



**ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH**  
9256 Commercial St., New Minas, NS  
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## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Sunday, May 14, 2023, 10:00 am

### **Sixth 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:**

We seek to know God's presence in this place.

**We seek the refuge of God's love and peace.**

And it is here, given for you out of God's absolute love.

**We receive that love and share it with others.**

God's peace and love be to you all.

**And also to you. AMEN.**

**\* Hymn:**                    “Welcome, Happy Morning”                    VU #161

Welcome, happy morning! age to age shall say;  
hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today:  
come then, True and Faithful, now fulfil your word;  
this is your third morning: rise, O buried Lord!

**Refrain:**

**Welcome, happy morning! age to age shall say;  
hell today is vanquished, heaven is won today!**

Earth with joyful welcome clothes itself for spring;  
greeted with life reviving our returning king:  
flowers in every pasture, leaves on every bough,  
speak of sorrows ended; Jesus triumphs now! **R**

Author and sustainer, source of life and breath;  
you for our salvation trod the path of death:  
Jesus Christ is living, God for evermore!  
Now let all creation hail him and adore. **R**

Loose our souls imprisoned, bound with Satan's chain;  
all that now is fallen, raise to life again!  
Show your face in brightness, shine the whole world  
through;  
hope returns with daybreak, life returns with you. **R**

**Opening Prayer**

**Holy Communion**

# Listening

## Children's Time / Time for all Ages

### The Lord's Prayer

VU #910

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

\* **Hymn:** "Jesus Laughed Out Loud" MV #133

Jesus laughed out loud  
To see the children play;  
His joyful presence drew a crowd  
We could not send away.

Jesus healed a child  
By asking her to rise,  
And doubtful people wept and smiled  
To see her opened eyes.

Jesus felt the need;  
We made the crowd sit down.  
A boy had faith and all were fed,

Though we were far from town.

Jesus climbed a hill  
To pray and rest alone;  
We wondered why we felt the chill  
Of wind and wood and stone.

Jesus called my name  
When he was passing by;  
My life will never be the same;  
This love will never die.

### **Call to Action #14**

#### **Scripture:**

1 Peter 3:13-22 .....*Do not repay evil for evil.*

John 14:15-21 ..... *The Advocate, the Spirit, will be with you.*

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:**                    **God of Mercy, God of Grace**                    *by W.Hatch*  
   *Offered by the Orchard Valley United Church Choir*

**Message:**                    **A Place of Refuge**                    *Rev. Don Sellsted*

**\* Hymn:**                    “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”                    VU #333

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,

pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver;  
let us all thy grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.  
Finish, then, thy new creation;  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee,  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

## **Celebrating**

### **Offering of Our Gifts**

**\* Offertory:**      “We Give You but Your Own”      VU #542

We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

**\* Offertory Prayer:**

**We give these gifts and our whole selves to the ministry and mission you call us to. We are your disciples, O God, and it is a blessing to serve you through serving others. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

**\* Hymn:**                      “We Praise You, O God”                      VU #218

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers,  
through trial and tempest, companion and guide.  
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,  
but faithful to your promise, you walk by our side.

With voices united our praises we offer  
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.  
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing,  
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

**\* 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**

*This week's Worship bulletin is sponsored by  
Rachel MacLean-Hawley*

**In loving memory of her grandmothers,  
~ Delma Stewart (Wilson)MacLean 1907 - 1993 ~  
~ Mary Louise (Oickle)Kaulback-Jones 1914 - 2013 ~**