



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, January 25, 2026, 10:00 am

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Music as We Gather

Gathering

***Congregational Introit:** "I am the Light" VU #87 vs. 1

REFRAIN:

'I am the light of the world!

You people come and follow me!'

**If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds have found their way
home,
the work of Christmas is begun: **R**

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.

Centring Music

Call to Worship

Children of God, when fears press in on every side, we can proclaim with confidence:

God is our light and salvation! Whom shall we fear?

When our problems overwhelm us and we feel pressed in on every side, we can declare with confidence:

God is the stronghold of our lives! Of whom shall we be afraid?

No matter the troubles we face, we seek after God and to live in the house of God forever.

God shelters and protects us in the day of trouble.

Come, let us worship God with joy.

***Hymn:** "Arise, Your Light is Come"

VU #79

1 Arise, your light is come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God,
which shines on you today.

2 Arise, your light is come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.

3 Arise, your light is come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the broken-hearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.

4 Arise, your light is come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing;
God's power will make us strong.

Opening Prayer

Listening

Learning With Our Children

***Hymn:** "Like a Rock" MV #92

Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.
Like the starry night sky God is over our head.
Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.
Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in God evermore.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture:

Isaiah 9:1-4 *The people have seen a great light*

Matthew 4:12-23 *Jesus begins his ministry*

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem: **Come Now and Follow Me** *by Price and Besig*
Offered by the Orchard Valley United Church Choir

Message: "We Don't Call It Catching" *Rev. Don Sellsted*

*** Hymn:** “Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore” VU #563

Jesus, you have come to the lakeshore
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only asked me to follow humbly.

**O Jesus, with your eyes you have searched me,
and while smiling, have spoken my name;
now my boat’s left on the shoreline behind me;
by your side I will seek other seas.**

2 You know so well my possessions;
my boat carries no gold and no weapons;
- you will find there my nets and labour. **R**

3 You need my hands, full of caring
through my labours to give others rest,
and constant love that keeps on loving. **R**

4 You, who have fished other oceans,
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me. **R**

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:**

Generous God, those who first followed Jesus, have called us to follow you as well and here we are. We offer what we have and ask you to bless our gifts. Give us the courage we need to invite others to join us in following Jesus, our friend and rabbi. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*** Hymn:** “Will You Come and Follow Me” VU #567

1 Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?

2 Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?

3 Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

4 Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

5 Christ, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

*** Commissioning / Extinguishing the Candles**

*** 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!**

*** Sung Benediction:** “Threefold Amen” VU #967

Postlude

*This week's bulletin is sponsored
in loving memory of
Gerry Buchan
From Marion*