

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

130 Cornwallis Ave, New Minas, NS B4N 3M7

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, April 30, 2017 – 11:00 am

Easter 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:** "Halle, Halle, Halle" VU #958 (x1)

* **Call to Worship:**

One: Come and see: signs of the risen Christ are all around us.

All: We come to worship God.

One: Come and know: the presence of the risen Christ in this community.

All: We come to worship God.

One: Come and believe: the risen Christ is with us now and always.

All: We come to worship God.

Opening Prayer:

We have heard the call, loving God, to come into your presence. We have heard the challenge to be baptized in the name of Christ and receive new life. We have heard the invitation to turn away from a society focused on greed and self-centredness, and to turn our lives toward loving and serving one another. Guide us and lead us, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: "Thine is the Glory" VU #173

Prayer of Confession:

One: When we fail to recognize the Christ travelling beside us,

All: O God, forgive us.

One: When we fail to recognize the Christ in others all around us,

All: O God, forgive us.

One: When we fail to recognize the Christ in the world of which we are a part,

All: O God, forgive us.

One: When we fail to recognize the Christ in the headlines in the news and events that occur every day,

All: O God, forgive us.

One: Open our eyes and our hearts, gracious God, to recognize that you travel among us, and that you are present in those we would otherwise ignore. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

One: No matter where we find ourselves on life's journey, Jesus comes and travels with us. Jesus offers us forgiveness and new life at every turn of the path. So know, friends, that whenever you turn to God, God welcomes you and forgives you.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Listening

Minute for Mission

Hymn: "Walk With Me" VU #649

Children's Focus

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Readings: Psalm 116 VU p. 836
Luke 24:13-43

Anthem: "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Sermon: **On the Road Again**

* **Hymn:** "Because He Lives"

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

* **Offertory:** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" VU #541

*** Offertory Prayer:**

What can we give back to you, O God, for all the good things you have done for us? We lift up the cup of salvation. We call on your name. We keep the promises we have made to be your people, proclaiming your goodness to all the world.

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn of Dismissal:** "As We Walked Home VU #184
at Close of Day"

*** Commissioning:**

One: And now, into God's world we go, to continue our walk with Christ, in all the places life calls us to be. Let us go with joy,

All: for God calls us to share God's work.

One: Let us go with purpose,

All: for God equips us for the work to which we are called.

One: Let us go with hope,

All: For God will show us the places where we are most needed.

One: And, in the words of John Wesley, let us remember,

All: Best of all, God is with us.

*** Choral Closing: (All)** "Wherever You May Go" MV #216
(chorus only)

Music as We Depart