

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

**Order of Worship**  
Sunday, March 31, 2019, 9:00 am

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent /**  
**Camping Sunday**

**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: Creator God, the spark has kindled a fire.

**All: We gather for its warmth and light.**

One: Your love warms us.

**All: Your love is the warmth that fills our hearts.**

One: First, we experience the warmth and light of your love as it is found in Jesus.

**All: And them we pass it on.**

One: Let's pass the love of Jesus to those around us in church this morning.

**All: May the peace and love of Christ be with you.**

One: And also with you.

**Music:**

“It Only Takes a Spark”

VU #289

It only takes a spark  
to get a fire going,  
and soon all those around  
can warm up in its glowing:  
that's how it is with God's love,  
once you've experienced it:  
you spread God's love to everyone,  
you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring  
when all the trees are budding,  
the birds begin to sing,  
the flowers start their blooming;  
that's how it is with God's love,  
once you've experienced it:  
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring,  
you want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend,  
this happiness that I've found -  
on God you can depend,  
it matters not where you're bound;  
I'll shout it from the mountain top;  
I want my world to know:  
the Lord of love has come to me,  
I want to pass it on.

## Opening Prayer:

One: Holy One, we hear your wilderness cry from the depths of our souls and long to answer.

**All: We seek you out in the silence and beauty of nature, in the sound of the birds, the rustling trees, the lapping water, and the crunching of branches.**

One: Our eyes and ears are opened to your presence in the newness of day, the brisk air, and the colours of the sunrise.

**All: Be with us in this time of sharing, guiding us along the forest's edge into oneness with you.**

## Basket of Blessings

## Children's Time

## Lord's Prayer

**Music:**

“This is the Day”

VU #412 vs.1,2,4

This is the day, this is the day  
that our God has made, that our God has made;  
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,  
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that our God has made,  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day  
that our God has made.

Open to us, open to us  
your gates, O God, your gates, O God;  
we will go in, we will go in,  
to your holy place, to your holy place.  
Open to us your gates, O God,

we will go in to your holy place.  
Open to us, open to us  
your gates, O God.

This is the day, this is the day  
that our God has made, that our God has made;  
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,  
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.  
This is the day that our God has made,  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day  
that our God has made.

**Sharing the Story:** Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**Focus on the Word:** **It's Family**

**Music:** "I've Got Peace Like a River"

VU #577

I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul.  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain in-a my soul.  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain in-a my soul.

I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean in-a my soul.  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean in-a my soul.

## Prayer in Action

### Affirmation:

One: Go out into the world,

**All: searching for all who are lost.**

One: As we reach out with open hands and open hearts,

**All: let our ministry be shaped always by God's love.**

### Music:

"Wherever You May Go"

MV #216

### Refrain:

*Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
And your people shall be my people too.  
Wherever you may go, I will follow,  
For I would be faithful, loyal and true.*

Say the word and I will stay,  
I will never go away,  
We will travel side by side  
And God's love will be our guide. **R**

From beginning to the end  
I will always be your friend,  
When you need me, I'll be there,  
You can trust my faithful care. **R**

## Benediction