

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH
130 Cornwallis Ave., New Minas, NS B4N 3M7

Sunday, December 23, 2018, 9:00 am

Music as We Gather

Advent Candle Lighting

One: During Advent we see God's love for us embodied in our Saviour's birth.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting Love.

One: Advent calls us to love others with patience and kindness.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting Love.

One: Advent calls us to be slow to anger and quick to forgive.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting Love.

One: Advent reminds us that Christ commanded us to love as he loved.

All: Christ is our light and the source of everlasting Love.

*** Candle Lighting**

Welcome & News of the Community

Gathering Words:

One: Long ago the people were given a sign of God's presence.

All: "Look, a young woman shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

One: Emmanuel - "God with us."

God's promise to us remains sure and true:

All: God's anointed Son will soon walk among us,

One: to lighten our darkness,

All: to keep our face always turned to God.

One: Let all people know the God of love is with us.

All: The God of love is with us! Hallelujah! AMEN.

Music:

“Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope”

MV #33

Jesus came bringing us hope, Jesus came bring us hope,
Jesus came bringing us hope, hallelujah forever more.

Jesus came bringing us peace, Jesus came bring us peace,
Jesus came bringing us peace, hallelujah forever more.

Jesus came bringing us joy, Jesus came bring us joy,
Jesus came bringing us joy, hallelujah forever more.

Jesus came bringing us love, Jesus came bring us love,
Jesus came bringing us love, hallelujah forever more.

Basket of Blessings

Children’s Time

The Lord’s Prayer

Music:

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

VU #44

Vs. 1, 4

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold,
'Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

For, lo! The days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendours fling
and the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.

Sharing the Story: Luke 1:39-45

Focus on the Word

Music: "Hope is a Star " VU #7

Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.

*When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.*

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth. **R**

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born. **R**

Love is a flame that burns in our heart,
Jesus has come and will never depart. **R**

Prayer in Action

Affirmation:

One: And now, the world awaits as we do, for the birth of the child who will change everything.

All: As we wait for the spirit of Christmas to descend, amongst all the crazy activity, we will also find a quiet place to pray,

One: hoping for the peace and joy this season promises, with God in charge to love, hold and keep us all our days.

All: Hallelujah and Amen.

Music: "Go, Tell It on the mountain"

VU #43

Refrain:

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.*

*Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. **R**

The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Saviour's birth! **R**

Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent our salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. **R**

Benediction