



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 Leaders: Cheryl Sproule & Jean Senecal
Music: Jodi Allen
Music Director: Mavis Peters
Office Administrator: Denise Todosichuk
Caretaker: Faye Greier
Today's Greeter: Eileen Brooks
Scripture Readers: Marlene Stevenson, Grace Wilton

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 29, 2019

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Year C

Creation Time 4 in the Season of Pentecost

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:

(Inspired by Psalm 91)

God makes a home for us;

the Divine provides shade for us.

Yahweh is our refuge and strength;

Abba is the home in which we can trust.

Let us worship the One who gives us shelter;

let us find our refuge under God's wings.

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

OPENING PRAYER: *(in unison)*

Watchful God, we lay at the gates,
some of us hungering for crumbs of mercy,
some of us covered with the sores of life,
all of us longing for the cool touch of your peace.
Make your presence known to us,
cross over into our hearts, into our minds,
into the deepest parts of our being,
that nothing be fixed between us and you. Amen.

HYMN (VU 356) *"Seek ye first the kingdom"*

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE: *(in unison)*

Ever-loving God, you have shown us what is right,
calling us to humility,
begging us to act with justice,
urging us to reach across the chasms of the
world to one another.

But we have not always done what is right.
We have feasted in luxury while others have starved;
we have ignored those whose wounds are visible to all;
we have widened the chasms between us and others.
Have mercy on us. Allow us to hear your good news so that
we might not dwell in agony but live with renewed
hearts and lives. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

The Triune God comforts us when we are in pain,
the bridge over the chasms of brokenness,
the refuge for our souls,
the strength to live out justice.
Know that you are God's beloved and be at peace. **Amen.**

PRAYER RESPONSE (MV 115)

"Behold, behold, I make all things new"

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD TO US

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN:

HYMN (VU 684) *"Make me a channel of your peace"*

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

MINUTE FOR MISSION:

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

RESPONSORIAL READING:

PSALM 91:1-6, 14-16

(VU p. 807)

God will raise you up on eagle's wings

EPISTLE READING:

1 Timothy 6:6-19

The love of money; fight the good fight.

GOSPEL READING:

LUKE 16:19-31

The rich man and Lazarus.

SERMON:

OUR RESPONSE

OFFERING:

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: *(in unison)*

(Based on 1 Timothy 6:7-11)

Generous God, we recognize we have not brought anything into this world, and we cannot take anything out of it. Still, we become trapped by the temptations of wealth. May our gifts this day reflect

our desire to follow you. May our gifts be offerings in the pursuit of faithfulness, love, and gentleness. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE:

Ever-loving God, in Christ you have bridged the chasms between our realities and your own. If we live in a world of injustice, you have called us to justice. If we live in a world of brokenness, you have flooded that world with your wholeness. If we live in a world of despair, you have offered that world hope.

And yet we ignore the power of your justice, your wholeness, and your hope as we insist on maintaining the chasms of our world. We pray, therefore, for your love to guide us across those chasms this day:

Across the chasms, we have created by our own selfishness...

Across the chasms, we have created with wealth...

Across the chasms, we have created around ethnicity and race...

Across the chasms, we have created with borders and fences...

Across the chasms, we have created by our own greed...

Across the chasms, we have created by our own misunderstandings...

Across the chasms, we have created by lack of empathy...

Move and strengthen us to reach across these chasms. If we are blinded by being at the centre of the world's reality, move us to a view from the periphery of yours so that we might understand justice. If we are at the periphery of an unjust reality, move us to the centre of your reality, O God. Hoping in you, we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

HYMN (MV 169) *"When hands reach out beyond divides"*

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION:

As you go,
be carried by God's angels, known by God's love,
touched by God's peace, and unafraid to live in God's reality.
Amen.

CHORAL BLESSING (VU 963)

"May the grace of Christ attend us"

PRAYER RESOURCES:

**Seasons of the Spirit - SeasonsFUSION Season of Creation. Pentecost 2 2019; The United Church of Canada Pentecost . 2 2019 Year C Gathering Resources for Worship Planners. Used with permission.*

NEXT WEEK'S (October 6th) SCRIPTURE READINGS:

*Psalm 137;
Lamentations 1:1-6;
2 Timothy 1:1-14;
Luke 17:5-10*

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, October 1st

@ 7 pm – Women Alive

Wednesday, October 2nd

@ 4:40 – Worship Committee Meeting

@ 7 pm – Choir

Thursday, October 3rd

@ 4:15 – Bell Choir

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.

Sunday School Volunteer Leaders Needed

The Sunday School program is looking for volunteer Leaders. A signup sheet is on the table in the CE foyer.

Contact Rachelle Heavin (heavin.rachelle@nesd.ca) or 306.921.6495 with any questions.

Funeral Lunch Group Volunteers Needed

The funeral lunch group is looking for volunteers to assist with funeral lunches as we update our lists for the coming year. This is not a huge time commitment but a very caring service for our congregation. All women and men are welcome to volunteer.

Contact Robin Miazga @ 306.752.4078.

Scripture Readers Needed

The Worship Committee is reaching out to ask your help with reading scripture each Sunday. Recently several members have stepped down from volunteering so new readers would be truly appreciated. Please contact Jean, Gina M or Dorothy to volunteer.

Thank you!

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FundScrip

The next FundScrip order date will be Thursday, October 31st, 2019.
The order will be available for pick up on
Thursday, November 7th.

Financial Flash

Our proceeds from the Garage Sale are \$3,788.25. Thank you
Garry and Faye and the host of volunteers and donors that make
this fundraiser a success!!!

Stewardship Seconds

A generous soul is blessed indeed.