

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

Sunday, October 22, 2017, 9:00 am

Reformation Sunday

Welcome & News of the Community

Music: **“Open My Eyes, That I May See”** **VU #371**

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Refrain:

*Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear. **R**

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share. **R**

Basket of Blessings

Gathering Words:

One: Wondrous God, thirteen billion years ago your creative
spark called creation into being.

All: **Two thousand years ago you lit a spark of new creation
in Christ.**

One: Five hundred years ago, your grace reignited the hearts of men and women to bring reformation to the Church.

All: **Just when we think all is settled, your power and presence explodes on to the scene again, bringing newness, bringing life. Fill us with your power and presence today, O God, so we may, like our ancestors in faith, carry your truth, your beauty, and your justice to the world you love—a world in such need. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

Music: "Like A Rock" MV#92 (x2)

Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.
Like the starry night sky God is over our head.
Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.
Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God evermore.

Children's Time

Sharing the Story: Luke 6:46-49

Focus on the Word

Music: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" VU #262

A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper sure amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing:
for still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
with power and malice great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth he has no equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing:

dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed
the truth to triumph through us:
the prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure,
for lo! his doom is sure,
one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Christ, who with us sideth:
let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still,
God's kingdom is for ever.

Prayer in Action

Affirmation:

One: You have heard the people's cries. Cries for bread, cries for shelter, cries for healing, cries for jobs.

All: **You see mothers grieving for missing and murdered daughters. You wipe tears from starving babies' eyes. You hear pleas for clean water from Northern communities. You stand with immigrants and refugees, longing for safety and acceptance.**

One: In times like these you have always raised up prophets.
Moses, in the desert for the captive children.

All: Martin Luther, when the Word of God was chained.

One: Amos, crying out against the rich on behalf of the poor.

All: John Wesley, bringing God's light to the coal miners' social darkness.

One: Joel, promising God's gift of visions and dreams.

All: Martin Luther King Jr., dreaming dreams.

One: In times like these you have always raised up prophets.

All: Lord do it again. Lord do it again.

One: Hear our cry, our hunger, our desire for life.

All: Hear us, O God, send your Word. Let the voice of God once more be heard in the land.

Music:

“Faith of our Fathers”

VU #580, vss 1,4

Faith of our fathers, living still
in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword;
O how our hearts beat high with joy,
whene'er we hear that glorious word:
faith of our fathers, holy faith,
we will be true to you till death.

Faith born of God, O call us yet;
bind us with all who follow you,
sharing the struggle of your cross
until the world is made anew.

Faith born of God, O living faith,
we will be true to you till death.