



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH  
9256 Commercial St., New Minas, NS  
Mailing address: 130 Cornwallis Ave.,  
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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 7:00 pm

### Good Friday

Music as We Gather

Solo: "God Weeps" MV #78 vs. 1-3

### Gathering

#### \* Call to Worship:

Come, let us gather again in the shadow of the Cross of Christ.

**We gather to remember the overwhelming evidence  
of Love's ultimate sacrifice.**

Who would have guessed that the height and depth, the length  
and width of God's love might look like this: a forsaken savior  
on a cross?

**Certainly not us! Not us, who are too often, lost amid  
the world's distractions and responsibilities.**

**Not us, for whom such love was offered without cost.**

Let us gather again in the shadow of the Cross of Christ and  
commit ourselves to remember the price paid. Let us live our  
lives in a way that indicates why this Friday is called "Good."

**Thanks be to God, who opened the gates of heaven,  
that we might have the faith, hope, and love,  
witnessed in Christ's sacrifice for our salvation.**

\*Hymn: "What Wondrous Love is This" VU #147

Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

Christ, at times we act as if we do not know you, at times  
we say of you, "Away with him!" When we think of those  
times we weep and ask you to forgive us. Amen.

### Assurance of Pardon

\*Hymn: "Go to Dark Gethsemane" VU # 133

### THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

#### Introduction:

#### First Station: The Trial

Mark 15:1-15

#### Second Station: Bearing the Cross

John 19:13-17

#### Third Station: The First Fall

Luke 4:28-29

#### Fourth Station: Jesus Meets His Mother

John 19:25b-27

\* Hymn: "They Crucified My Lord" VU #141

#### Fifth Station: Simon Helps Jesus

Luke 23:26-28

#### Sixth Station: Veronica Wipes Jesus Face

Matthew 25:31-30

#### Seventh Station: The Second Fall

Psalms 38:6-22

#### Eighth Station: Meeting the Women

Luke 23:27-31

\* Hymn: "Said Judas to Mary" VU #129

#### Ninth Station: The Third Fall

Matthew 26:37-40

#### Tenth Station: Jesus is stripped naked

John 19:23-25

#### Eleventh Station: Jesus is nailed to the cross

Luke 23:33-43

#### Twelfth Station: Jesus dies

Matthew 27:45-54

**Litany of Diminishing Light:**

The parade is over. The laments, the denials, the excuses, the betrayals are over. In fact, it is all over. Shadows have replaced light; fear has swallowed hope. It is finished. What now?

*(The Christ Candle is extinguished)*

**Anthem:                    God So Loved the World**

*R. Stainer*

*Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir*

**Thirteenth Station: His body is taken down**

John 19: 38-40

**Fourteenth Station: Jesus is laid in the tomb**

Matthew 27:57-61

**\*Hymn:**

"Were You There"

VU #144

**Closing Prayer:**

Gracious God, as we depart from here, this most solemn of evenings, help us to reflect upon what we have seen and heard, to take to ourselves what you have done for us this day.

**Make us a people of faith and courage in order that we  
might find our way through these dark hours, as we await  
the rising of your Son on Easter morning. Amen.**

*All depart in silence as soloist sings...*