

**ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH**  
**9256 Commercial St., New Minas, NS**  
**Mailing address: 130 Cornwallis Ave., New Minas, NS**  
**B4N 3M7**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
Sunday, May 8th, 2022, 10:00 am

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**Christian Family/Mother's Day Sunday**

**Music as We Gather**

**Gathering**

**The lighting of the outreach, unity and Christ Candles**

**Introit:** "Come Touch our Hearts" MV #12

Come touch our hearts  
That we may know compassion  
From failing embers  
Build a blazing fire;  
Love strong enough  
To overturn injustice,  
To seek a world more gracious,  
Come touch and bless our hearts.

Come touch our souls  
That we may know and love you,  
Your quiet presence  
All our fears dispel;  
Create a space

For spirit to grow in us,  
Let life and beauty fill us,  
Come touch and bless our souls.

Come touch our minds  
And teach us how to reason,  
Set free our thoughts  
To wonder and to dream;  
Help us to open  
Doors of understanding,  
To welcome truth and wisdom,  
Come touch and bless our minds.

Come touch us in  
The moments we are fragile,  
And in our weakness  
Your great strength reveal;  
That we may rise  
To follow and to serve,  
Steady now our nerve,  
Come touch and bless our wills.

Come touch us now,  
This people who are gathered,  
To break the bread  
And share the cup of peace;  
That we may love  
You with our heart, our soul,  
Our mind, our strength, our all,  
Come touch us with your grace.

## **Recognition of the Land**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

### **Call to Worship:**

Creator, parent of the human family,

**we gather to worship you.**

In baptism, we are called beloved children of God, as such,

**we gather to worship you.**

Friends, neighbours, siblings in faith,

**we gather to worship in song, in prayer, in readings**

**from your story/our story, in thoughts and reflections.**

**Let us worship God.**

**Hymn:** "Let Us Build a House"

MV #1

Let us build a house where love can dwell

and all can safely live,

a place where saints and children tell

how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,

rock of faith and vault of grace;

here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

### **Refrain:**

*All are welcome, all are welcome,*

*all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,

and words are strong and true,

where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace;  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: **R**

Let us build a house where love is found,  
in water, wine and wheat;  
a banquet hall on holy ground,  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us; **R**

Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear  
the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger: **R**

Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: **R**

**Opening Prayer**

**Listening**

**Minute for Mission**

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

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Scriptures:** Psalm 23

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

**Anthem:** **Down to the River**

*Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir*

**Message:** **A Family In God** *Pastor Katie*

**Hymn:** Who is my Mother MV#178

Who is my mother, who is my brother?  
All those who gather round Jesus Christ:  
Spirit blown people born from the Gospel  
Sit at the table, round Jesus Christ.

Differently abled, differently labelled,  
Widen the circle round Jesus Christ:  
Crutches and stigmas, culture's enigmas,  
All come together round Jesus Christ.

Love will relate us colour our status  
Can't segregate us round Jesus Christ:  
Family failings, human derailings  
All are accepted round Jesus Christ.

Bound by one vision, met for one mission  
We claim each other, round Jesus Christ:  
Here is my mother, here is my brother,  
Kindred in Spirit, through Jesus Christ. Amen!

## **Celebrating**

### **Prayers of the People**

**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?

### **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**

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**

## **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!**