



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



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, 10:00 am  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent**

### Music as We Gather

#### Gathering

**\*Introit:** "Come, Lord Jesus, Come" *J. Raney*

### Lighting of the Outreach, Unity and Christ Candles

#### Second Candle of Advent:

Advent is marked by a spirit of yearning for peace.

**May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.**

We long today for peace among nations.

**May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.**

We long today for peace among ethnicities and colours.

**May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.**

We long today for peace in our hearts and in our lives.

**May the world be filled with the peace of Christ.**

### Lighting the Candle of Peace

**\*Hymn:** "Hope is a Star" VU #7 vs.2

### Recognition of the Land

#### Welcome and Announcements

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

#### Call to Worship:

Long ago, a voice cried out in the wilderness...

**Prepare the way for the Lord; make straight the pathways.**

Something new is about to happen.

**God will visit God's people in a new way once again!**

We open our hearts to receive this good news...

**prepared to be people of great compassion!**

Let us be filled with gladness as we continue in our worship.

**\*Hymn:** "Hark the Glad Sound" VU #29

### Opening Prayer

#### Listening

### Learning With Our Children

**The Lord's Prayer** VU #910

**\*Hymn:** "I've Got Peace like a River" VU #577

#### Membership Transfer

### The New Creed

#### Scripture:

Isaiah 40:1-11 ..... *Comfort, O comfort my people.*

Mark 1:1-8 ..... *The preaching of John the baptizer.*

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:** **Song of Mary** *M. Hayes*  
*Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir*

**Message:** **Hazel Sticks**  
*Rev. Don Sellsted*

**\* Hymn:** "There's a Voice in the Wilderness" VU #18

#### Celebrating

### Offering of Our Gifts

**\* Offertory:** "In the Bleak Midwinter" VU #55 vs. 4

## Offertory Prayer:

**Holy God, we bring these gifts to you, thankful for all the ways you have healed and enriched our lives. May these gifts be used in service to which we have been called in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

## Prayers of the People

\* **Hymn:** "I Am the Light of the World" VU #87

\* **Commissioning**

\* **Benediction:**

May God's love increase our love for one another;  
May Jesus teach us how to live in God's ways;  
and may the Spirit strengthen our hearts,  
as you ready yourselves for Jesus' birth once again.  
We go in peace to love and serve, this day, and everyday.  
And the people said... **Amen!**

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

## Postlude