

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, April 15, 2018, 11:00 am

Easter 3

* 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:** "Welcome, Happy Morning" VU #161, v1

Blessing of the Prayer Shawls

* **Call to Worship:**

One: In believing, in doubting, we come to this service,

All: and God accepts us.

One: In wondering, in affirming, we come to this service,

All: and God welcomes us.

One: As individuals, as a faith community, we come to this service,

All: and God's Word speaks to us.

One: With rejoicing, with sorrow, we come to this service.

All: and the risen Christ is here, and gives us hope as we worship and as we live.

* **Hymn:** "In the Bulb, There is a Flower" VU #703

Prayer of Invocation: There are times, God, when we wish we could see your face, when we wish we could touch your hands, when we wish we could feel your embrace. Remind us that we do see you, touch you, and feel you, in every face, hand and embrace we share. In this place and time, in all places and times. Amen.

Listening

Hymn: "Come to My Heart" VU #661

Children's Focus

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading: I John 3:1-2
Luke 24:36-48

Anthem: "O Lord, You are My God and King"

Sermon: **What Are You Afraid Of?**

* **Hymn:** "He Touched Me!"

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

* **Offertory:** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" VU #541

* **Offertory Prayer:** **Gracious God, you have poured out your Spirit upon us. Let us return these gifts we offer to you, with gratitude for all you have done for us. May they become the means by which others are also fed and nourished. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

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

* **Commissioning:**

One: We have prayed, we have sung.

All: We have spoken, we have listened. We have wrestled with doubts and received Christ's peace and forgiveness.

One: Go out this day, carrying Christ's peace and forgiveness with you. Offer them to all you encounter who are in need of them. Go, continuing to celebrate the resurrection of the living, risen Christ!

* **Choral Blessing**

Music as We Depart