

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, February 25, 2018, 11:00 am

Lent 2

* 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: Our Lenten journey calls us to venture along the rocky road of challenge and blessing.

All: This is a journey that we will make in faith.

One: We follow Jesus Christ, who is our teacher and companion.

All: Jesus shows us the way. Thanks be!

* **Hymn:** "It Only Takes a Spark" VU #289

Prayer of Confession:

One: It's the second 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: Jesus was approached by a rich man. He said he wanted eternal life, but he was unwilling to change his lifestyle and he walked away.

All: We too are often unwilling to change even the smallest part of our lifestyle in order to follow Jesus. The darkness approaches when we sadly walk away.

One: We extinguish the second candle, confessing our unwillingness to do what is necessary to follow Jesus.

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

Minute for Mission

Hymn: "Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands" VU #570

Children's Focus

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Readings: Psalm 23 (sung) VU p. 747
Luke 10:25-33

Anthem "I Surrender All"

Sermon: Are They REALLY My Neighbours?

* **Hymn:** "We Are Pilgrims" VU #595

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

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

* **Offertory Prayer:**

One: You will not leave us stranded beside the highway, O God.

All: You will pick us up and take us to shelter, and attend to our wounds.

One: With these gifts we have the power to be Good Samaritans for our church and for many far from this place.

All: Bless these gifts, that they may be used as Jesus would have them used, compassionately, without discrimination, and generously. Amen.

Prayers of the People

* **Hymn:** "Go Make a Difference" MV #209

* **Commissioning:**

One: You lead us out to serve, O God.

All: Give us courage to help the disadvantaged.

One: Give us the willingness to offer a second chance.

All: Give us patience when trouble comes.

One: Give us wisdom when choices must be made.

All: Give us peace in the midst of turmoil.

One: Give us your merciful presence every day.

* **Choral Response:** "Simeon's Blessing"

Music as We Depart