

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

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Sunday, April 25, 2021, 10:00 am

### **4<sup>th</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:** "And on This Path" MV #8, v1

And on this path,  
the gates of holiness are open wide,  
and on this path,  
the gates of holiness are open wide,  
and on this path,  
the gates of holiness are open wide,  
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!  
The gate are open wide!

#### **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:**

In the bleakest valley,  
    **at the banquet table;**  
in the hard work of life,  
    **at the moments of ease;**  
in our day-to-day reality,  
    **at times set aside–**  
like this time, now–  
    **for worship, for listening, for praying;**  
with every step we take:  
    **goodness and mercy follow us;**  
our cups overflow with the blessing of the Shepherd.

**\* Hymn:**                                    “Are You a Shepherd?”

MV #126

Are you a shepherd,  
good shepherd who leads us  
safely through danger,  
while calming our fears?  
Are you a father  
who shelters and feeds us,  
shares in our laughter  
and wipes away tears? **R**

**Refrain:**

*Yes, you are shepherd,  
parent and teacher,  
but you are greater  
than all that we know.  
Holy and living,  
loving and giving,  
God, you are with us  
wherever we go.*

Are you a mother,  
good mother who bears us,  
comforts, protects us  
and helps us to rest?  
Are you a teacher  
who daily prepares us,  
challenging students  
to offer their best? **R**

**Refrain:**

*Yes, you are shepherd,  
parent and teacher,  
but you are greater  
than all that we know.  
Holy and living,  
loving and giving,  
God, you are with us  
wherever we go.*

Great, gentle shepherd,  
forever beside us,  
lead all your children  
in paths that are right.  
Great, loving parent,  
wise teacher, you guide us.  
We want to love you  
and bring you delight. **R**

**\* Opening Prayer**

**Prayer Shawl Blessing:**

God of Love...Let this shawl be...

**a warm hug on a cool day! HALLELUJAH!**  
Let this shawl be...  
**softer than a kitten's fur! HALLELUJAH!**  
Let this shawl be...  
**as light as a feather, blowing in the wind. HALLELUJAH!**  
Let this shawl be...  
**a sign of your love, HALLELUJAH!**  
a sign of our love,  
**a sign of Jesus' love, HALLELUJAH!**  
to wrap around shoulders,  
**to lay upon laps and to fill many hearts. HALLELUJAH!**  
Alleluia.  
**Alleluia!**  
**ALLELUIA!**  
**Alleluia!**

## **Listening**

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

**Minute for Mission**

**Scriptures:** Psalm 23  
John 10:11-18

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

**Anthem:** **"Just a Little Talk with Jesus"**  
*Offered by Roger Bolt, Thea Burton, Cupido Daniels,  
Chris Seymour, Angela Whiteway, Marilyn Whiteway*

**Sermon:** **You Can't Herd Sheep**

**\* Hymn:**

“And on This Path”

MV #8, v2

So enter in  
the gates of holiness are open wide,  
so enter in  
the gates of holiness are open wide,  
so enter in  
the gates of holiness are open wide,  
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!  
The gate are open wide!

## **Celebrating**

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

**\* Hymn:**

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

VU #626

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down  
your head upon my breast.'  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
weary and worn and sad;  
I found in him a resting place,  
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one,  
stoop down, and drink, and live.'  
I came to Jesus, and I drank

of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise,  
and all your day be bright.'  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
till travelling days are done.

**\* Commissioning:**

Listen to the voice of Jesus.

**The shepherd is calling us by name,**  
calling us to give thanks,  
**convincing us to listen carefully,**  
inspiring us to live justly,  
**promising us peace in the challenge,**  
assuring us life,  
**life in all its fullness.**

**\* 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**