

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, March 8, 2020, 11:00 am

2nd Sunday in Lent

* Please rise in body and/or spirit

Music as We Gather

Gathering

* Clergy & Choir Enter

* Lighting of the Christ and Outreach Candles:

One: God said, "I will bless you so that you will be a blessing."

All: Let this Outreach Candle be a light to this blessing.

One: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn it.

All: May the light of this Christ Candle strengthen us to serve God and humanity.

* Introit: "Come, We That Love the Lord" VU #715, v1

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Welcome and Announcements

Recognition of the Land and Indigenous People

* Call to Worship:

One: What a gift, that in worship we draw so near to the presence of Christ.

All: That presence is alive in our very hands and hearts.

One: What a joy, that in this worship and praise, we have such visible reminders of God:

All: in Scripture, in songs of faith, in the beauty of God's people together.

One: What a strength, that in this place our faith finds a home:

All: where God befriends us, and where we befriend one another.

One: So for these reasons, and many more, we give God thanks and praise!

All: Come, let us worship God!

* Hymn: "There's a Spirit in the Air" VU #582
Vs. 1,2,3,5,6

* Opening Prayer:

One: God of smooth road, God of the rough places,

All: God of the wilderness paths, thank you.

One: Thank you for calling us out when we want to wrap ourselves up and hide.

All: Thank you for giving us safe space when everything is just too much.

One: Thank you for blessing all creation with your presence, and with your love.

All: Open our hearts, we pray—open our minds— open our souls and, by your grace, fill them with your abundant love;

One: not only so that we would be changed, not only so that we would be blessed,

All: but so that we can be a people of blessed transformation in your world. In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

Listening

Minute for Mission

Children's Focus

Lord's Prayer

* Hymn: "Jesus, Friend of Little Children" VU #340

Scripture Readings: Genesis 12:1-4a
John 3:1-17

One: May God add to our understanding of these words.

All: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: "Agnus Dei"

Sermon: The Wind Blows Where It Chooses

* Hymn: "Come to My Heart" VU #661

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

* **Offertory:** "God of All Good" VU #539, v3

* **Offertory Prayer:** God of all creation, we know that all that we have, all that we are, is blessed and blessing. In this sharing, we add our blessing to yours. May all of these blessings bring hope and healing to your world. Amen.

Prayers of the People

* **Hymn:** "Go to the World!" VU #420

* **Litany of Diminishing Light:**

One: Even as the days grow longer,

All: Jesus' time grow short.

(the second candle is extinguished)

One: Even as the Christ-light shines, the world tries to hide the light of Peace.

All: But we will not let our Peace be hidden.

* **Commissioning and Benediction:**

One: Blessed and blessing, loving and loved, God's people, Orchard Valley United, go from this place!

All: We're ready!

One: To times of work, to times of play, to times of busy-ness, to times away, God's people of Orchard Valley United, go to the world!

All: We're set!

One: To speak and to listen, to sing and to pray, to be a blessing each and every day. God's people of Orchard Valley United, go and be stewards of the faith, Jesus' people on the Way.

All: We go, knowing we are never alone! Carried by the wings of the Holy Spirit, moving forward with Christ's peace, enfolded in the Creator's love, we go! Amen. Amen! AMEN!

Choral Amen

VU p. 967

Music as We Depart