

# ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, January 5, 2020, 11:00 am

### Epiphany Sunday

**\* Please rise in body and/or spirit**

**Music as We Gather**

#### Gathering

**\* Clergy Enters**

**\* Lighting of the Christ and Outreach Candles:**

One: We light this candle to remind us of the presence of Christ.

**All: The light from Christ shines equally for each of us.**

One: We light this candle to remind us of the love of Christ.

**All: The light from this candle shines equally for the world.**

**\* Introit:** "Joy to the World" VU #59, v1

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

**Welcome**

**\* Call to Worship:**

One: The Magi came from many places to see the baby Jesus.

**All: We, too, have come from many places to worship together and see the Holy Spirit in one another.**

One: The Magi brought gifts to offer the Child.

**All: We, too, bring gifts—ourselves, our hopes, our dreams, the visions we see.**

One: The Magi travelled to Bethlehem and saw a great light.

**All: We, too, travel to Bethlehem and then return to our homes, moved by what we have seen.**

**\* Hymn:** "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" VU #36

**\* Opening Prayer:**

One: O Holy One, we gather here in this house of prayer to give thanks and to celebrate your incredible presence in our midst.

**All: We lift up to you our songs of praise, the prayers of our hearts, the gifts of our resources. We gather here in your name, ready to listen to your presence stirring within our lives—moving us, shaping us, leading us.**

One: God of Grace, we offer to you our lives, in the name of Jesus, our light.

**All: Amen.**

#### Listening

**Children's Focus**

**Lord's Prayer**

**\* Hymn:** "Arise, Your Light Has Come" VU #79

**Scripture Readings:** Isaiah 60:1–6  
Matthew 2:1–12

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music:** presented by the  
OVUC Steeple Strummers

**Poem:** "It Is Not Over" *by Ann Weems*

**Sermon:** **Do All Roads Lead to God?**

**\* Hymn:** "Will You Come and See the Light" VU #96

#### Celebrating

**Offering of Our Gifts**

\* **Offertory:**            “In the Bleak Midwinter”            VU #55, v4

\* **Offertory Prayer:**

**God of light and promise, we bring our gifts to further  
your work in our world. Accept these gifts and the gift of  
our very selves. Let them shine for all to see, and be  
brought into the sphere of your love and righteousness.  
Amen.**

\* **Hymn:**            “I Am the Light of the World”            VU #87

### **Prayers of the People**

\* **Commissioning:**

One: Let us go forth, into this new year, with trust in God’s  
sending,

**All: that we may follow God’s heart and not our own.**

One: Let us go forth bearing the name of Christ,

**All: that we may become as Christ to all we meet.**

One: Let us go forth in the power of the Spirit,

**All: that we may turn from fear, embracing our  
commitments with love.**

\* **Benediction**

**Music as We Depart**