

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

130 Cornwallis Ave., New Minas, NS B4N 3M7

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, November 19, 2017, 11:00 am

Pentecost 24

* Please rise in body and/or spirit

Music as We Gather

Gathering

* Clergy and Choir Enter

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Christ and Outreach Candles

* Choral Introit: "May the Words"

* Call to Worship:

One: Come to this place to hear the stories of God's people.

All: We come in keen anticipation.

One: Come to this place to sing the songs that tell of Jesus' love for God's people.

All: We come with open hearts.

One: Come to this place to witness the beauty created by the Holy Spirit working among God's people.

All: We come ready to hear the Spirit's call in our lives. We come to Worship God.

* Hymn: "We Praise You, O God" VU #218

Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance:

One: You call us to use the talents you have given, O God.

All: When we deny their existence, let our friends and loved ones remind us.

One: You call us to use the talents you have given, O God.

All: When we are afraid of what people will say, give us the confidence to risk.

One: You call us to use the talents you have given, O God.

All: When we would keep them to ourselves, open our eyes to the need around us.

One: You call us to use the talents you have given, O God.

All: When we hold back from a generous response, lift our eyes to Jesus.

One: You will be our partner in adventure, as we use our gifts and talents, O God.

All: In the joy of success, and in the hard place of failure, you will be there.

One: We will find you in the encouragement of a companion, we will know you in the compassion of a stranger.

All: And at the end of the day, you will be there, the source of affirmation and peace.

One: Renewed courage and peace will be yours.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Listening

Minute for Mission

Children's Hymn: "Small Things Count" VU #361

Children's Focus

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Readings: Matthew 25:14-30

Anthem: "Grace Alone"

Sermon: **Worth the Risk?**

* Hymn: "Take My Life and Let It Be" VU #506

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

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

*** Offertory Prayer:**

All we have is a gift from you, O God, and in thankfulness for the treasure you have entrusted to us, we return this increase to you. We ask only to continue serving you and your people in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** "Go to the World" VU #420

*** Commissioning:**

One: Go from this place to bring the change that God seeks.

**All: We will search out our talents carefully;
We will use our abilities generously;
We will share our time graciously;
We will comfort the suffering tenderly;
We will confront the powerful openly.**

One: And the God who gave us Jesus will give you peace.

*** Choral Blessing:** "Go, Now, in Peace"

Music as We Depart