



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH
130 Cornwallis Ave., New Minas, NS
B4N 3M7



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, July 16th, 2023, 10:00 am

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Music as We Gather

Gathering

*** Introit:** "Ständchen" *by Franz Schubert*

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:

God brings us the rain and the sunshine...

**watering the earth, the warmth springing forth
sprouting new life.**

Providing seed for the Sower...

and life to creation.

So shall our word and deed as it scatters forth from us,

Growing in faith, hope, and joy.

In this faith, in this hope, let us worship.

*** Hymn:** "This is the Day"

MV #122

This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad!
This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad!
Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu!
We will rejoice and be glad!
Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu!
We will rejoice and be glad!

Opening Prayer

Listening

Children's Time / Time for all Ages

The Lord's Prayer

VU #910

*** Hymn:** "Sing a Happy Hallelujah"

VU #224

Sing a happy hallelujah,
sing it out with heart and style,
we're the echo of God's laughter,
we're the image of God's smile.

*Hallelujah, all creation,
hallelujah everyone!
Hallelujah, all creation,
hallelujah everyone!*

We're the proof of God's good humour,
we're the twinkle in God's eye,
made to shine, reflect the glory,

given light and space to fly.

*Hallelujah, all creation,
hallelujah everyone!
Hallelujah, all creation,
hallelujah everyone!*

Sarah laughed at God's good timing,
Mary sang and David danced,
Jesus smiled and hugged the children,
so is life for us enhanced.

*Hallelujah, all creation,
hallelujah everyone!
Hallelujah, all creation,
hallelujah everyone!*

Every day sing hallelujah!
We are loved, though so absurd,
human, foolish, chosen people,
God still takes us at our word!

*Hallelujah, all creation,
hallelujah everyone!
Hallelujah, all creation,
hallelujah everyone!*

Scripture:

Isaiah 55:10-13..... *An Invitation to Abundant Life.*
Matthew 13:1–9,18–23 *The parable of the Sower and the seed.*

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

Special Music: **Adoration** *by Florence Price*
 Offered by Thea Burton and Elizabeth Kostner

Message: **Scattered Wildly** **Rev. Don Sellsted**

* **Hymn:** “Touch the Earth Lightly” VU #307

Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,
nourish the life of the world in our care:
gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

We who endanger, who create hunger,
agents of death for all creatures that live,
we who would foster clouds of disaster,
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

Let there be greening, birth from the burning,
water that blesses and air that is sweet,

health in God's garden, hope in God's children,
regeneration that peace will complete.

God of all living, God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us,
using us gently and making us one.

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:**

We give these gifts and our whole selves to the service you call us to. Let all that we offer reach beyond what can do alone, ever thankful for your Spirit to move and inspire us to serve you through serving others. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** "May the God of hope Go with Us"

VU #424

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Refrain:

*Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

May the God of healing free the earth from fear,
freeing us for peace, both treasured and pursued.
May the God of love keep our commitment clear
to a world restored, to human life renewed. 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 of Benediction: Amen**

Postlude