



UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA MELFORT ETHELTON PASTORAL CHARGE

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

Website: www.melfortunitedchurch.com

Worship Time: 10:30 AM

Ministers: All of us

Worship Leader: Rachelle Heavin

Music:

Music Director: Mavis Peters

Office Administrator: Denise Todosichuk

Caretaker: Faye Greier

Today's Greeter:

Scripture Readers:

ORDER OF WORSHIP

June 21, 2020

Third after Pentecost, Year A

[Sunday School, Grad Recognition and Father's Day]

WE GATHER AS A COMMUNITY OF GOD'S PEOPLE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNIVERSARIES & CONCERNS:

GREETING:

Read by: Alexis Heavin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-cDHDiH1LM>

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. On this Indigenous Day of Prayer as we celebrate the achievement and future opportunities for our graduates, we are also thankful for the opportunity to acknowledge the importance of Indigenous ways of knowing in our past, present, and future as we live our lives in community, learning, and growth. As today is also Father's Day, we

thank the many people in our lives who have provided guidance, inspiration, and support.

To those of you who are grieving and concerned, please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. To those of you celebrating special days, we wish you happy birthday and happy anniversary, and happy graduation. To those of you that have joined us today, we thank you for sharing this time with us as the Sunday School leads you in worship.

OPENING PRAYER:

Read by: Robyn Wilton, Evie Steffen, Lane Annand, Kyle Wilton, Danelle Steffen, Rohan Steffan, Lukas Steffan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FisKEmH-eXo>

We gather this day,
to acknowledge a threshold moment—
a thin place
between what's been and what's to be—
between what's been studied, learned, and accomplished,
and all the more there is to study and learn and do.

It is so very good to mark growth in celebration,
and then so very good as well,
to celebrate having further to grow—
to note a mile-marker on the longer way
and to take joy both in the distance traveled
and the distance yet ahead.

Bless this liminal time and space
and those who stand in thresholds
looking back and looking ahead.

May it be with a sense of both gratitude and anticipation.
May it be with an awareness
of how we grow our life long with our whole person—
our minds, bodies, spirits, and emotions.

And may it be with a profound sense

of what it means to place our way
(where we've been and where we're going)
within the way of Jesus.

A Prayer for Joy and Laughter

Read by: Madison McAvoy <https://youtu.be/jtstD7-6tak>

“The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.” (Psalm 126:3)

Dear God, we pray for laughter and joy to fill the days of these we love so very much. Bring a great love for humor in and through their lives, that they would know what it is to laugh deeply and often. We ask that they would smile at the future and live with a sense of adventure and expectation in all that you have in store. We thank you for the reminder that the “joy of the Lord is our strength,” so even for the tough days, would you remind them that their joy is never based on outward circumstances, it's only to be found in you. We pray that your praise would always be on their lips, that you would give them great skill in all that you've called them to do, and their lives would be a constant reflection of your light and joy, for your glory.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Read by: Elizabeth Fahlman

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmPNFTCCh_k

Hear the grace-filled words of Jesus the Christ, who said: “I am with you always, ‘til the end of time.”

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC: “*Walk On*” by Carl Stromen

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lo_S_nLCOLl

- Performed by Mavis Peters, Accompanied by Tracey Smetaniuk

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN:

Sunday School Video Montage <https://youtu.be/60Zm9edLiWU>

This video is a collection of pictures taken during our Sunday School classes. The Sunday School would like to thank:

- The teachers: Chris Corbett, Gina, Megan and Madison McAvoy, Rachelle and Ryan Heavin and others who help when they can
- Mrs. McCosh for her music leadership
- Denise who answers our questions, helps us plan our services, and provides extra resources for our programs
- Thank you to the families who are able to join us when you can

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Proverbs 4

Read by: Bree Chamakese

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uy-V7ynigHg>

7 The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever else you get, get insight. 8 Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her. 9 She will place on your head a fair garland; she will bestow on you a beautiful crown.” 10 Hear, my child, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many. 11 I have taught you the way of wisdom; I have led you in the paths of uprightness. 12 When you walk, your step will not be hampered; and if you run, you will not stumble. 13 Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life.

EPISTLE READING: Colossians 3:12-17

Read by: Maclin Corbett

<https://youtu.be/PznIFKV4AJk>

12 As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. 13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord[f] has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. 14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds

everything together in perfect harmony. 15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ[g] dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.[h] 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 5:3-12

Read by: Grady Corbett

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xdYqiyEBSf4>

The Beatitudes

1 When Jesus[a] saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 5 “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. 8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. 10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely[b] on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

GRAD RECOGNITION:

Megan’s Address To The Congregation:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jN_8-ilckqM

Hello everyone, this is Megan McAvoy here and I just wanted to address my church community in regards to my graduation ceremony. Unfortunately we could not have a physical celebration,

but I am willing to try and make it worth while from home. I have always loved helping out with my church community and really getting involved, from helping out with Sunday school, to being a part of our choir, to helping out with events such as our fall supper and garage sale. I have loved helping out with everything. I have been apart of this church since I was born and I have loved every moment. This coming fall I am planning on taking U of S classes in the animal bioscience program. I am hoping to continue this program to eventually get into vet med and become a veterinarian. While I am not able to go to the school, I am still taking their online courses. I would like to thank my family and community members for all the support they have given me. Thank you all for the love and encouragement you have given me over the years. I can't even describe to you how much I appreciate you guys and how much you have influenced me over the years. I hope we all get through this with our heads high and are able to see each other again soon. Thank you.

