

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

**Order of Worship**

Sunday, March 17, 2019, 9:00 am

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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: 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!

Music: "Be Thou My Vision" VU #642 (vs.1,2,5)

Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;  
naught be all else to me save that thou art,  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;  
I ever with thee, and thou in my life;  
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,  
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

Great God of heaven, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

### **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.**

### **Basket of Blessings**

### **Children's Time**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Music:** "One More Step Along the World I Go"

VU #639

One more step along the world I go,  
one more step along the world I go,  
from the old things to the new,  
keep me travelling along with you: **R**

**Refrain:**

*And it's from the old I travel to the new;  
keep me travelling along with you.*

Round the corner of the world I turn,  
more and more about the world I learn;  
all the new things that I see  
you'll be looking at along with me: **R**

As I travel through the bad and good,  
keep me travelling the way I should;  
where I see no way to go  
you'll be telling me the way, I know: **R**

Give me courage when the world is rough,  
keep me loving though the world is tough,  
leap and sing in all I do,  
keep me travelling along with you: **R**

You are older than the world can be,  
you are younger than the life in me,  
ever old and ever new,  
keep me travelling along with you: **R**

**Sharing the Story:** Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

**Focus on the Word:** **Into the Church**

**Music:**

“Are You a Shepherd?”

MV #126

Are you a shepherd,  
good shepherd who leads us  
safely through danger,  
while calming our fears?  
Are you a father  
who shelters and feeds us,  
shares in our laughter  
and wipes away tears?

**Refrain:**

*Yes, you are shepherd,  
parent and teacher,  
but you are greater  
than all that we know.  
Holy and living,  
loving and giving,  
God, you are with us  
wherever we go.*

Are you a mother,  
good mother who bears us,  
comforts, protects us  
and helps us to rest?  
Are you a teacher  
who daily prepares us,  
challenging students  
to offer their best? **R**

Great, gentle shepherd,  
forever beside us,  
lead all your children  
in paths that are right.

Great, loving parent,  
wise teacher, you guide us.  
We want to love you  
and bring you delight. **R**

**Refrain:**

*Yes, you are shepherd,  
parent and teacher,  
but you are greater  
than all that we know.  
Holy and living,  
loving and giving,  
God, you are with us  
wherever we go.*

**Prayer in Action**

**Affirmation:**

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.**

**Music:**

“My Soul Cries Out”

MV #120 (vs.1,2,4)

My soul cries out with a joyful shout  
That the God of my heart is great  
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things  
That you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,

And my weakness you did not spurn,  
So from east to west shall my name be blest.  
Could the world be about to turn?

**Refrain:**

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
And the world is about to turn.*

Though I am small, my God, my all,  
You work great things in me,  
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past  
To the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame,  
And to those who would for you yearn,  
You will show your might, put the strong to flight,  
For the world is about to turn. **R**

Though the nations rage from age to age,  
We remember who holds us fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us  
From the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard  
Is the promise which holds us bound,  
'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God,  
Who is turning the world around. **R**

**Benediction**