

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, March 17, 2019, 11:00 am

2nd Sunday of Lent

* Please rise in body and/or spirit

Music as We Gather

Gathering

* Clergy & Choir Enter

* **Introit:** "Come, We That Love the Lord" VU #715, v1

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Welcome and Announcements

* **Call to Worship:**

One: Light, space, zest—that's God!

All: With God on our side, we're fearless, afraid of no one and nothing.

One: Come on in—we're in God's place!

All: We're ready to offer anthems and songs that will raise the roof!

One: Let's join in making music to God.

All: We want to sing God-songs!

* **Hymn:** "Be Thou My Vision" VU #642

* **Lenten Candle Journey** *(from Gathering)*

* **Opening Prayer:**

One: Holy One, we look to the billions of stars in our heavens.

All: How can we do anything but wonder in amazement and count ourselves as divinely blessed?

One: Your mystery is painted over our skies like thousands of pinpoints of history.

All: Our story seems so small, and yet we know you have been with us for every breath and step of it.

One: Help us to be opened by this sight.

All: Help us to be transformed by your eternity on display.

One: Show us how to lift our sights beyond our fears and our assumptions.

All: Strengthen our spirits as we journey together through Lent. Amen.

Listening

Minute for Mission

Children's Focus

The Lord's Prayer

* **Hymn:** "One More Step Along the World I Go" VU #639

Scripture Readings: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
Luke 13:31-35

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Special Music: "The Lord's My Shepherd"
Orchard Valley Chimes

Sermon: **Our Church**

* **Hymn:** "Are You a Shepherd?" MV #126

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

* **Offertory:** "God of All Good" VU #539, v3

* **Offertory Prayer:**

O God, we thank you for your great generosity. All that we are and all that we have is a gift from you. Help us to serve one another and so reflect your spirit and goodness.

**Accept these offerings and grant that the cause to which they are devoted may prosper under your guidance.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** "My Soul Cries Out" MV #120

*** Commissioning:**

One: Go out with a big heart to be there for others.

All: Church is a great place to stretch our hearts and souls.

One: Go out as a source of healing and hope...

All: full of encouragement and becoming like Jesus.

One: We won't stand on the sidelines...

All: we will go out with a servant's heart, willing and cheering.

*** Benediction**

Choral Blessing: "Simeon's Blessing"

Music as We Depart

LENTEN CHALLENGE WEEK 2

This week your challenge is to express gratitude.

Make a point of saying thanks to someone who you don't often thank in your life – a stranger or someone you see often. Make a list of at least three things you feel grateful for (things in nature, things that happen throughout your day, people you encounter), making it different every day. So, that is your challenge for the coming week.