



# **ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH**

130 Cornwallis Ave., New Minas, NS B4N 3M7



## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, 10:00 am

### **Fourteenth 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:**

If life was a house, then we would pray –

**May the Creator be the foundation.**

**May Jesus Christ be the cornerstone.**

**May the Spirit be the windows – ushering light in.**

**And may hope be the walls – holding us together.**

In this time of worship, let us work toward building a home together.

**We may not know the path ahead, but the Creator is here, even now.**

Let us give thanks for a foundation of Love.

**Let us worship Our Holy Creator.**

**\* Hymn:** “Let Us Build a House”

MV #1

Let us build a house where love can dwell

and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

**Refrain:**

**All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as symbol of God's grace;  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: **R**

Let us build a house where love is found,  
in water, wine and wheat;  
a banquet hall on holy ground,  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us; **R**

Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,

and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear  
the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger: **R**

Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: **R**

### **Opening Prayer**

**Gracious God, this morning we come to this time of  
worship with different things in our hearts, from  
different places in our lives and lives of faith. And  
yet, you in your compassion, you welcome us –  
whoever we are, and wherever we are on our  
journey. And so we come to you to rest, to learn, to  
be fed, to pray and to be healed. We ask that you  
grant us your peace.**

### **Listening**

### **Learning With Our Children**

**\* Hymn:**                    "Teach me God, to Wonder"                    VU #299

**Teach me, God, to wonder, teach me, God, to see;  
let your world of beauty capture me.  
Praise to you be given, love for you be lived,**

**life be celebrated, joy you give.**

Let me, God, be open, let me loving be;  
let your world of people speak to me. **R**

Let me, God, be ready, let me be awake,  
in your world of loving my place take. **R**

Teach me, God, to know you, hear you when you speak,  
see you in my neighbour when we meet. **R**

**Scripture:**

Micah 6:6-8

Matthew 10:13-21

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem: God Be in My Head**

*By Robert Young*

*Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir*

**Message: Make Church** *Rev. Dr. Linda Marcotte*

**\* Hymn: "Blessed Assurance"**

**VU #337**

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood.

**Refrain:**

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Saviour all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song,**

**praising my Saviour all the day long.**

Perfect submission, perfect delight!  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending, bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **R**

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Saviour am happy and blessed;  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with God's goodness, lost in Christ's love. **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, you call us to be your people. You call us worthy. You shower us with your amazing love. With gratitude we ask that you help us to be your rock, showing us all we can achieve through a foundation of generosity. Receive not only our gifts but receive us, the givers. 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**

Go from this house, journey with the One who walks with  
you and calls you to a deeper truth. Go with open hearts  
and minds, knowing the Spirit of God is with you. And may  
you be voices of wisdom, your actions standing for justice  
and peace. In the name of Christ.

**\* 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**