

**ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH**  
**130 Cornwallis Ave., New Minas, NS B4N 3M7**

**February 19, 2017, 9:00 am**

**Epiphany 7**

**Welcome & News of the Community**

**Music: "Let Us Build a House"**

**MV #1**

Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

**Refrain:**

*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace;  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place. R

Let us build a house where love is found,  
in water, wine and wheat;  
a banquet hall on holy ground,

where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us;  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place. R

**Refrain:**

*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear  
the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger:  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place. R

Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place. R

**Basket of Blessings**

## Gathering Words:

One: Greetings, sisters and brothers in faith.

**All: We come to celebrate God's love.**

One: We come as pilgrim people searching for ways to live out our faith.

**All: We come seeking the strength to carry on our journey.**

One: We live in a world in need of God's healing, and the restoration of community.

**All: And yet, we are also a people of hope! We are people of strength and promise! God hears our prayers and our cries! We are not alone in our sorrows.**

One: And so we affirm our faith through the proclamation of A New Creed:

**All: We are not alone; we live in God's world**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus,**

**the Word made flesh,**

**to reconcile and make new,**

**who works in us and others**

**by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church;**

**to celebrate God's presence,**

**to live with respect in Creation,**

**to love and serve others,**

**to seek justice and resist evil,**

**to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,**

**our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,**

**God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Music:**

**“Over My Head”**

**MV #88**

**Refrain:**

*Over my head, I hear music in the air.  
Over my head, I hear music in the air.  
Over my head, I hear music in the air.  
There must be a God somewhere.*

When the storms of life are raging  
I hear music in the air.  
When the storms of life are ragin’  
I hear music in the air.  
When the storms of life are ragin;  
I hear music in the air.  
There must be a God somewhere. R

***Additional Verses:***

2. When the winds of strife are blowing....
3. When the tide of hate is risin’...
4. O Jesus is a-callin’...

**Children’s Time**

**Sharing the Story:** I Kings 8:12-21

**Focus on the Word**

**Music:**

**“Draw the Circle Wide”**

**MV 145**

**Refrain:**

*Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,  
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.*

God the still-point of the circle,  
'round whom all creation turns;

nothing lost, but held forever,  
in God's gracious arms.

Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,  
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

Let our hearts touch far horizons,  
so encompass great and small;  
let our loving know no borders,  
faithful to God's call.

Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,  
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

Let the dreams we dream be larger,  
than we've ever dreamed before;  
let the dream of Christ be in us,  
open every door.

Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,  
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

## **Prayer in Action**

### **Affirmation:**

**God, we thank you for all the light, grace and life seen and known in the church which nurtured us. Open our eyes that we may recognize your work among other people and under different forms. And should we still walk in some things on separate paths, present before us the common goal towards which we travel.**

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
telling Creation that we are one.

Deep in our hearts there is a common purpose;  
deep in our hearts there is a common goal;  
deep in our hearts there is a sacred message,  
justice and peace in harmony.

Deep in our hearts there is a common longing;  
deep in our hearts there is a common theme;  
deep in our hearts there is a common current,  
flowing to freedom like a stream.

Deep in our hearts there is a common vision;  
deep in our hearts there is a common song;  
deep in our hearts there is a common story,  
telling Creation that we are one.