

# ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, February 3, 2019, 11:00 am

### Christian Unity

\* Please rise in body and/or spirit

Music as We Gather

### Gathering

\* Clergy & Choir Enter

\* Lighting of the Christ and Outreach Candles:

One: We gather as people open to the signs Jesus gives us.

**All: Let's light these candles to remind us of Jesus' promise of a new Beginning and a new Hope.**

\* Choral Introit: "Come, Now is the Time to Worship"

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

Welcome and Announcements

\* Call to Worship:

One: Come, beloved people of God.

**All: We come to worship.**

One: Come, salt of the earth.

**All: We come to add seasoning and vitality.**

One: Come, light of the world.

**All: We come to bring light to those around us.**

One: Come, let us worship!

**All: Come, let us worship! Hallelujah!**

\* Hymn: "Christ Has No Body Now but Yours" MV #171

\* Opening Prayer:

One: God, source of all beauty and goodness, your grace comes fresh every morning.

**All: In each new day you give us light.**

One: We praise you for your never-failing love that satisfies our needs and shows us the way to follow.

**All: What can we do to please God and show our love?**

One: God makes it easy for us:

**All: to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.**

One: You are faithful in love for all people...

**All: ...offering the world hope and joy through Jesus our teacher. Amen.**

### Listening

Minute for Mission

Children's Focus

The Lord's Prayer

\* Hymn: "River Running in You and Me" MV #163

Scripture Readings: Micah 6:1-8  
Matthew 5:1-12

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem: "Beatitudes"

Sermon: A Defining Ministry

\* Hymn: "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" VU #382

## Celebrating

### Offering of Our Gifts and Food Bank Donations

\* **Offertory:** "When We Are Living" VU #581, v2

\* **Offertory Prayer:**

**God, as you have bestowed your blessings on us, let these gifts be our blessing to others who need us. Wherever people are marginalized, let our compassion do wondrous acts of restoration for them. With these gifts, let us help bring justice, kindness, mercy, and love to all the earth. Amen.**

## Holy Communion

\* **Hymn:** "God, Bless to Us Our Bread" MV #193

### A Call to Give Thanks:

One: May God be with us.

**All: God is here among us.**

One: Let us open our hearts to God.

**All: We open them to God and to one another.**

One: Let us give thanks to God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Two: Why do we give thanks and praise at this table?*

One: We give thanks because God is always with us.

We thank God, Creator of us all;  
from the beginning God made the world and all its creatures.

You made people to live for you and for one another.  
We praise you, O God.

**All: We praise you, O God.**

One: You created Adam and Eve and gave them a garden;  
you showed Noah a rainbow;

you gave Moses strength to free your people  
and taught Miriam to sing;  
you gave courage to Esther and loyalty to Ruth;  
you gave David a harp to sing your praise,  
and helped him defeat the giant.  
We praise you, O God.

**All: We praise you, O God.**

One: Yet, even they turned away from you  
and forgot about you, as we do too.  
But you did not forget.  
You sent Jesus to the world  
to show how much you love us  
and to bring us back to you again.  
We praise you, O God.

**All: We praise you, O God.**

One: He came as one of us,  
first an infant, then a child,  
later a youth, then an adult.  
He rejoiced with those who rejoiced,  
and wept with those who wept.  
To the despairing, he spoke a word of hope.  
To the sick, he gave healing.  
To the hurting, he was a friend.  
Still, people turned away from you.  
They betrayed Jesus and nailed him to a cross.  
But he was lifted from the grave and restored to life,  
that he might be with us and we with him,  
alive for evermore!  
Therefore with all the saints of every time and place,  
we join the angels in their praise:

### Song of Creation:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes**

**in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Remembering Jesus at Table:**

*Two: Why do we eat bread at this table?*

One: We gather at this table to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus ate with his friends, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

**All: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.  
Each time you do this, remember me."**

*Two: Why do we drink from the cup at this table?*

One: That same night, Jesus also took a cup, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying:

**All: "Drink. This cup, poured out for you,  
is the promise of God.  
Whenever you drink it, remember me."**

One: We drink this to remember Jesus.

*Two: What do we remember at this table?*

One: We remember Jesus' death and celebrate his resurrection;  
we await with hope his coming again  
to bring peace and justice to the earth;  
and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Affirmation of Memory and Hope:**

**All: Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

**All: For whom do we pray at this table?**

One: We pray for God's world . . .

**Prayer of Transformation / Blessings of the Elements:**

One: Send, O God,  
your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,  
that all who share in this bread and cup  
may be the body of Christ:  
light, life, and love in the world.

**Sharing of Holy Communion**

**\* Hymn:** "God, Bless to Us Our Bread" MV #193

**Concluding Praise:**

**All: Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory is yours, God most holy,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**\* Hymn:** "Like a Healing Stream" MV #144

**Departing**

**\* Commissioning:**

One: Go out today following God's path...

**All: God's truth and light will lead us.**

One: Go out knowing we are God's blessed...

**All: ...knowing we are the mourning, merciful, the pure  
in heart, the peacemakers, longing for righteousness.**

One: We have been given many gifts...

**All: ...and we will go out and share these gifts with joy.  
Alleluia!**

**\* Benediction**

**Choral Amen**

**Music as We Depart**