



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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 4th, 2022, 10:00 am

2nd Sunday of Advent White Gift Sunday

Music as We Gather

Gathering

*** Introit:** “Hope Shines as the Solitary Star” MV #220 x1

Peace shines as the solitary star.

Faith is the inner light.

You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

The second candle on the Advent Wreath we light is the Candle of Peace. It's the Peace we find by having the courage to stand in solidarity with others whose path is unfairly made more difficult. It's the Peace we find through our resilience to continue the journey together with friend or stranger, and as a faith family, even when the going is difficult. In our faith we become the very Christ centred embodiment of Peace as it shapes our thoughts, our actions, and our words, while we actively wait for the Peace that God holds for us.

**Holy and patient God, fill us with a yearning to live
out our desire to be the Peace our world so needs.
Our Peace is in you. Come Jesus, come.**

*** Hymn:** “Hope Shines as the Solitary Star” MV #220 x1

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Recognition of the Land

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

Welcome and Announcements

*** Call to Worship:**

We gather together
 in the name of the One who gives us Hope.
We gather together
 to hear the words of the One who teaches Peace.
We gather together
 to sing praises of the One who gives us
 unconditional love.
We gather together

to uplift the spirit of the One who inspires joy.
Come, let us worship!

* **Hymn:** "Hope is a Star" VU #7

Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.

***When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.***

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth. **R**

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born. **R**

Love is a flame that burns in our heart,
Jesus has come and will never depart. **R**

Opening Prayer

Membership Transfer

Statement of Purpose

Presentation:

Clerk of Session: On behalf of the congregation of
Orchard Valley United Church, and by approval of the
Orchard Valley United Church Council, I present
Alison Bogan, Larry Bogan, Kelly Lipton, Mark Lipton,
Joyce Robinson, Sherman Robinson, and Wendy

Robinson whom we welcome into the membership of this community of faith by transfer of membership.

Commitment of Members:

Minister: Will you join with us as together we celebrate God's presence, live with respect in creation, love and serve others, seek justice, and resist evil?

Candidates: I will, with God's help.

Commitment of Congregation:

Minister: Dear friends in Christ, let us pledge to Orchard Valley United Church these persons our support and care.

All: As your siblings in Christ, we rejoice in the gifts you bring to us. We pledge to you our love and our support. With God's help, we will together live out the mission and ministry of Christ's church.

Clerk of Session: In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you to the privileges and responsibilities of membership in Orchard Valley United Church. We give thanks to God for your witness among us. Welcome home!

Blessing:

Minister: The grace of Christ attend you, the love of God surround you, the Holy Spirit keep you, today and always.

All: Amen.

Listening

Scripture:

Matthew 6:1-4 (ICB)

Concerning Almsgiving

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

***Hymn:** "Will You Come and See the Light" VU #96

Will you come and see the light from the stable door?
It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.
It will be your guiding star,
it will show you who you are;
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

Will you step into the light that can free the slave?
It will stand for what is right, it will heal and save.
By the pyramids of greed
there's a longing to be freed;
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

Will you tell about the light in the prison cell?
Though it's shackled out of sight, it is shining well.
When the truth is cut and bruised,
and the innocent abused,
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

Will you join the hope, alight in the young girl's eyes,
of the mighty put to flight by a baby's cries?
When the lowest and the least
are the foremost at the feast,
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

Will you travel by the light of the babe new born?
In the candle lit at night there's a gleam of dawn,
and the darkness all about
is too dim to put it out:
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

White Gift Play: Mouse's Christmas Gift
Offered by Orchard Valley's Youth and Adult Players

*** Hymn:** "O Holy Night"

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;

Chorus

**Fall on your knees, Oh hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born.
O night, O holy night, O night divine.**

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming;
With glowing hearts by his cradle we stand:
So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the wise men from Orient land,
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our friend;

Chorus

He knows our need, To our weakness no stranger!

**Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King! your King! before him bend!**

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is Love and His gospel is Peace;
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother,
And in his name all oppression shall cease,
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful Chorus raise we;
Let all within us praise his Holy name!

Chorus

**Christ is the Lord, then ever! ever praise we!
His pow'r and glory, evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory, evermore proclaim!**

Special Music: We Are Blessed *Carlson and Wright*

Offered by Caroline Burton and Breaden Woods

Message: Peace Prevails *Pastor Katie Logan*

*** Hymn:** "When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides" MV #169

When hands reach out beyond divides
and hope is truly found,
each chain of hate will fall away
and bells of peace shall sound,
and bells of peace, of peace shall sound,
and bells of peace shall sound,
each chain of hate will fall away
and bells of peace shall sound.

When fear no longer guides our steps
and days of war are done,
God's dream for all shall live anew;
our hearts will heal as one,
our hearts will heal, will heal as one,
our hearts will heal as one,
God's dream for all shall live anew;
Our hearts will heal as one.

When race and creed blind us no more,
a neighbour's face we'll see,
and we shall dance the whole world round,
for love will set us free,
for love, yes love will set us free,
for love will set us free,
and we shall dance the whole world round,
for love will set us free.

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

*** Offertory:** "In the Bleak Midwinter" VU #55 v.4

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.

*** Offertory Prayer:**

**God of Peace, through these gifts we offer, we pray
that they may aid peace to come to our troubled**

**world. Help us to build peace with justice,
wherever our lives touch others. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

*** Hymn:** "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" VU #684

Make me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you: **(R)**

Refrain:

*O Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;
where there is darkness, only light;
and where there's sadness, ever joy. **(R)**

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life. **(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!**

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|-------------------|---------------|----------------|
| * Hymn: | "Amen" | VU #967 |
| Amen, amen, amen. | | |