

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

**Order of Worship**

Sunday, March 15, 2020, 9:00 am

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

**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: It is in God that we live, and move, and have our being.  
And so, in every moment of every day,

All: **we dance with God, and God dances with all creation.**

One: We don't often notice that we're dancing, but sometimes,  
every once in a while,

All: **God's music and movement breaks through, and we know!**

One: When we gather together, as a community of faith,

All: **we gather to help one another become open to the presence of God;**

One: we gather to help one another be intentional in that relationship;

All: **we gather to help one another, and in helping one another, we worship God.**

**Refrain:**

*Come in, come in and sit down,  
you are a part of the family.  
We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.*

You know the reason why you came,  
yet no reason can explain;  
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

God is with us in this place,  
like a mother's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;  
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.  
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,  
but we are a part of the family. **R**

There's rest for the weary and health for us all;  
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.  
So come in and worship and answer the call,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

**Opening Prayer:**

One: Loving and caring God, we come this morning in hope—  
All: **hope that will sustain us in our trying times,  
our lonely times, our doubting times.**

One: Refresh us this morning with the living water of your presence and love.

All: **Open us to the possibilities of friendship—the possibilities of encountering you in unexpected ways, the possibilities of seeing the miraculous in everyday life. This is our prayer. Amen.**

### **Basket of Blessings:**

**Life-giving God, we offer you ourselves and our resources. Use us and our gifts, that we may be water bearers to a world thirsty for love, for meaning, for justice, and for hope. May all your people encounter fullness of life through the love of Christ, which lives within us. Amen.**

### **Children's Time**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Music:** "Teach Me, God, to Wonder" VU #299

Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see;  
let your world of beauty capture me.

#### **Refrain:**

*Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,  
life be celebrated, joy you give.*

Let me, God, be open, let me loving be;  
let your world of people speak to me. **R**

Let me, God, be ready, let me be awake,  
in your world of loving my place take. **R**

Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak,  
see you in my neighbour when we meet. **R**

**Sharing the Story:** Romans 5:1–5  
John 4:5–30, 39–42

**Focus on the Word:** Meeting Places

**Music:** “We Are One” VU #402

We are one as we come,  
as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise on our lips  
there's a sense that God is near.  
We are one as we sing,  
as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace  
as we meet, together in this place.

We are one as we share,  
as we share brokenness and fear,  
in the touch of a hand  
there's a sense that God is here.  
We are one as we care,  
as we heal, we are healed;  
and we share warmth in God's embrace  
as we pray together in this place.

We are one as we feast,  
as we feast, peace becomes the sign;  
in the bread and the wine  
there's a sense of love divine.  
We are one as we come,  
as we feed, we are fed;  
and we feel God's refreshing grace  
as we meet at table in this place.

We are one as we hear,  
as we hear, heart and hand unite;  
in the word we receive  
there's a sense that God is light.  
We are one as we leave,  
as we love, we are loved;  
and we seek justice in God's ways  
as we move together from this place.

## **Prayer in Action**

**Music:** "May the God of Hope Go with Us"

VU #424

May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race. **R**

### **Refrain:**

*Praying, let us work for peace,  
singing, share our joy with all,  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

May the God of healing free the earth from fear,  
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.  
May the God of love keep our commitment clear  
to a world restored, to human life renewed. **R**

### **Affirmation:**

**One:** We have encountered the living God through the love of the living Christ.

**All:** **We have been refreshed by living water.**

One: Go now to live in the hope this encounter inspires.

**All: We are water bearers to a dry and parched world,**

One: knowing that the God of love and hope goes before you

**All: and also with you always. Amen.**

## **Benediction**