



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, May 3, 2026, 10:00 am

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Music as We Gather

Gathering

***Congregational Introit:** "We Are One" VU #402 vs.1

We are one as we come, as we come, joyful to be here,
In the praise on our lips there's a sense that God is near.
We are one as we sing, as we seek, we are found;
And we come needful of God's grace as we meet,
together in this place

Lighting the Christ Candle

Recognition of the Land

Welcome

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

Centring Music

Call to Worship

God is our Rock and our Fortress.

In God, we find refuge and strength.

God's house has many dwelling places.

We will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Christ himself has gone to prepare a place for us.

Jesus is our way, our truth and our life.

Let us worship now our God in Spirit and in Grace.

***Hymn:**

“Amazing Grace”

VU #266

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
this word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Opening Prayer

Listening

Learning With Our Children

The Lord's Prayer

***Hymn:** "It Only Takes a Spark"

VU #289

It only takes a spark
to get a fire going,
and soon all those around
can warm up in its glowing:
that's how it is with God's love,
once you've experienced it:
you spread God's love to everyone,
you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring
when all the trees are budding,
the birds begin to sing,
the flowers start their blooming;
that's how it is with God's love,
once you've experienced it:
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring,
you want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend,
this happiness that I've found -
on God you can depend,
it matters not where you're bound;
I'll shout it from the mountain top;
I want my world to know:

the Lord of love has come to me,
I want to pass it on.

Mission and Service - King's Seniors' Safety Check-In Program

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture:

1 Peter 2:2-10*A chosen race, a royal priesthood, living stones*
John 14:1-14.....*I am the way, the truth, the life*

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem: **One Step Love Leads** *by P Chopin*

Offered by the Orchard Valley United Church Choir

Message: **The God of Mystery** *by Rev. Don Sellsted*

*** Hymn:** "Spirit, Open My Heart" MV #79

**Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.**

God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender. **R**

Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory. **R**
May I weep with those who weep,

share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another. **R**

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

*** Offertory Hymn:** “What Can I Do?” MV #191

What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I’ll sing with joy. I’ll say a prayer.
I’ll bring my love. I’ll do my share.

*** Offertory Prayer:**

**Generous God, we bless you for life renewed
through Christ’s love and through springtime
growth in fields and gardens. Use the gifts we offer
to bring hope and renewal to the world you love in
the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen**

Prayers of the People

Work of the Congregation

*** Hymn:** “May God's Sheltering Wings” MV #214

May God’s sheltering wings,
her gathering wings protect you.
May God’s nurturing arms,
her cradling arms sustain you,
and hold you in her love, and hold you in her love.

*** 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:**

“Amen”

VU #973

Postlude