



# ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, March 8, 2026, 10:00 am

### Third Sunday in Lent

#### Music as We Gather

#### Gathering

**\*Congregational Introit:** "Spirit Come" *by D. MacGregor*

Spirit Come, Spirit Come, Spirit Come, Spirit Come  
Open our eyes, open our hearts Come, Spirit Come  
(Repeat)

#### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

God is love, and where God is, there is love.  
There is no fear in love, for perfect love casts out fear.  
It is love that unites our hearts and minds.  
Let us celebrate the wonderful love that God has for all  
creation.

#### **\* Litany of Diminishing Light:**

As we approach the midpoint of our Lenten journey, we are invited to look at our own lives and consider what we need to keep and what we need to let go, whether it is an out-of-date outfit or a toxic relationship. As we honestly examine our souls, we will find that they are often cluttered.

*(the Third purple candle is extinguished)*

Now is the time to let go of all that interferes with our relationship with God and nurture those parts of our lives that lead to wholeness and faithfulness.

**God's love and ours will not be hidden.**

## **Recognition of the Land**

### **Welcome**

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### **Centring Music**

### **Call to Worship**

Creator, you gather us at the well to drink living water

**Come to us, God. Share with us this living water.**

You have welcomed all to replenish their soul and brought us here as one human family.

**Replenish our souls with the waters of welcome.**

You do not turn us away from the well, no matter who we are, no matter where we've come from, and no matter what we've done.

**We shall not turn away our siblings from the well.**

Everyone is welcome here at this meeting place.

**Everyone is welcome here for this is our meeting place.**

This living water is for you, for me, for everyone!

**This living water is for all of us!**

Come, for we are all family and this is your place.

Let us worship.

**\*Hymn:** "Come In, Come In and Sit Down"

VU #395

**Refrain:**

**Come in, come in and sit down,  
you are a part of the family.  
We are lost and we are found,  
and we are a part of the family.**

You know the reason why you came,  
yet no reason can explain;  
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

God is with us in this place,  
like a mother's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;  
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.  
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,  
but we are a part of the family. **R**

There's rest for the weary and health for us all;  
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.  
So come in and worship and answer the call,  
for we are a part of the family. **R**

**Opening Prayer**

# Listening

## Learning With Our Children

### The Lord's Prayer

**\*Hymn:** "Little by little" TLUS #134

**Refrain:**

**Little by little by little... little by little by little...**

**Little by little by little I know,**

**The tiniest seeds will grow.**

*Verses (melody same as Refrain):*

- 1 Grow-ing in cracks and crev-i-ces(3x), we are ev-ery-where.
- 2 Root-ed in the Wa-ter of Mer-cy(3x), we will sure-ly flower.
- 3 Work-ing with all of each oth-er(3x), we are not a-lone.
- 4 Hab-its of peace and jus-tice(3x): tools to change the world.

## Mission and Service

### Prayer for Illumination

#### Scripture:

Exodus 17:1-7.....Water from the rock

John 4:5-30, 39-42.....Jesus and the Samaritan Woman

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:** **Be Thou My Vision** *by G. Youn*  
*Offered by the Orchard Valley United Church Choir*

**Message:** **Gather around the Water Cooler**

Rev. Don Sellsted

\* **Hymn:** "Come, Let Us Sing"

VU #222

Come, let us sing to the Lord our song,  
we have stood silently too long;  
surely the Lord deserves our praise,  
so joyfully thank God for our days.

O thirsty soul, come drink at the well;  
God's living waters will never fail.  
Surely the Lord will help you to stand,  
strengthened and comforted by God's hand.

You dwell among us and cause us to pray,  
and walk with each other following your way;  
our precious brothers and sisters will grow  
in the fulfilling love they know.

Deserts shall bloom and mountains shall sing  
to the desire of all living things.  
Come, all you creatures, high and low,  
let your praises endlessly flow.

## **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:**

**Loving God, with our gifts we offer you our very selves, knowing you receive us as we are. Bless all that we have to offer, so that we may become gifts to those who encounter us through the grace of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

**Work of the Congregation**

**\* Hymn:**      “All the Way My Saviour Leads Me”      VU #635

All the way my Saviour leads me;  
what have I to ask beside?  
Can I doubt his tender mercy  
who through life has been my guide?  
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,  
here by faith in him to dwell,  
for I know, whate'er befall me,  
Jesus doeth all things well.

All the way my Saviour leads me,  
cheers each winding path I tread,  
gives me grace for every trial,  
feeds me with the living bread.  
Though my weary steps may falter,  
and my soul athirst may be,  
gushing from the rock before me,

lo, a spring of joy I see!

All the way my Saviour leads me;  
O the fullness of his love!  
Perfect rest to me is promised  
in my Father's house above.  
When my spirit, clothed, immortal,  
wings its flight to realms of day,  
this my song through endless ages,  
'Jesus led me all the way!'

**\* 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:**            "My Peace"

My Peace I give unto you.  
It's a peace that the world cannot give.  
It's a peace that the world cannot understand.  
Peace to know, peace to live,  
My peace I give unto you.

**Postlude**