



# ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 24, 2023, 10:00 am

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Creation**

**Music as We Gather**

### **Gathering**

**\* Introit:** "What is the Place"

*Songs for A Gospel People #70*

**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 come celebrating God's creation.

**Trees heavy with fruit proclaim the wonder of God.**

We come rejoicing in God's creation.

**The seasonal sun and rain declare God's nurturing heart.**

We come in delight for God's creation.

**The mountains, waters, fields, forests, and valleys reflect our awesome God.**

Come, let us learn all the ways God comes to our heart as we worship.

**\* Hymn:** "Come to My Heart"

VU #661

Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;  
teach me to walk in your way.  
Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;  
come to my heart today.  
Give me the peace and joy  
that only you can bring.  
Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;  
give me a song to sing.

Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;  
teach me to walk in your way.  
Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;  
fill me with love today.  
Give me the peace and joy  
that only you can bring.  
Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;  
give me a song to sing.

Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;  
teach me to walk in your way.  
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;  
Answer my prayer today.  
Give me the peace and joy  
that only you can bring.  
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;  
give me a song to sing.

**Opening Prayer**

**Listening**

## Gathering the Children

\* **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**

### **Scripture:**

Exodus 16:2-5, 11-15..... *Bread and quails to feed the people.*

Matthew 20:1-16..... *Daily wages for the labourers; what's fair?*

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

**Special Music:**            **Feed My Lambs**            *by N. Sleeth*  
   *Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir*

**Message:**                    **Reflections**

**\* Hymn:**                    “For the Fruit of All Creation”            VU #227

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.  
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.  
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.  
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.  
In our worldwide task of caring  
for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.  
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.  
For the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

## **Celebrating**

**Offering of Our Gifts**

**\* Offertory:** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

VU #541

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

**\* Offertory Prayer:**

**Loving God, Creator and Sustainer, help us to  
remember that we are your stewards caring for  
creation. Let us be as manna to a hungry world,  
showing generosity for all in need. We dedicate  
these gifts, and the givers, to your service. Amen.**

## **Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

VU #910

**\* Hymn:** "Would You Bless Our Homes and Families"

VU #556

Would you bless our homes and families,  
Source of life who calls us here;  
in our world of stress and tension  
teach us love that conquers fear.  
Help us learn to love each other  
with a love that constant stays;  
teach us when we face our troubles,  
love's expressed in many ways.

When our way is undemanding,  
let us use the time that's ours

to delight in simple pleasures,  
sharing joys in gentle hours.  
When our way is anxious walking  
and a heavy path we plod,  
teach us trust in one another  
and in you, our gracious God.

From the homes in which we're nurtured,  
with the love that shapes us there,  
teach us, God, to claim as family  
every one whose life we share.  
And through all that life may offer,  
may we in your love remain;  
may the love we share in families  
be alive to praise your name.

Let us reach beyond the boundaries  
of our daily thought and care  
till the family you have chosen  
spills its love out everywhere.  
Help us learn to love each other  
with a love that constant stays;  
teach us when we face our troubles  
love's expressed in many ways.

**\* 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!**

**\*Choral Benediction: Go In Love**

*by D. Besig*

**Postlude**

This week's Worship Service is sponsored

by Sylvia Delisle

***In loving memory of Jacques Delisle***

***from wife, Sylvia***