

# ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, April 26, 2020

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

#### Music as We Gather

#### Gathering

#### Lighting of the Christ and Outreach Candles:

In the chaos and uncertainty, the heartbreak and the sadness of this week, we come to worship in the light of Christ who is a beacon to all our paths, and this glow helps us to know that God is with us today, as always.

#### Isolation Response Candles:

With the weight of our isolation remaining upon us, we continue to keep the light and colour in our longing. Let these candles continue to shine hope into our lives.

#### Acknowledgement of Victims:

We remember the victims of the violence that broke our hearts this past week. We acknowledge our sorrow, our outrage and our questions. We light these candles in honour of the victims and families of this tragic event in the lives of so many – recognizing our Grief, our Courage, our Memory, our Compassion, our Love, and our Hope.

#### Welcome

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

#### Recognition of the Land and Indigenous People

#### Call to Worship:

One: As you walk with us, as we journey together,

All: **Lord, your word fills our hearts!**

One: As you speak with us, as your love is revealed,

All: **Lord, your fire burns in our hearts!**

One: As we proclaim what we have seen and heard,  
may all people be drawn to you, the risen Lord!

In the Holy Word, the music, the prayers,

All: **God is present with us.**

One: We open our hearts now as we worship together.

#### Opening Prayer:

God of all creation, you love, and you are love.

In joyful times, in excited times...

in times of sadness, in times of fear...

in all of our times...

you are the love that envelops us,

helping us to feel safe, secure, loved.

We are all in different places...

we have met Jesus and walk alongside,

we have met Jesus and are struggling to keep up,

or we are in search of who Jesus is in our life.

Wherever we are found, lost, or searching,

help us to know we are yours. Today. Tomorrow. Always.

In you, in Jesus, we are loved. Amen.

#### Hymn:

“I Danced in the Morning”

VU #352

vs. 1,3,5

#### Listening

#### Children’s Focus

#### Scriptures:

Acts 2:14a, 36–41

Luke 24:13–35

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

#### Special Music:

“Christ Still Rises”

*Cynthia Bruce – Vocals*

*Nancy Handrigan – Violin*

*Ken Hassell – Piano*

#### Sermon:

**Relationships**

## Celebrating

### Offering of Our Gifts

#### Offertory Prayer:

We cast these gifts before you, O God, as palms were cast before Jesus long ago. We lay them before you in praise, thanksgiving, and joy. Receive that they may become a greater blessing in your hands. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Prayers of the People

#### The Lord's Prayer

**Poem:** "Heavy" *Written by Mary Oliver*  
*Read by Cheryl Sellsted*

**Hymn:** "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" VU #684

#### Commissioning:

Today we have walked and talked along the Emmaus road  
as we do each day with Christ by our side.  
Let Jesus walk with you this week.  
Let Jesus speak to you this week.  
There is nothing ordinary about our past week,  
nor our past few months.  
Let Jesus open the door of your heart,  
so that you may meet the extraordinary in Jesus.

#### Benediction:

The God of forgiveness bless you,  
the grace of Christ keep you,  
and the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen you.  
Let us go in peace, to love and to serve.  
Thanks be to God!.

### Music as We Depart