

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

130 Cornwallis Ave, New Minas, NS B4N 3M7

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 3, 2017 – 11:00 am

Pentecost 13

* 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: "Gather Us In" MV #7 (x1)

* Call to Worship:

One: This weekend, summer comes to a close. Cottagers pack up. Children prepare for school. Vacationers head home. It is the beginning of a new season.

All: Welcome us home, Lord

One: This Sunday, we're back to usual patterns. It is the beginning of a new season.

All: Welcome us home, Lord.

One: Welcome us to you, Lord. Welcome us into these fall months of activity. Welcome us into your house of worship. Welcome us into your company.

All: Let us worship. It is a new season for us and God.

* Hymn: "O Beautiful Gaia" MV #41

* Opening Prayer:

One: This is the place,

All: the place where God is joyfully worshipped.

One: This is the time,

All: the time that we know that God is with us.

One: These are the friends,

All: the friends who celebrate with us and stay with us when the testing comes.

One: This is the faith,

All: the faith in Jesus Christ, which challenges us and shapes our future.

* Hymn: "Draw the Circle Wide" MV #145

Listening

Minute for Mission

Children Story

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture: Revelation 21:1-4, 22:1-2

Sermon: **The Faith We Sing: I See a New Heaven**

* Hymn: "I See a New Heaven" VU #713

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts and Food Bank Donations

* Offertory: "When We are Living" VU #581, v2

* Offertory Prayer:

Loving God, accept these gifts as thanksgiving for your many blessings. Accept these gifts as our commitment to your kingdom. Accept these gifts and accept our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Words of Affirmation: (VU #656)

We affirm our hope that a new day is dawning upon us. We affirm our vision of a new heaven and a new earth. We affirm our belief that the love of God has the power to unite us to participate in the creation of a new world. We affirm the hope that turns suffering into a creative process. We affirm the hope that enables us to act. God, we hope: help us to hope together! Amen.

* Hymn of Dismissal: "Shall We Gather at the River" VU #710

Music as We Depart