

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

Order of Worship

Sunday, May 12, 2019, 9:00 am

4th Sunday of Easter

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: Awake! Rise up!

All: There is much to be done in the Lord's Name today.

One: Get ready to worship and to serve God.

All: We are ready to hear God's word for us and to respond in action and love.

One: Open your hearts to God's will this day.

**All: Praise be to God who walks with us and guides us.
AMEN.**

Music:

"Let Us Build a House"

MV #1

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,

rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

Refrain:

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: **R**

Let us build a house where love is found,
in water, wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us; **R**

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear
the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: **R**

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed

as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: **R**

Refrain:

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Opening Prayer:

One: Shepherd of Life, we enter this time of worship in need of
the green pasture of your grace...

**All: to provide rest and renewal for the work that lies before
us.**

One: The still waters of your peace calm our anxious spirits.

**All: The word of your rod and the wisdom of your staff is the
strength and comfort we need to journey through the
valley.**

One: Even in the face of suffering and injustice, you fill our spirits
with the abundance of your love,

**All: and you anoint us in service to bring this hope to the
world.**

One: It is here we would dwell our whole life long.

All: Amen.

Basket of Blessings:

**All: Good Shepherd, we bring the gifts created by our hands
and by our minds. May they be a witness to your love for
all creation. May they be used for the greater good
personified in you. Amen.**

Children's Time

Lord's Prayer

Psalm: Psalm 23

One: I don't know ... nice story, to me.

Two: *There was a young girl ... relies on God.*

One: The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

Two: *He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside still waters.*

One: He restores my soul.

All: **He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in God's house forever. AMEN.**

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**

Sharing the Story: John 22:22-30

Focus on the Word: **You're Welcome Here**

Music:

“Oh a Song Must Rise!”

MV #142 vs.1&3

Refrain:

Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend

Oh a song must rise once again (again)

Singing out God’s praises and glory,

the faithful voices blend,

Oh a song must rise for the spirit to descend (descend).

From the mountains to the valleys,

from the desert to the sea,

a song must rise once again.

From the voices of our leaders,

the voice of you and me,

a song must rise for the spirit to descend. **R**

From ev’ry house of worship,

in ev’ry faith and tongue,

a song must rise once again.

From the villages and cities

a new song must be sung,

a song must rise for the spirit to descend. **R**

Prayer in Action

Affirmation:

One: Take up your cross to follow Christ.

All: We will place our feet in his steps.

One: Let your face bring his blessing to all you greet...

All: and may our hands share peace with all we meet.

One: Believe and follow, or follow and believe.

All: God keeps us in perfect peace.

One: The Lord sustains us in the midst of trouble.

All: Our lives overflow with God's love and grace.
One: Goodness and mercy will surely follow us,
All: as we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever!

Music: "Would You Bless Our Homes and Families" VU #556

Would you bless our homes and families,
Source of life who calls us here;
in our world of stress and tension
teach us love that conquers fear.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles,
love's expressed in many ways.

When our way is undemanding,
let us use the time that's ours
to delight in simple pleasures,
sharing joys in gentle hours.
When our way is anxious walking
and a heavy path we plod,
teach us trust in one another
and in you, our gracious God.

From the homes in which we're nurtured,
with the love that shapes us there,
teach us, God, to claim as family
every one whose life we share.
And through all that life may offer,
may we in your love remain;
may the love we share in families
be alive to praise your name.

Let us reach beyond the boundaries
of our daily thought and care
till the family you have chosen
spills its love out everywhere.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles
love's expressed in many ways.

Benediction