

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 10, 2017, 11:00 am

Advent 2

* Please rise in body and/or spirit

Music as We Gather

Gathering

* Clergy and Choir Enter

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony:

One: Advent is marked by a spirit of yearning for peace.

All: May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.

One: We long today for peace among nations.

All: May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.

One: We long today for peace among races.

All: May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.

One: We long today for peace in our hearts and in our lives.

All: May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.

Candle Lighting

* Hymn: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" VU #2, v1

Prayer: (All)

Gracious God, we thank you for your promise of peace, and we know that because of Christ, peace is possible. We pray today for the nations of the world, that we could find a way to live together in peace. We pray for our brothers and

sisters everywhere, that we could become more forgiving, more understanding, and more loving to one another. Flood our hearts with the light of peace today so that we might take that light and spread your love to the whole world. Amen.

* Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VU #1

Advent Litany:

All: Angels, what are you doing? Can we join you?

R1: We've been given an important job. We're taking a message to the shepherds.

R2: *It's a message of peace for the whole world. We're so excited that we can't hold our wings still.*

R1: We get to tell the world that Jesus has been born.

R2: *Please come with us and join in our song of peace.*

All: Thank you, Angels, for your faith and your gift of peace. We will join you on this Advent adventure

Listening

Children's Hymn: "A Candle Is Burning" VU #6, vs 1, 2

Children's Focus

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Anthem: "The Gift"

Sermon: **Mary's Visitor**

* Hymn: "My Soul Cries Out" MV #120

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

* Offertory: "In the Bleak Midwinter" VU #55, v4

*** Prayer of Dedication: (All)**

God, you come to us in so many ways: you are in our hearts; you are close at hand; you hold the whole world in your embrace. Through these gifts, may hearts be warmed, may hands be held, and may care be extended around the world. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” VU #44

*** Commissioning:**

One: Go forth in the mystery of faith.

All: We go as messengers of the good news.

One: Go forth with the trust and assurance of grace.

All: We go to walk as Joseph and Mary walked, listening to God’s call within our living.

One: Go forth, guided by the Spirit’s nurture.

All: We go as those who bear the name of Christ, as those willing to see the world in humility.

*** Choral Amen**

Music as We Depart