



# ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 15, 2023, 10:00 am

## 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

### 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:

People of God, look about and see the faces of those we know and love...

**neighbours and friends, siblings, a community of kindred hearts.**

People of God, look about and see the faces of those we hardly know...

**sojourners, new friends, the ones who need an outstretched hand.**

People of God, look about and see all the images of God assembled here.

**In each of us, God's spirit shines for all to see.**

Come, let share our praise to God in worship together.

**\* Hymn:** "God of the Sparrow"

VU #229

God of the sparrow God of the whale  
God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe  
How does the creature say Praise

God of the earthquake God of the storm  
God of the trumpet blast  
How does the creature cry Woe  
How does the creature cry Save

God of the rainbow God of the cross  
God of the empty grave  
How does the creature say Grace  
How does the creature say Thanks

God of the hungry God of the sick  
God of the prodigal  
How does the creature say Care  
How does the creature say Life

God of the neighbour God of the foe  
God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love  
How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages God near at hand  
God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy  
How do your children say Home

**Opening Prayer**

## **Listening**

### **Learning With Our Children**

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

VU #910

**\* Hymn:** "I'm Gonna Shout, Shout"

MV #183

**I'm gonna shout, shout, shout out my love  
for Jesus, for Jesus!  
I'm gonna shout, shout, shout out my love  
for God's most holy child!  
For whatever I might do today,  
at home, at school, at work, at play,  
I've got Jesus' love deep down inside of me!**

#### **Scripture:**

Philippians 4:1–9 ..... *Rejoice in God always; again I say, rejoice.*

Matthew 22:1–14..... *Violence at the wedding banquet.*

**The Word of God for the People of God.**

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **Special Music:**

#### **I Will Rejoice**

*by J. Martin*

*Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir*

#### **Message:**

#### **The Glad Game**

*Rev Don Sellsted*

**\* Hymn:** "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

VU #375

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.**

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the  
valleys of sleep;  
and over the eons you called to each thing:  
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings. **R**

You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand,  
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;  
and when they were blinded with their idols and lies,  
then you spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes. **R**

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
then you whispered in silence when the whole world  
was still;  
and down in the city you called once again,  
when you blew through your people on the rush  
of the wind. **R**

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,  
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams,  
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,  
with bold new decisions your people arise. **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:**

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

**Prayers of the People**

**\* Hymn:**           “Like a Mighty River Flowing”           VU #267

**Like a mighty river flowing,  
like a flower in beauty growing,  
far beyond all human knowing  
is the perfect peace of God.**

Like the hills serene and even,  
like the coursing clouds of heaven,  
like the heart that's been forgiven  
is the perfect peace of God. **R**

Like the summer breezes playing,  
like the tall trees softly swaying,  
like the lips of silent praying  
is the perfect peace of God. **R**

Like the morning sun ascended,  
like the scents of evening blended,  
like a friendship never ended  
is the perfect peace of God. **R**

Like the azure ocean swelling,  
like the jewel all-excelling,

far beyond our human telling  
is the perfect peace of God. **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!**

**\*Choral Benediction:    Amen**

VU #967

**Postlude**