



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



## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Sunday, October 8, 2023, 10:00 am

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

**Thanksgiving Sunday**

**Music as We Gather**

### **Gathering**

**\* Introit:** "Come, Now Is the Time to Worship"

*by Brian Doerksen*

**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:**

Our Creator fills all things with goodness.

**Joy, peace, hope, love, and a deep shalom.**

As harvest time comes upon us, we rejoice in all that means.

**Crops coming in, colours changing, brisk morning air, creation settling in for its season of rest.**

In this season of promise, there remains:

**A hunger for reconciliation and right relations,**

**A thirst for communities that love first, last, and**

**always and a longing for a world of justice.**

And so come, gather in worship as a grateful people, living and loving.

\* **Hymn:** “Come, You Thankful People, Come” VU #516

1 Come, you thankful people, come,  
raise the song of harvest home!  
All is safely gathered in,  
safe before the storms begin;  
God, our maker, does provide  
for our needs to be supplied:  
come to God’s own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home!

2 All the world is God’s own field,  
harvests for God’s praise to yield;  
wheat and weeds together sown,  
here for joy or sorrow grown;  
first the blade, and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear:  
Harvest-giver, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

3 For our God, one day, shall come,  
and shall take this harvest home;  
from the field shall in that day  
all offences purge away;  
giving angels charge at last  
in the fire the weeds to cast;  
but the fruitful ears to store  
in the garner evermore.

4 Even so, God, quickly come  
to your final harvest home!  
Gather all your people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin;  
there for ever purified,  
in your presence to abide:  
come, with all your angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home.

## **Opening Prayer**

### **Listening**

## **Learning With Our Children**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

VU #910

**\* Hymn:** "Praise God for This Holy Ground"

MV #42

1. Praise God for this holy ground,  
place and people, sight and sound.

**Refrain:**

**Hallelujah! (3X)**

**God's goodness is eternal.**

2. Praise God in whose word we find  
food for body, soul and mind.

3. Praise God who through Christ makes known  
all are loved and called God's own.

4. Praise God's Spirit who befriends,  
raises, humbles, breaks and mends.

5. Though praise ends, praise is begun  
where God's will is gladly done.

**Scripture:**

2 Corinthians 9:6–15 ..... *God loves a cheerful giver.*

Luke 17:11–19 ..... *Ten healed; one returns to offer thanks.*

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:**                    **For the Beauty of the Earth** *by John Rutter*  
*Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir*

**Message:**                    **Crossing the Border**     *Rev. Don Sellsted*

**\* Hymn:**                    "Grateful"                    MV #182

**Refrain**

**Grateful for the life you give us,  
thankful for your Holy Son,  
joyful in your Spirit flowing over all,  
O God of Love.**

**Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,  
thankful for your Holy Word,  
joyful in your mercy flowing,  
we will praise you.**

1. You are more than we imagine,  
Ancient, Holy, Living Lord.  
Even when we doubt your presence  
you are faithful to your Word.

2. May our lives proclaim your justice,  
may our voices sing your praise.

May our hands work in your service  
to the glory of your name.

## **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:**

**Loving God, Creator and Sustainer, help us to cherish  
and celebrate your wondrous creation, and all the  
blessings we have received. It is with grateful hearts  
that we dedicate these gifts to your service. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

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

1 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.

2 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.

3 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!**

**\*Choral Benediction:**                      **Amen**                      VU #967

**Postlude**