

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, April 19, 2019, 11:00 am

Good Friday

* Please rise in body and/or spirit

Music as We Gather

* Clergy & Choir Enter

Opening Words

* Call to Worship:

One: The Word who was there in the beginning has called us together.

All: To sing, to pray, to tell the old story.

One: God of life and hope, move among us today,

All: as we tell the old story, as we remember the uncomfortable parts.

One: God of promise, God of our world, on this day we call Good,

All: Remind us that even as the world falls apart you are still there. Show us that you are present in trial and condemnation and execution. Hold in our hearts the possibility of hope that lies beyond despair.

One: God of light shining through the shadows,

All: hold us in your love as we tell again of a cross on a hill.

One: This we pray in the name of the man from Nazareth, the one who lived with a great Passion for your Way, the one whose death is nigh, the one who taught his friends to pray saying the words of our faith...

The Lord's Prayer

Anthem: "Jesus in the Garden"

Reflection

First of the Shadows:

John 18:1-12.....Jesus is Arrested
Extinguish the first candle

Second of the Shadows:

John 18:13-18; 25-27.....Peter denies Jesus
Extinguish the second candle

Prayer For and Assurance of Grace:

One: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
All: we admit that sometimes we join in the crowds that seek our best interests over the communal good. Have mercy on us as we work toward the goals of the kingdom.

One: Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
All: we admit that we are tempted to choose the path of personal safety over being faithful to The Way. Have mercy on us as we sort out what it is that we need.

One: Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,
All: we admit that we wander away from you and then wonder why we feel abandoned. Grant us the peace that comes with knowing that we are not alone.

One: Light of the world, shining through the shadows, for those times we have helped to create the shadows,
All: forgive us. Through Grace break into the darkness with the light of hope and promise; the beacon that leads us back into relationship.

One: Even in the face of betrayal and rebellion, even in the face of death and denial, even in the face of fear and despair, God's Grace knows no bounds. We ARE forgiven, we ARE called back into relationship, we ARE set back on the path that leads to the Realm of God.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

* **Hymn:** "O Come and Mourn with Me Awhile" VU #136
vs.1,2,4

Third of the Shadows:

John 18: 28-38..... Trial of Jesus before Pilate
Extinguish the third candle

Fourth of the Shadows:

John 18:38-19:16a.....Jesus is Condemned to Death
Extinguish the fourth candle

* Hymn: "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" VU #142
vs.1,3,4

Fifth of the Shadows:

John 19:16b-27..... On the Cross, Jesus Calls Forth
Beloved Community

Extinguish the fifth candle

* Hymn: "Were You There" VU #144

Sixth of the Shadows:

John 19:28-30.....Jesus Dies

Extinguish the sixth candle

* Hymn: "Stay with Us Through the Night" VU #182

Jesus is dead...It is finished.

Extinguish the seventh candle

Seventh of the Shadows:

John 19:38-42..... Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

Prayerful Recess:

One: Jesus is laid in the tomb, and his followers leave him to God,
in the silence and rest of Sabbath.

Sending Out:

One: We have gathered, we have told the story again.

**All: We have watched the Lamb of God hanging on a tree, we
have seen him laid into the tomb.**

One: Now we wait. Now we put our worship into vigil and wait
to see if the light will overcome the darkness,

**All: As we wait we trust in the God who loves the world so
much to send a Son to save it. As we wait we trust in the
promise of life everlasting. As we wait we promise to
return to this place to see what might happen next.**

One: While we wait, while our worship continues, while we sit in
the darkness of vigil, we remember that we are not alone,

**All: God waits and watches with us. God will not leave us
abandoned. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

You are invited to leave in silence.