

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

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Sunday, December 20, 2020, 10:00 am

### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

#### **Music as We Gather**

#### **\* 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.

There is a flame that burns within each of us for a world where all people are united into one human family, where all are cherished and loved.

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.

#### **Recognition of the Land and Indigenous People**

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

**\* Call to Worship:**

When life is messy and not going well,  
remember that God is with you and come to worship.  
When people are blaming you for something you haven't done,  
remember that God is with you and come spend time in  
God's community.

When you step in the muck or hit your thumb with a hammer,  
take a deep breath and remember that God is with you.  
Come find comfort today in this gathering of God's people.

**We know that God is with us.**

**That's why we're here to worship.**

**\* Lighting the Fourth Candle of Advent: The Candle of Love**

*(lit by the Duggan-Trask family)*

Watch the flame of this Fourth Candle of Advent, the  
Candle of Love. Let its warmth embrace and comfort us  
with the love found in the birth of a child into our lives.  
May we all experience such love this season. In this new  
Advent season, where do you find and feel Love?

**\* Introit:**

“Hope is a Star”

VU #7 vs 4

Love is a flame that burns in our heart,  
Jesus has come and will never depart.

**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.*

**\* Opening Prayer**

**\* Hymn:**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

VU #43

**Refrain:**

*Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere.  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. **R**

The shepherds feared and trembled  
when lo, above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Saviour's birth! **R**

Down in a lonely manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent our salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. **R**

**Scripture:**

Luke 1:26–38

**Mary's Monologue**

**Scripture:**

Matthew 1:18–25

**Joseph's Monologue**

\* **Hymn:**

“What Child is This”

VU #74

What child is this, who laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?

**Refrain:**

*This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary!*

Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading. **R**

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, one and all, to own him.  
The King of Kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him. **R**

**Scripture:**

Luke 2:8–16

**Shepherd's Monologue**

**Scripture:**

Matthew 2:1–12

**Wise One's Monologue**

**\* Hymn:**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

VU #60  
vs. 1,3,4

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
come and behold him, born the King of angels;

**Refrain:**

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God in the highest: R

See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; R

**Sermon:**

**Coming Together**

**Scripture:**

Luke 2:1-7

**Inn Keeper’s Monologue**

**Invitation to Join the Nativity Scene**

\* **Hymn:**

“Away in a Manger”

VU #69

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay  
close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

### **Prayers of the People**

Leader: “And so we pray...”

**All: May all the world know your love and peace,  
O God.**

### **The Lord’s Prayer**

\* **Hymn:**

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

VU #48

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
'Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!'  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;

with the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'

**Refrain:**

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
'Glory to the newborn King!'*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail, the incarnate deity,  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel! **R**

Hail, the heavenborn Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth. **R**

**\* Commissioning**

**\* Benediction**

**Music as We Depart**