

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, March 25, 2018, 11:00 am

Palm Sunday

* 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:** "Come and Find the Quiet Centre" VU #374, v1

* **Call to Worship:**

One: Gather with the crowds to await the coming of Jesus.

All: We have taken his words to heart; we are moved by his compassion.

One: Rejoice with the disciples, that God's anointed One has courageously chosen to enter the city.

All: We know that Jesus will face trouble; we will stand with him.

One: Cheer with the crowd, "Blessed is he who comes in God's name."

All: Blessed indeed! "God's Kingdom is close, Hosanna in the Highest!"

* **Hymn:** "All Glory, Laud and Honour" VU #122

Prayer of Confession:

One: It's the sixth Sunday of Lent, God, your time to help us get ready for Holy Week and Easter. We think of those who turned away from Jesus during his earthly ministry.

All: And we remember that we, too, turn away.

One: Peter was the one Jesus entrusted to "build his church." He was so willing to step out in faith. And he was the one who denied... who chose the way of darkness rather than light.

All: We too deny Jesus – even when we feel so very close to him. We refuse to follow his example. We hold back from service. And in the face of social pressure, we fail to witness to his love for us.

One: We extinguish the sixth candle with the confession that we have allowed others to define us, rather than the light of Christ.

Assurance of Pardon:

One: As the shadows gather, God has good news for each one. "You are loved. You are forgiven." God is good.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Listening

The Sacrament of Baptism and Reception of Members:

One: Do you believe in one God; Creator, Son and Holy Spirit?

All: I do, by the grace of God.

One: Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, will you turn from the forces of evil and work for good?

All: I will, God being my helper.

One: Will you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as Saviour and Lord?

All: I will, God being my helper.

One: Will you join with your brothers and sisters in this congregation to share in the life, work and ministry of Jesus Christ?

All: I will, God being my helper.

Hymn: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna!" VU #123

Children's Focus

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: Matthew 21:1-11

Anthem: "On Humble Beast Now Rides the King"

Sermon: **Tear Down That Wall!**

* **Hymn:** "What Wondrous Love is This?" VU #147

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

* **Offertory:** "In Gratitude and Humble Trust" VU #544

* **Offertory Prayer:**

On that first Palm Sunday, the disciples went into the village to find what Jesus asked for, with only these words, "The Lord needs them." May we respond, today and always, with our gifts, our time and ourselves, because Jesus still needs them. Amen.

Prayers of the People

* **Hymn:** "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!" VU #127

* **Commissioning:**

One: Having testified to our faith in Jesus, go into the world to carry on what Jesus began.

All: We have learned what Christ taught; help us to be peacemakers in our relationships and communities.

One: Be assured of God's continuing love and blessing, now and forever.

All: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in God's name. Hosanna!

Choral Response: "Simeon's Blessing"

Music as We Depart