

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, May 23, 2021

Pentecost Sunday

Music as We Gather

Gathering

Lighting of the Outreach, Unity and Christ Candles

Hymn: "Spirit of Life" VU #381

Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

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:

Come, Holy Spirit. Inspire our hearts with your presence!

Let your flame burn the passion within us, stirring us to action.

Come, Holy Spirit. Energize our lives to work for God and all of Creation.

Let your wind of hope swirl around us, lifting and moving us from complacency.

Come, Holy Spirit. Pour your blessing on us.

Let your presence surround us as in God's presence and love in everything we say and do.

On this Pentecost Sunday, let us gather in worship.

Hymn:

“On Pentecost They Gathered”

VU #195

On Pentecost they gathered
quite early in the day,
a band of Christ's disciples,
to worship, sing, and pray.
A mighty wind came blowing,
filled all the swirling air,
and tongues of fire aglowing
inspired each person there.

The people all around them
were startled and amazed
to understand their language,
as Jesus Christ they praised.
What universal message,
what great good news was here?
That Christ, once dead, is risen
to vanquish all our fear.

God pours the Holy Spirit
on all who would believe,
on women, men, and children
who would God's grace receive.
That Spirit knows no limit,
bestowing life and power.
The church, formed and reforming,
responds in every hour.

O Spirit, sent from heaven
on that day long ago,
rekindle faith among us
in all life's ebb and flow.
O give us ears to listen
and tongues aflame with praise,
so folk of every nation
glad songs of joy shall raise.

Opening Prayer

Listening

Children's Time / Time for all Ages

Minute for Mission

Scriptures: Acts 2:1-21
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Life-Changing Spirit

Hymn: **“Water Flowing from the Mountains”** **MV #87**

Water flowing from the mountains.
Water flowing o’er the earth.
Water comes to us, so precious.
Living water gives us birth.

Refrain:

*Drink deep this source of life.
Drink deep and know.
For living water sings, and living water brings
The love that makes our spirit grow.*

Water rushing down the rivers.
Water rushing to the sea.
Water comes to us, so precious.
Living water makes us free. **R**

Water springing from the dry place.
Water springing in the sun.
Water comes to us, so precious.
Living water for each one. **R**

Celebrating

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn: **“Come, O Holy Spirit”** **MV #23**

Come, O Holy Spirit,
set the Church on fire;
strike it as the lightning

hits a posing spire.
Burn away the structures
and consume the sham
of our holy systems:
Come, in Jesus' name! **R**

Refrain: (x2)

*Come, come, come, in Jesus' name!
Take our hearts by storm.
All the world lies open
Pentecost is now!*

Blow away the cobwebs
of our stubborn past.
Come, send flying from us
myths unfit to last.
Wind of change, refresh us
and disturb our calm;
teach us what true love is,
take our hearts by storm. **R**

Free us from the babble
of our Babel mind;
spark in us a language
all can understand.
Lighten then our darkness,
come and show us how
all the world lies open:
Pentecost is now! **R**

Pentecost is now! Amen!

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!**