

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

130 Cornwallis Ave, New Minas, NS B4N 3M7

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, February 26, 2017 – 11:00 am

Transfiguration Sunday

* Please rise in body and/or spirit

Music as We Gather

Gathering

* Clergy and Choir Enter

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ and Outreach Candles

* **Introit (All):** "Spirit of Life" VU #381

* Call to Worship:

One: We gather as the faithful of God. We come to listen to what God has to say to us.

All: God has invited us to this place; may our faces reflect our hopes and our hearts.

One: We gather as the faithful of God, people of the new covenant of hope and promise.

All: We boldly enter into the presence of God, hoping to be transformed into new people.

One: We gather as the faithful of God, our fears melting away in the heart of God.

All: We come to share in the freedom of the Spirit. We come to praise God's holy name.

* **Hymn:** "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding" VU #104

Opening Prayer:

One: Majestic, glorious, loving God, on mountaintops crowned with mist and in museums filled with wonder; in this sacred space and in all the ordinary neighbourhoods where we live, you are with us, hearing us, answering us.

All: And, so, we do not lose heart.

One: Jesus, Beloved of God, we glance at you from the corners of our souls, and see grace surrounding us; we look at you conversing with the poor and rejected, and see our family; we watch you as you come to us, to touch us, to heal us, and to reconcile us to God.

All: And, so, we do not lose heart.

One: Holy Spirit, listening God when our lips cannot shape words, you speak them for us; When our hopes are dashed to the ground, you pick them up and give them back to us. And, so, we do not lose heart.

All: We do not lose heart as we gather in worship this day. Amen.

Listening

Minute for Mission

Children's Hymn: "Over My Head" MV #88

Children's Focus

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Readings: Exodus 24:12-18
Matthew 17:1-9

Anthem: "Alleluia"

Sermon: **The Mountaintop of Transfiguration**

Hymn: "Behold, Behold, MV #115 (x3)
I Make All Things New"

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

* **Offertory:** "Grant Us, God, the Grace" VU #540

Offertory Prayer:

There is so much we could do with our abundance, Mountaintop God – building grand cathedrals, installing mighty pipe organs, creating great endowments (and we do). So remind us, as we offer our gifts this morning, of those who need a simple home, who long to hear the songs of hope, who need help with paying for food or medicine or clothes. Transfigure not only our gifts, but our hearts as well, we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People

* Hymn of Dismissal:

“Bless Now,
O God, The Journey”

VU #633

* Commissioning:

One: Tempted to stay here, let us go,

All: to carry God's peace to a broken world.

One: Having heard the call to follow,

All: we will journey into life's valleys, carrying the hope of Jesus.

One: We will walk with the Spirit who leads us on a journey of humility.

All: We will walk through fears that threaten to burn us, as well as the mist of uncertain days and nights.

One: Amen.

All: Amen.

* Choral Closing: (All)

VU p. 961

Music as We Depart