



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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, February 5, 2023, 10:00 am

5th 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' words of caring for all.

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

We gather as people who cherish and love our great
diversity of life.

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

We gather as people open to follow Christ' way.

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

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:

We are the salt of the earth.

Is it good to be salt?

Salt is soothing to an aching world.

Salt brings out God's flavours.

Salt is essential to life.

We are essential to the life God promises.

So yes, we are the salt of the earth!

**With the Spirit opening our hearts, minds and all
our senses, let us worship.**

*** Hymn:** "Spirit, Open My Heart"

MV #79

Refrain:

**Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.**

God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender. **R**

Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory. **R**

May I weep with those who weep,
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another. **R**

Opening Prayer

Listening

Children's Time / Time for all Ages

The Lord's Prayer

*** Hymn:** "Dance With the Spirit" MV #156

Dance with the Spirit
Early in the mornin',
Walk with the Spirit
Throughout the long day.
Work and hope for
The new life a-bornin',
Listen to the Spirit
To show you the way.

TRC Call to Action

Scripture:

Isaiah 58:1-9a

Matthew 5:13-20

*The fast that God chooses
You are salt; you are light*

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

Anthem: **Let It Shine** *by Besig and Price*
Offered by Orchard Valley Choir

Message: **Salted Popcorn** *Rev Don Sellsted*

*** Hymn:** “Put Peace into Each Other's Hands” MV #173

Put peace into each other's hands
And like a treasure hold it,
Protect it like a candle flame,
With tenderness enfold it.

Put peace into each other's hands
With loving expectation;
Be gentle in your words and ways,
In touch with God's creation.

Put peace into each other's hands
Like bread we break for sharing;
Look people warmly in the eye;
Our life is meant for caring.

Give thanks for strong – yet tender hands,
Held out in trust and blessing.
Where words fall short, let hands speak out,
The heights of love expressing.

Reach out in friendship, stay with faith
In touch with those around you.

Put peace into each other's hands;
The Peace that sought and found you.

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

*** Offertory:** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

VU #541

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

*** Offertory Prayer:**

**We offer ourselves to you, O God, through these gifts
of our lives. May they make a difference in this world,
bringing light and life to the troubled places of our
world. Fill us with your Spirit, that our lives may also
bear the light of Jesus. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

VU #375

Refrain:

*Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
Wind, Wind on the sea.*

You moved on the waters,
you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons
you called to each thing:
wake from your slumbers
and rise on your wings. **R**

You swept thro' the desert,
you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people
with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded
with their idols and lies,
then you spoke thro' your prophets
to open their eyes. **R**

You sang in a stable,
you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence
when the whole world was still;
and down in the city
you called once again,
when you blew through your people
on the rush of the wind. **R**

You call from tomorrow,
you break ancient schemes,
from the bondage of sorrow
the captives dream dreams,
our women see visions,

our men clear their eyes,
with bold new decisions
your people arise. **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!**

*** Hymn:**

“Amen”

VU #967

Postlude