



## 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)

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: Dorothy Busby

Scripture Readers: Gwendolyn Mills Wood, Jean Senecal

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### ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 19, 2016  
Third Sunday in Lent - Year A

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

**MUSICAL PRELUDE:**

**GREETING & WELCOME:**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNIVERSARIES & CONCERNS:**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Come, let us sing a song to our God!

**Let us raise a joyful shout to the rock  
of our salvation!**

Let us come before God with thanks;

**Let us shout songs of joy to our creator.**

For God is great, ruler over all creation.

**Mountains and oceans are in God's hands.**

Come, let us worship God!

**HYMN (MV138):** *"My love colours outside the lines"*

**OPENING PRAYER:**

*(based on Exodus 17:1-7)*

God of mercy, fountain of loving care,

wellspring of blessing and source of our hope:

**help us to break through the dry surface  
of our parched lives.**

Help us to find the life that flows beneath,  
quietly, deeply, cool with refreshment -

**that living water for our souls that is  
the Spirit of Christ your Beloved.**

Rise up and flood with loving care

**every withered life and every heart that  
thirsts for you.**

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Psalm 42 (VU p. 766):** *"As the deer pants for the water"*

**PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE:**

O God, you recall our words, spoken in anger,  
spoken without thought.

**Give us the ability to speak the words that calm,  
and the attitude that encourages, and brings peace.**

O God, you are aware of friendships that are unhealthy,  
the relationships that lack trust.

**Give us the ability to understand the reasons for  
disharmony, and the willingness to bring change.**

O God, you know well the actions that have hurt, and those times  
when we have held back from support or care.

**Give us the courage to follow where our conscience  
leads, and the patience to persevere.**

O God, you feel our uncertain faith, and our lack of commitment to  
the community of Jesus Christ;

**Give us the determination to learn and grow  
in faith, and to work with others to make clear the  
significance of Jesus for today.**

*(Time for silent reflection).*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

Hear these words from our Creator God:

I am the water of life, come to me all who are  
thirsty and you will drink of the living waters  
and never be thirsty again.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**PRAYER RESPONSE (MV 64):**

**Verse 5:**     *“Because you came on Easter morning”*

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** *“Be Still and Know That I am God” – M. Larkin*

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD TO US**

**ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN:**

**HYMN (MV 92):** *“Like a rock”*

**THE LORD’S PRAYER:**

**MINUTE FOR MISSION:**

**Psalm 95 (VU p. 814):**

*Let us shout to the rock of our salvation.*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

**Exodus 17:1-7:**

*Water from the rock.*

**John 4:5-42:**

*Jesus and the Samaritan woman.*

**SERMON:**

**OUR RESPONSE**

**OFFERING:**

**OFFERTORY HYMN (MV 182):** *“Grateful”*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION:** (in unison)

**Your love for us, gracious God, is overwhelming:  
in the midst of our complaining, you pour out  
abundant water for us. Now we respond in kind,  
giving you what we can for the work of your people.  
Take our gifts, and take us, and use us to share  
living water with others. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,  
Wellspring of mercy, hear our prayer.

Saving God, you are the giver of living water, the source of deepest compassion, the fountain of eternal life. Therefore we pray to you:

Wellspring of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who are thirsty - thirsty for a life of meaning, thirsty for a word of grace, thirsty for a drink of water...

Wellspring of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who are weary, weary from life's long journey, weary from quarrelling and testing, weary from pain or grief...

Wellspring of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all who are broken, broken by pain and suffering, broken by disappointments, broken by acts of violence and insecurity,

Wellspring of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, through your Spirit, pour your love into our hearts, your grace into our lives, your healing into our world, until the earth is filled with your glory as the waters cover the sea; through Jesus Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

## **SENDING FORTH**

**HYMN (MV 117):** *"By the Well, a thirsty Woman"*

## **COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:**

The hour is coming and is now here.

Go forth to worship the Lord your God in spirit  
and in truth, in all you say and do.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, springing  
up like living water, fill your heart, and flow through  
your life as you go out in peace. **Amen.**

**CHORAL BLESSING:** *"My Peace" – K. Routledge*

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## **Prayer Resources:**

*\*Seasons of the Spirit - Seasons FUSION Lent-Easter 2017;  
Prayers to Share Year A; Feasting on the Word Liturgies for Year  
A, Volume 1 Advent Through Pentecost; the United Church of*

*Canada Lent-Easter 2017 Year A Gathering Resources for Worship  
Planners. Used with permission.*

**Next Week's (March 26, 2017- Lent 4A) Scripture Readings:**

*1 Samuel 16:1-16;  
Psalm 23;  
Ephesians 5:8-14;  
John 9:1-41.*

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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***We welcome you all to worship, especially our  
visitors or guests. We are glad that you have  
chosen to worship with us today. Please remember  
to sign our guestbook at the entrance of the church.***

***Please stay back for a cup of coffee and  
conversation at the CE Centre immediately  
following the service.***

**THIS WEEK AT MELFORT UNITED CHURCH:**

**Tuesday, March 21**

@ 10:30 am – Finance Meeting  
@ 7pm – Women Alive

**Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

@ 7 pm – Choir

**Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

@ 10:30am – Bible Study  
@ 12 pm – Lenten Lunch  
@ 4:15 pm – Bell Choir  
@ 7:00 pm – Church Board Meeting  
FundScrip Deadline for March

**Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**

@ 10am – Pastoral Care

**Reminder for Next Sunday – March 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Greeter:** Grace Wilton

**Ushers:** Bruce & Marlene Stevenson

**Coffee Makers:** Joan Gilbertson & Jeanette Stevenson

**Readers:** Lorne Anderson, Imogene Schick

**PowerPoint:** Rick Peters

**March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Board Meeting @ 7:00 pm**

**Note: New Time**

Please come prepared to select/elect the Officers (Board Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary). Also remember reading about Remit 4: “Funding a New Model” as a vote on it will take place @ this meeting. Thank you!

**Let the Church Music Serenade You into Spring**

March 19<sup>th</sup> – “Be Still and Know” – M. Larkin

March 26<sup>th</sup> – “ Just Let Me Sing” – M. Donnelly

April 2<sup>nd</sup> – “Ave Marie” – Judy & Bernice – Piano & Organ Duet

April 9<sup>th</sup> – “Hosanna! Hosanna!” – J. Martin

April 16<sup>th</sup> – “Easter Anthem” – A. Herring

April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Graydon Eskowich – Piano Solo

April 30<sup>th</sup> – “Disciples of Christ” – Besig & Price

**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 March**

The next FundScrip deadline is Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Newsletter**

The Spring 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, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Submissions can be dropped off at the church office or emailed to [melfortuc@sasktel.net](mailto:melfortuc@sasktel.net).

***Stewardship Second***

*Let God's grace and gifts flow freely: from God to us,  
from us to others.*