



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, August 3, 2025, 10:00 am

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost **Gathering**

*** Congregational Introit: "Come, We That Love" VU #715**
vs.1 (2nd tune)

Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known,
join in a song with sweet accord,
and thus surround the throne.

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

As we light these outreach and unity candles, let them be a reminder of the light we cast when we choose to treat all people with faith, hope, love, and gentleness.

All People are welcome into the fullness and participation in our life of faith.

Christ came among us in the form of God, but chose to come as one of us, humble and obedient. Let the light of this Christ Candle inspire our gentleness to be known to all people.

Recognition of the Land

Today, as we remember what it means to love as Jesus loves, let us give thanks for the Indigenous peoples of this land.

We recognize today that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. As Christ's people, let us be people of Truth, unity, and of Reconciliation.

Welcome and Announcements

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

- Join us on August 8th at 12pm in the sanctuary for a public viewing of the United Church of Canada's public apology to the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. There will be light refreshments and fellowship!
- Covenanter Summer Series - Summer services at the Covenanter Church, Grand Pre will begin July 6 at 11am. Services will continue weekly until August 31st with Guest speakers and special music. Everyone is welcome!
- Greenwich Community Centre is seeking donations of books, boardgames and bookshelves. We are seeking to start a little free library and host boardgame nights, coffees and socials. Please reach out to Christina Sappington if you have anything to offer. Thank you.

Centring Music

Call to Worship

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good:

God's love and warm embrace last forever.

When we cry out in distress, the Lord hears our call:

Praise the Lord who delivers us from sin and death.

Christ calls us to clothe ourselves in righteousness:

Worship the One who wraps us with justice, and helps us grow in the image of our Creator.

Love well, for your heart is where your treasure is:

May our hearts be filled with God's blessings, divine provisions that meet our true needs.

***Hymn:** There's a Spirit in the Air VU#582

1 There's a spirit in the air,
 telling Christians everywhere:
 'Praise the love that Christ revealed,
 living, working in our world.'

2 Lose your shyness, find your tongue,
 tell the world what God has done:
 God in Christ has come to stay.
 Live tomorrow's life today!

3 When believers break the bread,
 when a hungry child is fed,
praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our
 world.

- 4 Still the Spirit gives us light,
 seeing wrong and setting right:
 God in Christ has come to stay.
 Live tomorrow's life today!
- 5 When a stranger's not alone,
 where the homeless find a home,
 praise the love that Christ revealed,
 living, working, in our world
- 6 May the Spirit fill our praise,
 guide our thoughts and change our ways.
 God in Christ has come to stay,
 live tomorrow's life today.
- 7 There's a Spirit in the air,
 calling people everywhere:
 praise the love that Christ revealed,
 living, working, in our world.

Opening Prayer

Listening

Time for All Ages

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever, Amen.

*** Hymn:** "In Christ There Is No East or West" VU#606

1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great family of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In him shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

3 Join hands, then, people of the faith,
 whate'er your race may be;
 all children of the living God
 are surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
 in him meet south and north;
 all Christ-like souls are one in him
 throughout the whole wide earth.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture:

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14..... Everything Is Meaningless
Luke 12:13-21..... The Rich Fool

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Message: The “Stuff” That Makes Life

*** Hymn:** My Soul Cries Out MV#120

1. My soul cries out with a joyful shout
 that the God of my heart is great,
 and my spirit sings of the wondrous things

that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn!

2. Though I am small, my God, my all,
 you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
 to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shames,
 and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the
 world is about to turn.

3. From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears,
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn.

4. Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's
crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around.

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.
(Repeat x1)

*** Offertory Prayer:**

Spirit of Life, giver of every perfect gift, we offer our thanks for this life and its gifts. Bless these offerings and those given outside this time of worship. May our contributions both here and in every part of our lives—our time, our skills and our money—work towards a world of justice and peace. We pray that it be so, through the ministries of this congregation and the work we do together through Mission and Service. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** “Draw the Circle Wide” MV#145
Refrain

Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.

1. God the still-point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;
nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms.
2. Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call.
3. Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door.

*** Commissioning**

Happy are they who know where the real treasure is to be found.

Happy are they who take from the treasure and share it.

Friends of God, prepare to leave this church with spirits lighter than when you came in;

Trusting Christ to take an intimate interest in the costly investment he has made.

Invest in others as his love has invested in you;

Rejoicing in the fellowship of his Spirit.

*** Benediction**

*** Congregational Benediction: “Amen” VU #967**

Postlude