



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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, August 20, 2023, 10:00 am

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Music as We Gather

Gathering

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:

What joy we feel when we are called together to celebrate
the love of God.

God's love flows through our lives!

Although we may come with fears and faults...

**We are God's own, who knows us through and
through.**

This is what it means to be the body of Christ!

This is what it means to be a people of faith.

On this special day, let us rejoice and Worship the Lord!

*** Hymn:** "Worship the Lord" VU #401

Refrain:

Worship the Lord (worship the Lord)

Praise the Creator, the Spirit, the Son,

**raising our hands (raising our hands)
in devotion to God who is one!**

Raising our hands as a sign of rejoicing,
and with our lips our togetherness voicing,
giving ourselves to a life of creativeness,
worship and work must be one! **R**

Praying and training that we be a blessing,
and by our handiwork daily confessing:
we are committed to serving humanity,
worship and work must be one! **R**

Called to be partners with God in creation,
honouring Christ as the Lord of the nation,
we must be ready for risk and for sacrifice,
worship and work must be one! **R**

Bringing the bread and the wine to the table,
asking that we may be led and enabled,
truly united to build new communities,
worship and work must be one! **R**

Now in response to the life you are giving,
help us, Creator, to offer our living,
seeking a just and a healing society,
worship and work must be one! **R**

Opening Prayer

Listening

Children's Time / Time for all Ages

The Lord's Prayer

VU #910

*** Hymn:** "Jesus, Friend of Little Children"

VU #340

Jesus, friend of little children,
let me be one too;
take my hand, and ever keep me
close to you.

Teach me how to grow in goodness,
daily as I grow.
You have been a child, and surely
you must know.

Never leave me, nor forsake me;
ever be my friend;
for I need you, from life's dawning
to its end.

Scripture:

Genesis 45:1–9 *Joseph is reunited with his brothers.*

Matthew 15:21–28 *A Canaanite mother challenges Jesus.*

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music:

Pie Jesu

from Requiem by Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Offered by Nancy Handrigan

Message: **Fully Human, Thank God!** *Rev. Don Sellsted*

*** Hymn:** “Great is Thy Faithfulness” VU #288

Great is thy faithfulness, God our Creator;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided -
great is thy faithfulness, ever to me!**

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **R**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow -
wondrous the portion thy blessings provide. **R**

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

*** Offertory:** “Grant Us, God, the Grace” VU #540

Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living

we may offer faithfully.

*** Offertory Prayer:**

Inspiring God, regardless of what we've done, you care for us all with your amazing love. With gratitude we ask that you steady our insecurities, showing us all we can achieve through these gifts. Receive not only our gifts but also receive us, the givers. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** "To Show by Touch and Word" VU #427

To show by touch and word devotion to the earth,
to hold in full regard all life that comes to birth,
we need, O God, the will to find
the good you had of old in mind.

Renew our minds to choose the things that matter most,
our hearts to long for truth till pride of self is lost.
For every challenge that we face
we need your guidance and your grace.

Let love from day to day be yardstick, rule, and norm,
and let our lives portray your word in human form.
Now come with us that we may have
your wits about us where we live.

*** 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