

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

Order of Worship

Sunday, March 10, 2019, 9:00 am

1st Sunday of Lent

Music as We Gather

Welcome & News of the Community

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Gathering Words:

One: Today, we begin our journey of Lent – a journey of following Jesus into the desert, and on to Jerusalem.

All: We join in remembering the struggle of Jesus, who stood up for love, even when it meant persecution and death.

One: We join in remembering the challenges of the Israelites as they journeyed away from slavery, through the desert, toward a new beginning.

All: We join in a journey together toward justice, wholeness, and peace.

One: Come, friends and loved ones, let us welcome this season and this journey as we take our first steps together in this Lenten worship.

Music:

“Forty Days and Forty Nights”

VU #114

Forty days and forty nights
you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights
tempted, and yet undefiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day,
chilly dewdrops nightly shed;
prowling beasts about your way;
stones your pillow, earth your bed.

Shall not we your trial share,
and from earthly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer,
strong with you to suffer pain?

If temptations, vexing sore,
flesh or spirit should assail,
you their vanquisher before,
grant we may not faint nor fail.

Keep, oh keep us, Saviour dear,
ever constant by your side;
that with you we may appear
at the eternal Eastertide.

Opening Prayer:

One: In the quiet of this moment, in the stillness of this place,

All: draw near to us, O God.

One: As we seek the shelter of your refuge,

All: draw near to us, O God.

One: As we celebrate the bounty of your provision,

All: listen to our need, O God.

One: Transform this time and place

All: into a land where you are among us,

One: a land where, through Jesus, you are our guide.

All: Amen.

Basket of Blessings

Children's Time

Lord's Prayer

Music: "I Love to Tell the Story"

VU #343

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain:

*I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.

I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. **R**

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. **R**

Sharing the Story: Luke 4:1-13

Focus on the Word: Into the Wilderness

Music: "Jesus, Tempted in the Desert"

VU #115

Jesus, tempted in the desert,
lonely, hungry, filled with dread:
'Use your power,' the tempter tells him;
'turn these barren rocks to bread!'
'Not alone by bread,' he answers,
'can the human heart be filled.
Only by the Word that calls us
is our deepest hunger stilled!'

Jesus, tempted at the temple,
high above its ancient wall:
'Throw yourself from lofty turret;
angels wait to break your fall!'
Jesus shuns such empty marvels,
feats that fickle crowds request:
'God, whose grace protects, preserves us,
we must never vainly test.'

Jesus, tempted on the mountain
by the lure of vast domain:
'Fall before me! Be my servant!
Glory, fame, you're sure to gain!'
Jesus sees the dazzling vision,
turns his eyes another way:
'God alone deserves our homage!
God alone will I obey!'

When we face temptation's power,

lonely, struggling, filled with dread,
Christ, who knew the tempter's hour,
come and be our living bread.
By your grace, protect, preserve us
lest we fall, your trust betray.
Yours, above all other voices,
be the Word we hear, obey.

Prayer in Action

Affirmation:

One: Let's go forth with a spirit that notices the best in people,

All: a heart that forgives the worst,

One: a mind that forgets the bad,

All: and a soul that never loses faith in God.

Music:

"Go, Make a Difference"

MV #209

Refrain:

Go make a difference. We can make a difference.

Go make a difference in the world.

(2 more times)

We are the salt of the earth,
called to let the people see
the love of God for you and me.

We are the light of the world,
not to be hidden but be seen.

Go make a difference in the world. **R**

We are the hands of Christ
reaching out to those in need,
the face of God for all to see.

We are the spirit of hope;
we are the voice of peace.
Go make a difference in the world. **R**

So let your love shine on,
let it shine for all to see.
Go make a difference in the world.
And the spirit of Christ
will be with us as we go.
Go make a difference in the world. **R**

Benediction