



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 12th, 2025, 10:00 am

Thanksgiving Eighteenth 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’lly 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:

Whether we live in an apartment or a house; if we reside in the suburbs or the city:

God tells us to pray for the places where we live.

Whether we are exiles or prisoners for the gospel; if we are young, old, insider, outcast:

God says, “when you search for me, you will find me.”

Whether we have been wandering and lost; or if we have lived in the same place all our lives:

God says, “I will gather you from all your places and bring you home.”

Opening Prayer

Listening

Learning with our Children

*** Hymn:** “Ev’ry Day is a Day of Thanksgiving” MV #185

Ev’ry day is a day of thanksgiving, God,
you’ve been so good to me.
Ev’ry day you’re blessing me.

Ev'ry day is a day of thanksgiving.
I will glorify you, O my Lord, today! **Repeat**

You keep blessing me, blessing me, blessing me.
You opened the door that I might see,
you're blessing me.
And you keep blessing me, blessing me, blessing me.
I will glorify you, O my Lord, today! **Repeat**

Scripture:

Genesis 32:24-29
Matthew 5:1-12

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

Contemporary Reading

Anthem: **"Soli Deo"** *David Waggoner*
Offered by Orchard Valley United Church Choir

Message: **"The Practice of Blessing"**
Rev. Gloria Churchill

***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.

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:**

On this day of Thanksgiving, we give thanks for our many blessings, and we are grateful that we can share a part of those blessings with others through our morning offerings. Bless them, bless those who will benefit from them, and bless us, we pray in Christ's name. Amen.

***Intro to Prayer:** “Don’t Be Afraid”

MV #90

Don’t be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.
Don’t be afraid. My love is stronger and I have promised,
promised to be always near. ***Repeat***

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** “Let All Things Now Living”

VU #242

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night;
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into Light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise:
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

Commissioning

Extinguishing the Candles

*** Sung Benediction: “Threefold Amen”**

VU #967

Postlude