Grad PowerPoint:

<https://youtu.be/skFEXVFFDKg>

Message: Thank You For Your Talents

Read by: **Rachelle Heavin** <https://youtu.be/IYBKm6LPkSQ>

A talent is something that you are born with that gives you unique skills and abilities. God's love teaches us that when we discover, practice and strengthen our talents, we can use them to help others. We can help others learn, feel valued, and be entertained. Megan and Owen are talented young adults who have discovered and shared their talents with the church and greater community, and we are grateful to acknowledge them and wish them well during this graduation time.

Owen has demonstrated his talents in the classroom, on the stage, and with his friends. Owen has always succeeded in academics, and has been a member of the MUCC Swing Choir, Band Program, and Team Drama. You would find him in the back row leading the way; these were the places where he was the foundation for his team. As a baritone singer and percussionist, he set the rhythm and tone for

every musical performance. As an actor, when Owen stepped on the stage, his team could depend on him for consistency, confidence, and presence. Last year he helped take the MUCC Team Drama to provincials where the power of his opening and closing scenes were integral to the success of the play. As a friend, Owen, you are supportive and loyal, and your peers are fortunate to have such a positive influence in their lives.

As a congregation, we have witnessed Megan discovering her talents and sharing them with others. She has followed her family, especially her grandmothers, into volunteerism. Through her entire life we have seen her working at the Melfort Fair where she would be demonstrating her horsemanship with 4-H and helping with the Ag Society, or here at the church helping with the Fall Supper, teaching Sunday School, or doing whatever else her Grandma Cheryl had volunteered her and her sister to do. On the stage, Megan has demonstrated her unique skills and abilities as a competitive highland dancer, musical theatre performer and vocalist. We have been entertained by watching Megan perform, and been moved as we have heard her beautiful voice sing out in solos and with the choir. My personal favourite talent of Megan's is the relationship she has with her sister, Madison. The bond of friendship, shared laughter, and support the two of you have is invaluable. Megan, we thank you for the relationships you have created with each of us.

Owen and Megan we thank you for sharing your talents on the stage, in your schools, and with your family and friends. You are both remarkable individuals with talents and goals that will bring you great success in life. Please know that your church community celebrates you, is proud of you, and will always be here for you whenever you choose to come see us again. Congratulations, Owen and Megan!

OUR RESPONSE

Read by: Keely Hadwen <https://youtu.be/XtAKAEs00Ok>

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Dear God, we pray that you would give your children wisdom and direction in making decisions, and in each new situation and journey you have for us now. Teach us to listen closely to your voice, that we would have a heart to follow your Word and have a desire to make the right choices. We pray that these we love so much would walk faithfully and diligently in all your ways. We ask that you would make their footsteps firm, that your Word would be a constant lamp for their feet and a light to their path. May they sense the freshness of your Spirit over their lives in amazing ways, and may they be strengthened, instilled with hope, for the new roads you have in store. We ask for your wisdom and clear direction over their lives, that you would give them understanding beyond their years. We ask for you to open doors that need to be opened and close every one that should be shut tight. Allow every gift and treasure you have placed inside their lives to grow, develop, and flourish to bring you glory.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Read by: Alia Hadwen

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfGIEWL_m5M

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom 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 kingdom and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

Read by: Will Heavin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5D-dLrweiJ4>

May God's blessing follow you all
as you find new journeys to travel.

May you walk safely along the pathways of your dreams.
May God's gentle hand guide the decisions you will make
and the passions that you follow.

May your hearts and lives always reflect God's love and truth,
And may hope be a light within you
that you carry into each new day. Amen.

Sunday School Activity (instead of craft) → GET UP AND DANCE to:

I Dance in the Morning, Performed by Liam Jones and Layne Jones for The Coteau Hills Pastoral Charge

<https://youtu.be/E0hMrQP1bsM?list=RDE0hMrQP1bsM>

(Layne and Liam are friends of Mike and Karen Hadwen, whom they worked with at Lumsden Beach Camp)

PRAYER RESOURCES:

**Seasons of the Spirit – Seasons FUSION Lent, Easter 2020; The United Church of Canada Pentecost 2020 Year A Gathering Resources for Worship Planners. Used with permission.*

~ posted on **A Preacher Musing**, June,

2016. <https://preachermusings.wordpress.com/2016/06/30/graduation-june-26-2016/>

<https://www.crosswalk.com/family/parenting/teens/10-prayers-for-the-graduate.html>

NEXT WEEK'S (June 28, 2020) READINGS:

Genesis 22:1-14;

Psalm 13;

Romans 6:12-23;

Matthew 10:40-42.