

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

130 Cornwallis Ave, New Minas, NS B4N 3M7

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 17, 2017 – 11:00 am

Pentecost 15

Orchard Valley Anniversary Sunday

* Please rise in body and/or spirit

Music as We Gather

Gathering

* Clergy and Choir Enter

Welcome and Announcements

* Call to Worship and Opening Hymn:

One: A community of faith conveys God's good news of love,

All: And leads its members along pathways of faith.

One: It sows seeds of life in the soil of our hearts,

All: Causing faith and hope to sprout in our souls.

One: This congregation is a vehicle of God's grace,

All: Shining God's marvelous light across our communities;

One: A place for growing in relationship with God,

All: For living, loving, and forgiving in the spirit of Christ.

Sung Response: "Let Us Build a House" MV #1, vss. 1, 2

One: We celebrate the members of this faith family,

All: Who walk with God through our days.

One: We remember how we bless each other so richly,

All: Conveying God's gift of love.

One: We celebrate the gift we are to one another,

All: As we learn and grow along this spiritual journey.

One: We give thanks for the togetherness we feel,

All: Sharing in all of life's joys and sorrows, its victories and defeats.

Sung Response: "Let Us Build a House" MV #1, vss. 3, 4

One: This is a joyful day in the life of this congregation,

All: As we celebrate the many lives that have been touched.

One: We give thanks for the body of Christ that we are today

All: And for what God will inspire us to become tomorrow. Amen and Amen!

Sung Response: "Let Us Build a House" MV #1, v.5

* Prayer:

God who calls us to be the church in this place and time, we come together to celebrate your presence among us. In this hour, as we sing and pray and listen, may you awaken in us a hope for the future. May our time together remind us why the church is needed in the world. Amen.

Listening

* Hymn: "Praise our Maker" VU #316

Children's Focus: Happy Birthday to Us!

Doxology

Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

Anthem: "O, For a Thousand Tongues"

Sermon: **Being the Church**

* Hymn: "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" VU #364

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

* **Offertory:** “God, Whose Form is All Creation” VU #300, v3

* **Offertory Prayer:**

Gift-giving God, we gather in this place to share what we are and what we have. Help us continue this sharing of our time, talent and treasure. May the gifts we give be the gifts of Love. May they increase the power of Love in the re-creation of the world. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

* **Hymn of Dismissal:** “We Shall Go Out” VU #586

* **Commissioning:**

One: We are not alone,

All: We live in God’s world.

One: As we go forth from this place and this time of celebration,

All: we are called to be the church in our daily lives.

One: How does God call us into the world?

Men: By celebrating God’s presence in every moment of our lives;

Women: *By living with respect in a fragile creation;*

Men: By loving and serving others;

Women: *By seeking justice and resisting evil;*

Men: By proclaiming Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

One: God goes with us, today and every day.

All: We are not alone. Praise be to God!

Choral Amen

Music as We Depart