

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, November 29, 2020, 10:00 am

1st Sunday of Advent

Music as We Gather

Gathering

Lighting of the Outreach, Unity and Christ Candles:

The work of justice, of loving and serving others, is not a task to complete, but the way of Christian life. We light this Outreach Candle, letting its light shine on our work of caring for all creation.

We fan the flame of potential that is found in all of our lives. We don't light the Christ Candle just yet, and in holding back, we gather in the anticipation of Jesus to be born once again into our lives. And we wait.

Hope Candles

Lighting the First Candle of Advent: The Candle of Hope

(lit by Julien Davis & Sandra Bornemann)

Watch the flame of this first Candle of Advent, the candle of hope. Let it shine upon our sense of hope in our world.

As we enter this Advent season, where do you find hope?

Introit:

“Hope is a Star”

VU #7 vs 1

Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.

Refrain:

*When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.*

Recognition of the Land and Indigenous People

Welcome and Announcements

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Call to Worship:

Come, all you people of God, holy creations, wholly God's, with
our holey and ragged lives.

God's loving grace makes us whole.

Come on this first Sunday of Advent.

This journey toward Christmas begins today.

**Prepare our heart, mind, soul, and our homes, to
welcome God's child.**

Come to trust, listen, believe, and imagine all the possibilities
as God comes into our lives and into our world.

We come, O God, we come.

Hymn: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

VU #2

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free:
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Opening Prayer

Listening

Scriptures: Isaiah 64:1–9
Mark 13:24–37

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music: "Of the Father's Love"

Sermon: Do Something – Do Faith

Hymn: “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

VU #1 vs 1

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lowly exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Celebrating

Minute for Mission

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn:

“People Look East”

VU #9

People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today:
Love the guest is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there:
give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.

People, look east and sing today:
Love the rose is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
guard the nest that must be filled;
even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.

People, look east and sing today:
Love the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.

People, look east and sing today:
Love the star is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming

with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love the Lord is on the way.

Commissioning

Benediction:

May God's love make you increase in love for one another;
May Jesus teach you how to live in God's ways;
and may the Spirit strengthen your hearts,
as you ready yourselves for Jesus' birth once again.
We go in peace to love and serve, this day, and everyday.
Amen.

Music as We Depart