

ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Thursday, December 24, 2020

Christmas Eve



Music as We Gather

Lighting of the Outreach and Unity 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.

Lighting the Advent Candles:

The Candle of Hope – What does Hope mean for you?
(lit by the Davis-Bornemann family)

The Candle of Peace – What does Peace mean for you?
(lit by the Rosolen-Duyan family)

The Candle of Joy – What does Joy mean for you?
(lit by the Handrigan-Oleskevich family)

The Candle of Love – What does Love mean for you?
(lit by the Duggan-Trask family)

Lighting the Christ Candle: The Candle of Life:

(lit by Jane McDonald & grandkids, Maddie and Raychel)

Watch the flame of the Christ Candle, the Candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love embodied in the one we call on this day our Christ Child. Let it illuminate the need for justice in the world so peace can reign. What does Christmas mean for you?

Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" VU #60, vs. 1, 3, 5

Recognition of the Land and Indigenous People

Welcome and Announcements

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Call to Worship:

Merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas!

The God of Love be praised:

**whose word speaks all things into being,
who is present in the expanse of the universe,
and in the hearts of all people.**

Praise the Living God,

**who comes as a child, full of promise
and hope for the fulfillment of peace.**

Opening Prayer

Children's Time

Scripture: Gospel of Matthew 1:18–25

Reflection: **A Gift for the Christ Child,
From Mary and Joseph**

Hymn: "Away in a Manger" VU #69

Scripture: Gospel of Luke 2:8–20
(read by Thelma MacDonald)

Reflection: **A Gift for the Christ Child,
From the Angels and the Shepherds**

Hymn: "Angels We Have Heard on High" VU #38

Scripture: Gospel of Matthew 2:1–12

Reflection: **A Gift for the Christ Child,
From the Wisemen**

Hymn: "What Child Is This?" VU #74

Scripture: Gospel of Matthew 22:34–40

Reflection: **A Gift for the Christ Child,
From Us**

Special Music: "Christmas Lullaby"

Scripture: Gospel of John 1:1–14

Reflection: **A Gift for Humanity,
From the Christ Child**

Special Reading: "The Christmas Guest"
(Offered by Brenda Parker)

Hymn: Joy to the World VU #59

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

* **Hymn:** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" VU #48

* **Commissioning**

* **Benediction**

Music as We Depart



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A congregation of the United Church of Canada