



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, November 12, 2023, 10:00 am

24th 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:

We are pulled in many directions.

Many duties and tasks seek to lay claim on our lives.

This day, in this place, let worship be our choice.

This day, in this place, we open our hearts and spirits to God.

Blessed be the God of creation who has called us here.

In word, in song, in prayer, God sustains and nurtures our lives.

And so, this day, let our worship sing, “thanks be to God”.

*** 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.

Opening Prayer

Prayer Scarf Blessing

Holy Communion

Listening

Learning With Our Children

The Lord’s Prayer VU #910

*** Hymn:** “Water Flowing from the Mountains” MV #87

Water flowing from the mountains.
Water flowing o’er the earth.
Water comes to us, so precious.
Living water gives us birth.

Refrain:

Drink deep this source of life.

Drink deep and know.

**For living water sings, and living water brings
The love that makes our spirit grow.**

Water rushing down the rivers.
Water rushing to the sea.
Water comes to us, so precious.
Living water makes us free. **R**

Water springing from the dry place.
Water springing in the sun.
Water comes to us, so precious.
Living water for each one. **R**

Scripture:

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18..... *God will raise the dead.*

Matthew 25:1–13..... *Parable of the 10 bridesmaids and the lamps.*

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:

Never Alone

Rev Don Sellsted

*** Hymn:** "When We Are Living"

VU #581

When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying,
we belong to God, we belong to God.

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God, we belong to God.

'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
we belong to God, we belong to God.

Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind,
but when we help them, or when we feed them,
we belong to God, we belong to God.

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

*** Offertory:** "What Can I Do?"

MV #191

**What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

*** 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:** "Go to the World!" VU #420

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptising as the sign of our rebirth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you, til the age shall end,
when all the hosts of glory cry, 'Amen!'
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

*** 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