



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



## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Sunday, January 29, 2023, 10:00 am

### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

#### **Music as We Gather**

#### **Gathering**

**\* Introit:** “Serve our God with Joy and Gladness”

**Serve our God with joy and gladness;  
Come into God’s gates with song;  
Serve our God with loving kindness;  
And praise God all day long.**

#### **Lighting of the Outreach, Unity and Christ Candles**

We gather as people open to Jesus’ signs to care for all.

**We light the Outreach Candle to reflect your  
goodness and spirit amongst us.**

We gather as a people open and accepting, to cherish and  
love in our great diversity and unity.

**We light a Candle of Unity, burning within each of  
us for a world where all people are united into one  
family.**

We gather as a people open to Christ’ teachings.

**We light the Christ Candle to remind us of Jesus’  
promise to rejoice and be glad in a life of faith.**

## Recognition of the Land

## TRC Call to Action

## Welcome and Announcements

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

## Call to Worship:

Come and hear the good news.

**God's blessing and love is with us.**

Listen to what God wants us to do,

**live lives of justice, love, and truth.**

Come for courage and strength,

**to be fools for Christ,**

We're here, ready to worship, and open to change.

**It's a blessing to be together and touched by love.**

Come, let us worship.

**\* Hymn:** "Love Is the Touch"

MV #89

Love is the touch of intangible joy;

Love is the force that no fear can destroy;

Love is the goodness we gladly applaud;

God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the lilt in a lingering voice;

Love is the hope that can make us rejoice;

Love is the cure for the frightened and flawed;

God is where love is, for the love is of God.

Love is the light in the tunnel of pain;

Love is the will to be whole once again;

Love is the trust of a friend on the road;  
God is where love is, for love is of God.

Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son;  
Love is the kingdom their will has begun;  
Love is the path which the saints all have trod;  
God is where love is, for love is of God.

## **Opening Prayer**

### **Listening**

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

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**\* Hymn:** "When Hands Reach Out"

MV #136

When hands reach out and fingers trace  
the beauty of a loved one's face,  
we thank you, God, that love relies  
on gifts of grace not seen with eyes.

When fingers spell and signs express  
our prayer and praise and thankfulness  
we thank you, God, that hands can sing;  
you bless the silent songs we bring.

When broken bodies will not mend,  
we thank you, God, for Christ our friend.  
In him, our healing can begin:  
he welcomes all the wounded in.

And when the ways we learn and grow  
are not the ways that others know,  
we thank you, God, that we have learned  
your love's a gift, and never earned.

Your Spirit gives us differing ways  
to serve you well and offer praise.  
When all are joined as one, we'll be  
your able, strong community.

### **TRC Call to Action**

#### **Scripture:**

1 Corinthians 1:18-31      *God's foolishness better than human wisdom.*  
Matthew 5:1-12      *Blessed are the poor in spirit*

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

**Anthem:**      **Walk in Love**      *by Burroughs*  
*Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir*

**Message:**      **Us Lovable Fools**      *Rev Don Sellsted*

**\* Hymn:**      "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"      VU #626

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down  
your head upon my breast.'  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
weary and worn and sad;  
I found in him a resting place,

and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
    'Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one,  
    stoop down, and drink, and live.'  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
    of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
    and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
    'I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise,  
    and all your day be bright.'  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
    in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk  
    till travelling days are done.

## **Celebrating**

### **Offering of Our Gifts**

**\* Offertory:**            "When We Are Living"            VU #581 v.2

Of Through all our living, we our fruits must give.  
Good works of service are for offering.  
When we are giving, or when receiving,  
we belong to God, we belong to God.

## **Offertory Prayer:**

**Holy God, we thank you for your great generosity. All that we are and all that we have is a gift from you. Help us to serve one another and so reflect your spirit and goodness. Accept these offerings. May their purpose prosper under your guidance. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

**\* Hymn:** “I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” VU #575

I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna live so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna work so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna pray so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!  
I'm gonna sing so God can use me  
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

**\* 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!**

**\* Hymn:**

“Amen”

VU #967

**Postlude**