

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, January 9th, 2022, 10:00 am

3rd Sunday after Christmas

Music as We Gather

Gathering

Lighting of the Outreach, Unity and Christ Candles

Introit: "And on This Path" MV #8

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 gates are open wide!

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 gates are open wide!

Recognition of the Land

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship:

Jesus stood in line to be baptised.

Jesus stood in line to receive God's blessing.

Jesus waded into the murky water of the Jordon.

Jesus came to John for his baptism.

Jesus joins all the regular folks like us.

Jesus comes as one of us.

We too are marked as God's beloved ones.

The Spirit of God falls upon us all.

In love and friendship as one people, let us worship.

Hymn: "On Jordan's Bank" VU #20 vs. 1, 3, 5

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lamb is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of Kings.

In you, we find abundant life,
our refuge in the midst of strife;
without your grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.

All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won;
and praise to God whom we adore,
with Holy Spirit evermore.

Opening Prayer

Listening

Children's Time / Time for all Ages

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Scriptures: Isaiah 43:1-7
 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

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

Anthem: "Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child!"

Offered by Orchard Valley Church Choir

Sermon: **Muddy Feet**

Hymn: "The Lone, Wild Bird" VU #384 vs. 1,4,5

The lone, wild bird in lofty flight
is still with you, nor leaves your sight.

And I am yours! I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, rest in me too.

In secret depths you knit my frame,
before my birth you spoke my name;
within my soul, as close as breath,
so near to me, in life, in death.

O search me, God, my heart reveal,
renew my life, my spirit heal;
for I am yours, I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, rest in me too.

Celebrating

Prayers of the People:

Hymn: "O Love, How Deep" VU #348 vs. 1-4

O love, how deep, how broad, how high!
It fills the heart with ecstasy,
that God, in Jesus Christ, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake.

God sent no angel to our race
of higher or of lower place,
but wore the robe of human frame,
and freely to this lost world came.

For us he was baptized, and bore
a holy fast, and hungered sore;
for us temptations sharply knew;
for us the tempter overthrew.

For us he prayed, for us he taught,
for us great daily works were wrought,
by words and signs, and actions, thus
still seeking not himself, but us.

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!**