

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, May 2, 2021, 10:00 am

Fifth 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, Open my Heart" MV #79, v1

Refrain:

*Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.*

God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender. **R**

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:**

We come into worship today after sudden changes - changes that bring sadness and confusion, shock, anger, and burdens. And we bring joy and thanksgiving. May we find comfort and strength, hope and reassurance, and a welcoming spirit within this virtual gathered assembly. We bring all of ourselves here with God today. Let us worship.

*** Hymn:** “Come and Find the Quiet Centre” VU #374

Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, face to face,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

*** Opening Prayer**

Listening

Children's Time / Time for all Ages

Minute for Mission

Scriptures: 1 John 4:7-12
John 15:1-8

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music: "Aspiration -
He Leadeth Me in the Path of Righteousness"
Offered by Nancy Handrigan

Sermon: **Abide in the Vine**

*** Hymn:** "It Only Takes a Spark" VU #289, v1

It only takes a spark
to get a fire going,
and soon all those around

can warm up in its glowing:
that's how it is with God's love,
once you've experienced it:
you spread God's love to everyone,
you want to pass it on.

Celebrating

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

*** Hymn:** "We Shall go Out
with Hope of Resurrection"

VU #586

We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
expressive love alive in every heart.
We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.

*** 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!**