



## UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA MELFORT ETHELTON PASTORAL CHARGE

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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: Les Holoien

Scripture Readers: Judy Meier, Chris Corbett

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### ORDER OF WORSHIP

**October 15, 2017**

**Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Year A**

*(World Food Sunday):*

*Seeds of Sovereignty by Margaret Tusz-King*

### 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:**

*(responsive)*

O God, source of all life,

**you are with us always.**

You reveal yourself as a seed,

**that we may taste, understand, and grow in you.**

You reveal yourself as water,

**that we may be softened and cleansed by you.**

You reveal yourself as earth,

**that we may be nurtured and grounded in you.**

You reveal yourself as wind,

**that we may be touched and inspired by you.**

You reveal yourself as fire,

**that we may be refined and energized by you.**

You reveal yourself as a child,

**that we may wonder with amazement at your wisdom and beauty. We are your people, God. We come to worship you!**

**HYMN (VU 226):** *"For the beauty of the earth"*

**OPENING PRAYER:**

God, you create life

**out of simple things, like soil, water, sunlight, and seeds.**

You catch our attention

**with sunrises, sunsets, rhododendrons and butterflies.**

You hold our hearts

**in cupped hands that are the shape of lovers, of families, of communities.**

You move our spirits

**like a breeze, like flowing water, like nighttime turning to day.**

You are all that we need

**to live with dignity, justice, wellness, and fulfillment.**

Help us to feel your embrace and care in every precious moment and place.

**HYMN (VU 460):** *"All who hunger"*

**PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE:**

God, we do our best to walk in your light. But we confess, O God that

**sometimes, we forget that we live in you.**

Sometimes, we forget that we live in community connected with all life.

**Sometimes, we forget that our lives are gifts of love and delight.**

Sometimes, we indulge in diversions and selfishness, forgetting our brothers and sisters, and creation.

**Sometimes, we consume too much and share too little.**

We are frail and we seek your forgiveness.

**God, heal our frailties, enable our learning, and continue to light our footsteps in our life journey toward you. Amen.**

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

God promises us grace and forgiveness.

God gives us light. We are loved and forgiven.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **PRAYER RESPONSE (MV 85):**

*"Take, O take me as I am"*

### **SPECIAL MUSIC:**

*"With Grateful Heart, I Thank You, Lord"*

– Mary Kay Beall

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

### **ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN:**

**HYMN (MV 151):** *"Your will be done"*

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

### **MINUTE FOR MISSION:**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

**Exodus 16:2-15:**

*God provides manna and quail as food for the Israelites.*

**Matthew 14:13-21:**

*Jesus feeds the five thousand.*

### **SERMON:**

## OUR RESPONSE

**OFFERING:**

**OFFERTORY HYMN (MV 182):** *"Grateful"*

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

**Bountiful and gracious God,  
we share what you have given us  
with love, joy, and commitment,  
that your love may root and grow  
wherever needed in the world. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

*(based on the New Creed)*

God, we humbly pray,

**We are not alone. We live in your world.**

We pray for the health of the earth upon which all of life depends. We pray for all who touch the earth as farmers, miners, foresters, fishers, and backyard gardeners, that we all may remember that you are with us, and that this is your world.

**We are called to be the church.**

We pray for all who gather in your name, who seek to do your will. May we, like seeds, be full of promise, be whole, and grow in fertile soil as examples of your goodness in the world.

**We are called to celebrate God's presence.**

We are amazed by your constancy! We pray for the awareness of your presence in the world, in the beauty of flowers, the singing of birds, the scents and flavours of foods, in our tingling of feelings.

**We are called to live with respect in creation.**

We understand that we are just one part of the balance of your creation. We pray that we may understand how to live respectfully with all life here. May we learn to be interdependent and fully with our neighbours.

**We are called to love and serve others.**

We, now are the hands and feet of Christ in the world. We pray for the caregivers, whose kindness, mercy, and compassion demonstrate your love. We pray for those who suffer, who are

oppressed, who are marginalized, who are ill, who suffer hunger, and all who mourn the loss of loved ones. May we, like seeds planted in good soil receive what is needed to live meaningful lives that serve you.

**We are called to seek justice and resist evil.**

We live in a world of conflict and injustice. May we recognize opportunities to build peace and reconciliation. We pray for the peacemakers and justice seekers who bring your message of peace, love, and holy wisdom through courageous and inspiring actions.

**We are called to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

We are inspired by Jesus, a seed of love, who demonstrated compassion through his actions, educated for justice through his parables, and is our living hope through his death. And God, we offer these prayers that we carry silently in our hearts. (*Silent prayer*).

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **SENDING FORTH**

**HYMN (VU 713):** *"I see a new heaven"*

### **COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:**

**We have listened, we have shared.**

**We have sung, we have prayed.**

**We have been about God's work.**

Go from this holy place with hope that  
**forgiveness will be received.**

That friendship will be given and received.

**That compassion will be practiced.**

Justice will be sought out.

**Christ will be recognized among family,  
friends, and strangers.**

**With God's help, we will be about God's work.**

**Go in love and peace of God.**

*[adapted from Pentecost. 2 2017 Year A Gathering, page 45].*

## **CHORAL BLESSING (MV 220):**

*"Hope shines as the solitary star"*

### **Prayer Resources:**

*\*<http://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/resources/seeds-of-sovereignty.pdf> and Pentecost. 2 2017 Year A Gathering Resources for Worship Planners. Used with permission.*

### **Next Week's (Sunday, October 22, 2017) Readings:**

*Psalm 148;  
Isaiah 11:6-9;  
Luke 10:25-37.*

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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, October 17<sup>th</sup>**

@ 5:30 pm – Confirmation Class 2017

@ 7.00 pm – Women Alive

#### **Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

@ 7:00 pm – Choir

#### **Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

@ 10:30 am – Bible Study

@ 4:15 pm – Bell Choir

**FundScrip Deadline for October**

The next FundScrip deadline is Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.  
The cards will be available for pick up on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Fall Supper**

Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 – 6:30 pm  
Adults \$12.00, Children (6-12) \$ 8.00, Preschool FREE  
Family \$ 40.00 Take-Out Meals: \$ 12.00  
For take-out meals call 752-2288 by  
Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 3pm

**Scott Woods Old Time Christmas**

Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> – 7 pm  
Tickets: \$25 Adult, \$10 Child (age 6-12)  
Tickets are available at Home Hardware, Backstage Music/ Church  
or call Gwendolyn @ 306.752.1923  
Order by phone with Visa or MC at Scott Wood's Office @  
1.885.726.8896

***Stewardship Seconds***

*"All we have" can be a little or a lot. There is always a way to reach out to our neighbour.*