

# ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 16, 2018, 9:00 am

### Advent 3 - JOY White Gift Sunday

\* Please rise in body and/or spirit

Music as We Gather

#### Gathering

\* Clergy & Choir Enter

Advent Candle Litany

\* Hymn: "Loves Pure Light"

One: In this season of Advent, we celebrate with joyful hearts.

**All: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.**

One: We count our blessings and give thanks for God's goodness and grace.

**All: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.**

One: We strive to search for the good in neighbours near and far.

**All: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.**

One: We remember God has promised us full and joyful lives.

**All: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.**

\* Candle Lighting

\* Hymn: "Loves Pure Light"

Welcome and Announcements

\* Call to Worship:

One: Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say Rejoice!

**All: Our joy is in the Lord who blesses us.**

One: Shout for joy, for the Lord is near!

**All: Our praises ascend to God.**

One: Let your praise dance and swirl in tribute to God!

**All: Surely God blesses us all.**

One: Let all the people rejoice in God.

**All: Hallelujah! AMEN.**

Blessing of the Shawls

\* Opening Prayer:

One: God, sometimes Joy is hard.

**All: Sometimes we look at all that is happening in our world and find little to be joyful about.**

One: We know the world can be a troubled place

**All: And so, we need you, and we need Jesus to be born into our world once again.**

One: God as we sing about Christmas, help us remember the Hope, Peace and Joy that Jesus preached. Oh, yes, and the Grace!

**All: The Grace that helps us reshape our lives and our world. Joy to the World, Jesus is coming!  
Hallelujah and AMEN!**

#### Listening

Giving Tree Acknowledgements

Children's Focus - Gift Gathering

The Lord's Prayer

\* Hymn: "Arise, Your Light is Come" VU #79

Scripture Reading: Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

Anthem: "Prepare the Way"

Sermon: Finding our Joy

\* Hymn: "Hope is a Star" VU #7 vs.1,2,3

## Celebrating

### Offering of Our Gifts

\* **Offertory:**            “What Can I Give Him            VU #55 vs.4  
                                  Poor as I Am?”

\* **Offertory Prayer:**

**Thank you, God of Joy, for the promise of this season. We are grateful for the generosity awakened in us by Christ’s coming into the world. May these gifts represent a new spirit of joy shared among us, for the sake of all your children everywhere. Amen.**

### Prayers of the People

\* **Hymn:**                “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”                VU #48

\* **Commissioning:**

One: Friends, as we go into the world, let us work towards the world God desires for humankind.

**All: May we speak God’s truth.**

One: May we be encouraged by John’s words,

**All: and find joy in doing for others.**

One: May we be inspired by Jesus’ way,

**All: and have the Spirit grant us courage to lead, to follow, and to serve.**

\* **Benediction**

### Choral Amen

### Music as We Depart