



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



ORDER OF WORSHIP
Sunday, April 30th, 2023, 10:00 am
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Music as We Gather

Gathering

*** Introit:** "O God, Send Out Your Spirit" MV #25 (R)

**O God, send out your Spirit; renew the face of the
earth.**

**O God, send out your Spirit; renew the face of the
earth.**

Lighting of the Outreach, Unity, and Christ Candles

Recognition of the Land

Welcome and Announcements

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Call to Worship:

Good morning!

Good morning!

How was your week?

It was fine.

Was it really?

Well, at times good, and at times not so good.

For some it has been a good week and for others,
difficulties abound.

We need peace and healing for our souls.

Come. Rest by the still waters as we worship.

* **Hymn:** “God, We Praise You for the Morning” VU #415

God, we praise you for the morning;
hope springs forth with each new day,
new beginning, prayer, and promise,
joy in work and in play.

God, we praise you for creation,
mountains, seas, and prairie land.
Waking souls find joy and healing
in your bountiful hand.

God, we praise you for compassion,
all the loving that you show;
human touching, tears, and laughter,
help your children to grow.

God, we praise you for your Spirit,
Comforter and daily friend,
restless searcher, gentle teacher,
strength and courage you send.

God, we praise you for the Saviour,
come that we may know your ways.
In his loving, dying, rising,
Christ is Lord of our days.

Hallelujah, hallelujah,
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!
Christ is Lord of our days!

Opening Prayer

Listening

Children's Time / Time for all Ages

The Lord's Prayer

VU #910

*** Hymn:** "It's a Song of Praise to the Maker"

MV #30

It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the thrush sings high in the tree.
It's a song of praise to the Maker,
the gray whale sings in the sea.

Refrain:

**And by the Spirit you and I
can join our voice to the holy cry
and sing, sing, sing to the Maker too.**

It's a call of life to the Giver,
when waves and waterfalls roar,
it's a call of life to the Giver,
when high tides break on the shore. **R**

It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the bumblebees hum-a-long.
It's a hymn of love to the Lover;
the summer breeze joins the song. **R**

It's the chorus of all creation;
it's sung by all living things,
it's the chorus of all creation;
a song the universe sings. **R**

Minute for Mission

ESTARL Information

Scripture:

Psalm 23

God is my shepherd.

John 10:1-10

Jesus the good shepherd and the gate.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem:

Shepherd Me, O God

Offered by the Orchard Valley United Church Choir

Message:

I Flourish

Rev. Don Sellsted

*** Hymn:**

"Come, Let Us Sing"

VU #222

Come, let us sing to the Lord our song,
we have stood silently too long;
surely the Lord deserves our praise,
so joyfully thank God for our days.

O thirsty soul, come drink at the well;
God's living waters will never fail.
Surely the Lord will help you to stand,
strengthened and comforted by God's hand.

You dwell among us and cause us to pray,
and walk with each other following your way;

our precious brothers and sisters will grow
in the fulfilling love they know.

Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing
to the desire of all living things.
Come, all you creatures, high and low,
let your praises endlessly flow.

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

*** Offertory:** “What Can I Do?” MV #191

What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I’ll sing with joy. I’ll say a prayer.
I’ll bring my love. I’ll do my share.

*** Offertory Prayer:**

**Loving God, who blesses us with life abundant, we
ask that these gifts help to provide others with the
necessities in life, that they too can know your
presence in our world. Amen**

OES – Service Dog Program

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** “Bless Now, O God, the Journey” VU #633

Bless now, O God, the journey
that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert

and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
the road where faith is found.

Bless sojourners and pilgrims
who share this winding way,
whose hope burns through the terrors,
whose love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom
while often we are bound.
Together we are seeking
the road where faith is found.

Divine Eternal Lover,
you meet us on the road.
We wait for lands of promise
where milk and honey flow.
But waiting not for places,
you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written
on roads, as faith is found.

*** 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 of Benediction: Amen**

VU #967

Postlude