



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 5th, 2025, 10:00 am

Communion Sunday

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Music as We Gather

Gathering

* Congregational Introit:

“Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary” MV #18

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true;
with thanksgiving,
I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

Recognition of the Land

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ, Outreach and Affirming Candles

Response: “We Are a Rainbow” vs. 1 & refrain

We're the light of all the world,
We are a city on a hill,
We're a candle on a stand proclaiming light.
We will not hide our lamp, beneath a bushel anymore.
We will shine a ray of hope that's burning bright.
We are a rainbow, sign of covenant and peace
For the flood of tears will fin'ly cease to be.

Come shine your rainbow, splash your hues across the sky,
Paint the world in colours proud and bold and free.

Centring Music

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

Call to Worship:

We come into God's presence in awe and wonder at God's great love for us all,
No matter who we are or what we have done.
Let our hearts be open to Holy Wisdom,
That we may be inspired to share God's love with all.

Opening Prayer

Listening

Learning with our Children

* **Hymn:** "Who Is My Mother" MV #178

Who is my mother, who is my brother?
All those who gather round Jesus Christ:
Spirit blown people born from the Gospel
Sit at the table, round Jesus Christ.

Differently abled, differently labelled,
Widen the circle round Jesus Christ:
Crutches and stigmas, culture's enigmas,

All come together round Jesus Christ.

Love will relate us colour our status
Can't segregate us round Jesus Christ:
Family failings, human derailings
All are accepted round Jesus Christ.

Bound by one vision, met for one mission
We claim each other, round Jesus Christ:
Here is my mother, here is my brother,
Kindred in Spirit, through Jesus Christ. Amen!

Scripture:

1 Samuel 16:7-13

Luke 19:1-5

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Contemporary Reading

Anthem: "The Name of the Lord"

Joel Raney

Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir

Message: "The Practice of Recognition"

Rev. Gloria Churchill

***Hymn: "Come Touch Our Hearts"**

MV #12

Come touch our hearts
That we may know compassion
From failing embers
Build a blazing fire;

Love strong enough
To overturn injustice,
To seek a world more gracious,
Come touch and bless our hearts.

Come touch our souls
That we may know and love you,
Your quiet presence
All our fears dispel;
Create a space
For spirit to grow in us,
Let life and beauty fill us,
Come touch and bless our souls.

Come touch our minds
And teach us how to reason,
Set free our thoughts
To wonder and to dream;
Help us to open
Doors of understanding,
To welcome truth and wisdom,
Come touch and bless our minds.

Come touch us in
The moments we are fragile,
And in our weakness
Your great strength reveal;
That we may rise
To follow and to serve,
Steady now our nerve,

Come touch and bless our wills.

Come touch us now,
This people who are gathered,
To break the bread
And share the cup of peace;
That we may love
You with our heart, our soul,
Our mind, our strength, our all,
Come touch us with your grace.

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

*** Offertory Hymn:**

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” VU #541

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

*** Offertory Prayer:**

**Thank you, God, for the opportunities you give us
to be a community of faith and for sharing our gifts
with the community around us. Bless all we give,
and all we receive. May these gifts be a blessing to
others. Amen.**

***Communion Hymn:**

“Bread of Life, Feed My Soul”

MV #194

Bread of life, feed my soul
As the presence of the Spirit makes me whole
Bread of life, fill my heart
With the grace and mercy you impart.

I have heard your voice calling,
“Come, my friend, and share in the
Feast that is laid out for you
To show how much I care.”

Bread of life, help me live
A life as pure and true as Jesus did.
Bread of life, help me see
The boundless love of Christ for you and me.

I have heard your voice calling,
“Come, my friend, and share in the
Feast that is laid out for you
To show how much I care.”

Bread of life, feed my soul,
As the presence of the Spirit makes me whole.
Bread of life, fill my heart
With the grace and mercy you impart.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

One: At this table we give thanks for justice, love, peace, and freedom.

All: At this table we give thanks for friends and strangers.

One: At this table we welcome young and not so young.

All: All are included. All are welcome. All are invited.

One: May God be with us.

All: God is here among us.

One: Let us open our hearts to God.

All: We open them to God and to one another.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Sharing the Meal

Prayer after the Meal

*** Hymn:** "I Have Called You by Your Name" MV #161

I have called you by your name, you are mine;

I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.

I will not abandon you; all my promises are

true. You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul
can
claim, offer Jesus' body given long ago.
I know you will need my touch as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of
doubt, hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.
I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded
children
whole; go and tell my precious people they are mine.

Commissioning

Extinguishing the Candles

*** Congregational Hymn of Benediction:**

"Amen"

VU #967

Postlude