

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 6, 2020, 10:00 am

2nd 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?

Lighting the Second Candle of Advent: The Candle of Peace

(lit by Johanna Rosolen & Winslow Duyan and family)

Watch the flame of this second Candle of Advent, the candle of Peace. Let it shine upon our hope for peace in the world.

As we enter this Advent season, what does peace mean for you?

Introit:

“Hope is a Star”

VU #7 vs 2

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth.

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.

On the first Sunday of Advent, the journey toward Christmas began. On this second Sunday of Advent, we lift up the peace that Jesus brings.

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: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" VU #44 vs 1,4

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold,
'Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven's all-gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.

For, lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendours fling,
and the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.

Opening Prayer

Listening

Scriptures: Isaiah 40:1-11
Mark 1:1-8

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
Thanks be to God.

Special Music: "Of the Father's Love"

Sermon: Forest Comfort

Hymn: "I've Got Peace Like a River" VU #577 vs 1

I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul.
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul.

Celebrating

Minute for Mission: The Affirming Committee

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:

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

VU #38

Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song? **R**

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. **R**

See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise. **R**

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