

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

**Sunday, March 5, 2017, 9:00 am**

**Lent 1**

**Welcome & News of the Community**

**Music: "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" VU #357**

Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear,  
things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:  
scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,  
stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

First let me hear how the children stood round his knee,  
and I shall fancy his blessing resting on me;  
words full of kindness, deeds full of grace,  
all in the lovelight of Jesus' face.

Tell me, in accents of wonder, how rolled the sea  
tossing the boat in a tempest on Galilee!  
And how the Master, ready and kind,  
chided the billows and hushed the wind.

Into the city I'd follow the children's band,  
waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;  
one of his heralds, yes, I would sing  
loudest hosannas! Jesus is king!

Show me that scene in the garden of bitter pain;  
and of the cross where my Saviour for me was slain.  
Sad ones or bright ones, so that they be  
stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

**Basket of Blessings**

## Gathering Words:

One: Jesus said, "I was hungry, and you gave me food; I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink."

**All: Let us act justly.**

One: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing."

**All: Let us love tenderly.**

One: "I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

**All: Let us walk humbly with our God.**

One: May we see Christ in one another,

**All: That we may be healers and peacemakers in Christ's name.**

**Music: "Jesus Laughed Out Loud"**

**MV #133**

Jesus laughed out loud  
To see the children play;  
His joyful presence drew a crowd  
We could not send away.

Jesus healed a child  
By asking her to rise,  
And doubtful people wept and smiled  
To see her opened eyes.

Jesus felt the need;  
We made the crowd sit down.  
A boy had faith and all were fed,  
Though we were far from town.

Jesus climbed a hill  
To pray and rest alone;  
We wondered why we felt the chill  
Of wind and wood and stone.

Jesus called my name  
When he was passing by;  
My life will never be the same;  
This love will never die.

## **Children's Time**

**Sharing the Story:** Matthew 25:31-45

## **Focus on the Word**

**Music:** "As a Fire is Meant for Burning"

**VU #578**

As a fire is meant for burning  
with a bright and warming flame,  
so the church is meant for mission,  
giving glory to God's name.  
Not to preach our creeds or customs,  
but to build a bridge of care,  
we join hands across the nations,  
finding neighbours everywhere.

We are learners; we are teachers;  
we are pilgrims on the way.  
We are seekers; we are givers;  
we are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle, loving actions,  
we would show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit,  
we would live to God's delight.

As a green bud in the springtime  
is a sign of life renewed,  
so may we be signs of oneness  
mid earth's peoples, many-hued.  
As a rainbow lights the heavens  
when a storm is past and gone,

may our lives reflect the radiance  
of God's new and glorious dawn.

## **Prayer in Action**

### **Affirmation:**

**All that we have, all that we are, all that we have been, all that we will be, is yours, Creating God. Create with our lives a new thing, we pray "a new hope, a new vision, a new dream" through Jesus, our Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**Music:                    "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah"                    VU #651**

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
hold me with thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.