

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

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Sunday, April 18, 2021, 10:00 am

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

\* Please rise in body and/or spirit

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

### **Gathering**

#### **\* Lighting of the Outreach, Unity and Christ Candles**

**\* Hymn:** "Spirit of the Living God" VU #376, vs 1

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, move among us all;

make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love:

humble, caring, selfless, sharing.

Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!

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

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

**\* Call to Worship:**

How joyful it is, to celebrate the good news of God's love!

**We are called to be Easter people!**

We are one flock,

**called to be one in community.**

We have confidence before God...

**because we know we are loved and known.**

And so, let us love each other, sisters and brothers,

**in word or speech**

and in truth and action.

**We join together as one flock in worship,**

letting the healing waters of the Spirit stream through us.

**\* Hymn:** "Like a Healing Stream"

MV #144

Like a healing stream  
In a barren desert,  
Spirit water bringing  
Life to dusty earth,  
God is trickling through our lives  
As in a dream unfolding,  
Promising revival and rebirth...  
Like a healing stream.

Like a gentle rain  
On a thirsty garden,  
Spirit water come  
To nourish tiny seed,  
God is bubbling through the soil  
To coax a new creation,  
Yearning for an end to want and need...  
Like a gentle rain.

Like a river strong  
With a restless current,  
Spirit water rushing on  
To distant shore,  
God is carving out a channel  
In a new direction,  
Calling for an end to hate and war...  
Like a river strong.

Like a mighty sea  
Reaching far horizons,  
Spirit water with a love  
Both deep and wide,  
God is working in our hearts  
To shape a new tomorrow:  
God will always challenge and provide!  
Like a mighty sea,  
Like a river strong,  
Like a gentle rain,  
Like a healing stream.

### **\* Opening Prayer**

## **Listening**

### **Children's Time / Time for all Ages**

### **Minute for Mission**

**Scriptures:**                      1 John 3:1-3  
    Luke 24:36b-48

The Word of God for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music:** “Everything’s Beautiful”

*Offered by Fred Lipskey &  
Mindy Vinqvist-Tymchuk*

**Sermon:** **Can You See Me Now?**

**\* Hymn:** “Touch the Earth Lightly” VU #307, vs 1,3,4

Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,  
nourish the life of the world in our care:  
gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,  
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

Let there be greening, birth from the burning,  
water that blesses and air that is sweet,  
health in God's garden, hope in God's children,  
regeneration that peace will complete.

God of all living, God of all loving,  
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,  
teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us,  
using us gently and making us one.

## **Celebrating**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**\* Hymn:** "Called by Earth and Sky"

MV #135

**Refrain:**

*Called by earth and sky,  
promise of hope held high.  
This is our sacred living trust,  
treasure of life sanctified,  
called by earth and sky.*

Precious these waters, endless seas  
deep ocean's dream, waters of healing,  
rivers of rain, the wash of love again. **R**

Precious this gift, the air we breathe;  
Wind born and free. Breath of the Spirit,  
Blow through this place, our gathering and our grace. **R**

Precious these mountains, ancient sands;  
vast fragile land. Seeds of our wakening,  
rooted and strong, creation's faithful song. **R**

Precious the fire that lights our way,  
bright dawning day. Fire of passion,  
sorrows undone, our faith and justice one. **R**

**\* Commissioning**

**\* Benediction:**

The God of forgiveness bless you,  
the grace of Christ keep you,  
and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit strengthen you.  
Let us go now in peace, to love and to serve.  
And the people said ...

**AMEN!**

**Music as We Depart**