



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, March 22, 2026, 10:00 am

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Music as We Gather

Gathering

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

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:

Lest we think that Lent is only a sombre time, let us remember that it is also a rich and abundant time. Just as the desert is not a barren place but, in fact, a very fertile yet largely unknown place, Lent provides opportunities for us to see and experience incredible abundance and extravagance.

(the Fifth purple candle is extinguished)

Too often, we miss these moments because they appear alongside difficulties and sadness. 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 unity, 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

Our lives may feel disjointed like a valley of dry bones...

but the Spirit of God brings connection and stability to our lives.

The Spirit of God breathes hope into each of us...

and challenges us to be people of faith.

God open's our hearts and bring us confidence...

breaking us free from doubt and fear.

In this place, on this day, we let God embrace and uplift us in worship.

***Hymn:** "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" VU #326

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.

He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,

the mournful broken-hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones,
your tongues again employ;
you blind, behold your Saviour comes,
and leap, you lame, for joy!

My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of your name.

Opening Prayer

Listening

Learning With Our Children

The Lord's Prayer

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

**Little by little by little... little by little by little...
Little by little by little I know,
The tiniest seeds will grow.**

2. Grow-ing in cracks and crev-i-ces(3x), we are ev-ery-
where.

3. Root-ed in the Wa-ter of Mer-cy(3x), we will sure-ly
flower.

4. Work-ing with all of each oth-er(3x), we are not a-lone.

5. Hab-its of peace and jus-tice(3x): tools to change the
world.

**Little by little by little... little by little by little...
Little by little by little I know,
The tiniest seeds will grow.**

Mission and Service

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture:

Ezekiel 37:1-14 *The valley of dry bones*

John 11:32-44..... *The raising of Lazarus*

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music: Peace in the Valley

Offered by the Orchard Valley United Steeple Strummers

Message: Separation of Church and Hate

Rev. Don Sellsted

*** Hymn:** “Christ Has No Body Now but Yours” MV #171

REFRAIN:

Christ has no body now but yours,

No hands but yours.

Here on this earth,

Yours is the work,

To serve with the joy of compassion.

No hands but yours

To heal the wounded world,

No hands but yours

To soothe all its suffering,

No touch but yours
to bind the broken hope
Of the people of God. **R**

No eyes but yours
To see as Christ would see,
To find the lost,
To gaze with compassion;
No eyes but yours
To glimpse the holy joy
Of the city of God. **R**

No feet but yours
To journey with the poor,
To walk this world
With mercy and justice.
Yours are the steps
To build a lasting peace
For the children of God. **R**

Through ev'ry gift,
Give back to those in need:
As Christ has blessed,
So now be his blessing,
With ev'ry gift
A benediction,
Be to the people of God. **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:**

We place our gifts into your hands, O God. With the power of your Holy Spirit make them seeds of new life, springing up with hope and healing for weary souls. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Work of the Congregation

*** Hymn:** “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” VU #509

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

***Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.***

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? **R**

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? **R**

*** 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:** "Let It Be"

Offered by the Orchard Valley United Steeple Strummers

Postlude

This bulletin is dedicated to the memory of

Eileen Eisener

Love from daughter, Dawn Boudreau