



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

Lead Minister: Emmanuel Menyereye

Music: Grace Wilton

Music Director: Mavis Peters

Office Administrator: Denise Todosichuk

Caretaker: Faye Greier

Today's Greeter: Kelly Copeland

Scripture Readers: Kim and Wendy Eskowich

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 1, 2019
Twelfth 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:

God has given us this beautiful earth, all that grows, all that lives upon it.

Thanks be to God.

God has given us breath to live and spirit to sing.

Thanks be to God.

God has gathered us into a community of care and worship.

Let us worship God with love, thanksgiving, and praise.

HYMN (VU 220) *"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty."*

OPENING PRAYER:

You meet us, O God, at every place along the highway of life.

You meet us at life's beginning - smiling, gurgling, and vulnerable.

You meet us as children, growing and exploring, yet laughing and teasing as we go.

You meet us as young adults, finding our feet, nurturing and searching for values.

You meet us as parents, with all the responsibility, joy, and frustration that comes with parenthood.

You meet us in the autumn of our days, with wisdom, yet with increasing infirmity.

You meet us, O God, at every stage in life, for you are a trusted and sustaining presence.

Yet we know you remain always ahead of us - the source of hope and the essence of eternity.

**Praise be to your name, Living God, Parent of Jesus!
Amen.**

HYMN (MV 150) "Spirit God, be our breath"

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE:

We aim to curve out a reputation, to find a place of honour in the world.

Help us to serve consistently and compassionately in the Christian way; humble us, O God.

We aim to listen carefully to our friends and family members, but we talk about ourselves.

Help us to concentrate on the other person; humble us, O God.

We aim to enthusiastically support the community of Jesus Christ, but other priorities get in the way.

Help us to see and understand the need for Christian values; humble us, O God.

We aim to speak out against poverty and injustice, but our lifestyle betrays the words we say.

Give us the courage to practice justice and simplicity, humble us, O God.

We aim to grow as disciples of Jesus, but it is more comfortable to stay with the tried and tested realities.

Help us to go through the process of questioning and doubt; humble us, O God.

(Time for silent reflection).

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

You call to account, O God, for pride and self-interest are ours.

We will reflect on the needs of the powerless and disadvantaged, rather than our own.

We will reflect on how we can serve, rather than how much we can get.

We will hear another out, before we offer an opinion.

We will judge slowly, and forgive generously.

Humility led Jesus all the way to a cross. It is not an easy way for you.

It is thee way of peace for us.

Thanks be to God!

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 340) *"Jesus, friend of little children"*

MINUTE FOR MISSION:

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

RESPONSORIAL READING:

PSALM 81:10-16 (VU pp. 796-797 Part Two):

God will feed you wheat and honey.

GOSPEL READING:

LUKE 14:1, 7-14:

*Those who exalt themselves will
be humbled.*

SERMON:

OUR RESPONSE

OFFERING:

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

Beyond our realized talents and abilities,

You call us to act.

Way beyond our boundaries of community,

You call us to serve.

Beyond our conventional understanding of stewardship,

You call us to give.

Bless all our gifts,

In the name of your supreme gift, Jesus. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE:

Gracious God, you call us to relinquish the cares and concerns of our lives to you, so that we might serve you in perfect freedom. Hear us as we bring before you the petitions of our hearts and minds.

We offer our prayers for the universal church. May our words and actions bring honour to your name and teach us true humility. We offer our prayers for the needs of the world.

May peace pervade in all places of conflict and violence. We offer our prayers for those who suffer from sickness of mind, body, or spirit and all those who care for them.

We pray for those who have died, who now worship in the presence of Christ, and those who will die today.

Almighty God, you call us to follow you with faithfulness, even when it challenges our relationships and the values of our culture. Help us to release our fears, nurture us in your ways, and sustain

us as we seek your peace. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

SENDING FORTH

HYMN (VU 589) *"Lord, speak to me"*

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

God graces us with abundance and inspires
us to be generous.

Now, go into the world,
confident in the Lord's provision,
seeking those who are strangers
and providing for those who cannot repay you.

May the God of mystery take you to unexpected places,
may the God of humility teach you to serve without pride,
may the God of wisdom inspire your work in the kingdom;
and the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, be with
you now and always. Go in peace of Christ!

CHORAL BLESSING (VU 963)

"May the grace of Christ attend us"

PRAYER RESOURCES:

**Celebrate God's Presence, A Book of Worship, 2000;
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 8th) SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;

Jeremiah 18:1-11;

Philemon 1-21;

Luke 14:25-33.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Tuesday, September 3rd

@ 7 pm – Women Alive

Wednesday, September 4th

@ 4:40 – Worship Committee Meeting

@ 7 pm - Choir

Melfort United Church Choir

The choir starts practice again on Wednesday, September 4th at 7:00 pm. New members are always welcome!!!

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. **Last call for submissions.** All people wishing to contribute to the newsletter are asked to get their submissions in by 9am on Tuesday, September 3rd. Submissions can be dropped off at the church office or emailed to melfortuc@sasktel.net.

Fall Service Announcements

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

Melfort United Church Choir

The choir starts practice again on Wednesday, September 4th at 7:00 pm. New members are always welcome!!!

Fall Garage Sale

Friday, Sept 13th, 9- 5 & Saturday, Sept 14th, 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 26th, 2019. The order will be available for pick up on Thursday, October 3rd.

Stewardship Seconds

Hospitality offered to strangers may result in entertaining angels.