

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

Order of Worship

Sunday, January 12, 2020, 9:00 am

Baptism of Jesus

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: When we are reluctant to dip our toes into faith's river,

All: Jesus comes, to teach us how to swim.

One: When we are hesitant to cup our hands to drink from the fountain of grace,

All: Jesus comes, to reach in and splash our faces with God's joy.

One: When we are unwilling to be the pipeline of hope,

All: Jesus comes, to turn on the faucets God has installed in our hearts.

One: Come, let us worship.

Music:

“It's a Song of Praise to the Maker”

MV #30

It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the thrush sings high in the tree.
It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the gray whale sings in the sea.

Refrain:

*And by the Spirit you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.*

It's a call of life to the Giver,
when waves and waterfalls roar,
it's a call of life to the Giver,
when high tides break on the shore. **R**

It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the bumblebees hum-a-long.
It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the summer breeze joins the song. **R**

It's the chorus of all creation;
it's sung by all living things,
it's the chorus of all creation;
a song the universe sings. **R**

Opening Prayer:

One: O God, our light, our beauty, our rest:
With the appearance of your Son

All: you have brought us into your new creation.

One: Form us into your people, and order our lives in you;

All: through Christ, the Living One. Amen.

Basket of Blessings

Children's Time

Music:

"God of the Sparrow"

VU #229
vs 1,3,5,6

God of the sparrow God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise

God of the rainbow God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks

God of the neighbour God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

Sharing the Story: Matthew 3:13–17

Focus on the Word: We Begin with Baptism

Music: "When Jesus Comes to be Baptized"

VU #100
vs 1,3,4,5

When Jesus comes to be baptized,
he leaves the hidden years behind,
the years of safety and of peace,
to bear the sins of humankind.

He will not quench the dying flame,
and what is bruised he will not break,
but heal the wound injustice dealt,
and out of death his triumph make.

O Spirit help us be like Christ:
to live in love and charity,
to walk in truth and justice now,
and grow in Christian dignity.

We praise you, God, source of all life,
we praise you, Christ, eternal Word,
we praise you, Spirit, gracious gift;
your triune presence fills our world.

Prayer in Action

Holy Communion

A Call to Give Thanks:

One: May God be with us.

All: God is here among us.

One: Let us open our hearts to God.

All: We open them to God and to one another.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All: Why do we give thanks and praise at this table?

One: We give thanks because God is always with us. We thank God, Creator of us all; from the beginning God made the world and all its creatures. You made people to live for you and for one another. We praise you, O God.

All: We praise you, O God.

One: You created Adam and Eve and gave them a garden; you showed Noah a rainbow; you gave Moses strength to free your people and taught Miriam to sing; you gave courage to Esther and loyalty to Ruth; you gave David a harp to sing your praise, and helped him defeat the giant. We praise you, O God.

All: We praise you, O God.

One: Yet, even they turned away from you and forgot about you, as we do too. But you did not forget. You sent Jesus to the world to show how much you love us and to bring us back to you again. We praise you, O God.

All: We praise you, O God.

One: He came as one of us, first an infant, then a child, later a youth, then an adult. He rejoiced with those who rejoiced, and wept with those who wept. To the despairing, he spoke a word of hope. To the sick, he gave healing. To the hurting, he was a friend.

Still, people turned away from you. They betrayed Jesus and nailed him to a cross. But he was lifted from the grave and restored to life, that he might be with us and we with him, alive for evermore! Therefore with all the saints of every time and place, we join the angels in their praise:

Song of Creation:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Remembering Jesus at Table:

All: Why do we eat bread at this table?

One: We gather at this table to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus ate with his friends, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

All: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Each time you do this, remember me."

All: Why do we drink from the cup at this table?

One: That same night, Jesus also took a cup, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying:

All: "Drink. This cup, poured out for you, is the promise of God. Whenever you drink it, remember me."

One: We drink this to remember Jesus.

All: What do we remember at this table?

One: We remember Jesus' death and celebrate his resurrection; we await with hope his coming again to bring peace and justice to the earth; and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Affirmation of Memory and Hope:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

All: For whom do we pray at this table?

One: We pray for God's world

Prayer of Transformation / Blessing of the Elements:

One: Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,
that all who share in this bread and cup may be the body of
Christ: light, life, and love in the world.

Sharing of Holy Communion

Concluding Praise:

One: Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of
the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and
forever.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (Prayer of Jesus)

Affirmation:

One: We joined Jesus at the Jordan;

All: there he was baptized.

One: Then he went amongst the people,

All: calling them to follow him, and we followed, too.

One: Today, he calls us to go out into the world

All: and share the Good News.

One: God is with us!

All: God is with us, indeed!

Music:**“Shall We Gather at the River”**

VU #710

Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod;
with its crystal tide for ever
flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain:

*Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.*

Ere we reach the shining river,
lay we every burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver,
and provide a robe and crown. **R**

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease,
soon our happy hearts will quiver
with the melody of peace. **R**

Benediction