

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

130 Cornwallis Ave, New Minas, NS B4N 3M7

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, March 19, 2017 – 11:00 am

Lent 3

*** 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):** “Come and Find the Quiet Centre” VU #374, v1

*** Call to Worship:**

One: Our Lenten journey calls us to venture along the rocky road of challenge and blessing.

All: **We are guided by ancestors who led with compassion and faithfulness.**

One: We follow Jesus Christ who is our teacher and companion.

All: **Christ is our example and friend. Thanks be!**

Prayer of Invocation:

As you open your heart to us, O God, help us to open ourselves to you; to empty ourselves of the call of material things and worldly affairs; to seek your Spirit within us in honesty and love, and Jesus, our saviour and friend. Amen.

Hymn: “Come to My Heart” VU #661

Prayer of Confession:

Good and loving God, we know the grief of the rich man. We too have many possessions. For us to sell what we own and give it to the poor would be very difficult. We see people

nearly living in poverty. We see people in other nations who can never hope to have a fraction of what we have. Then we see our own wealth, and it grieves us. How can we ever enjoy the treasures of Heaven? How can we camels squeeze through the needle’s eye? Good and loving God, is there no hope for us?

Words of Assurance:

Jesus looked at his disciples and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God, all things are possible. Brothers and sisters, disciples of Jesus, despite all that we lack, we are still forgiven. We are loved. We are God’s. Is there any treasure on earth or in heaven that is greater than this?”

Listening

Minute for Mission

Hymn: “Jesus Laughed Out Loud” MV #133

Children’s Focus

The Lord’s Prayer

Scripture Reading: Matthew 19:16-30

Anthem: “God of Heaven”

**Sermon: Encounters on the Road to the Cross:
The Rich Young Man**

Hymn: “O Jesus, I Have Promised” VU #120

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

*** Offertory:** “Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands” VU #537, v1

Offertory Prayer:

Bless the gifts we offer. Bless we who offer them. Bless those who will be touched, in turn. May this circle of blessings be pleasing in your sight, O God. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn of Dismissal:** “Jesus Calls Us” VU #562

*** Commissioning:**

One: Jesus calls us, saying, "Christian, follow me."

All: Jesus, we are willing to leave everything behind to follow you.

One: Jesus tells us, "Truly, there is no one who has given up much for my sake, who will not receive a hundred-fold in this age, and in the age to come, eternal life.

All: We give our hearts to your obedience, Jesus. We will serve and love you best of all.

One: May your treasure always be found in God.

All: Amen, and Amen!

*** Choral Closing: (All)** "Go, Now, In Peace"

Music as We Depart