen and Dylan Garth
David Doehl on his baptism.**

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.

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:

Monday, January 27th

@ 2 pm – Naomi Unit

Wednesday, January 29th

@ 7 pm - Choir

Thursday, January 29th

@ 10:30 am – Bible Study

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.

Changes to Contact Information

If you've changed your address or phone number please advise the Church Office so that we can keep your information current.

Thank you!

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation class can begin anytime candidates are available. Please see the minister if you would like you or your child to go through baptism or confirmation process.

FundScrip Deadline for January

The next FundScrip deadline is Thursday, January 30th. The gift cards will be ready for pickup on Thursday, February 6th.

Cards for Members

If you have someone that needs a card sent to please let a member of the Pastoral Care team know. The members are Rev.

Emmanuel, Marion Heavin, Grace Wilton, Bea Shirran
and Ron Nielsen.

Board Members for 2020

Calling for Board Members – please consider serving a term. If you are interested please call Don Meier (863-4379) or Chris Corbett (921-4131). Signup sheets for each board committee are on the easel in the CE foyer.

MUC Annual Congregational Meeting – Sunday, March 1st

The annual congregational meeting is Sunday, March 1st. The meeting and service will be followed by a cold potluck lunch.

Stewardship Seconds

We have an offering--so what?