



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, August 6th, 2026, 10:00 am

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Music as We Gather

Gathering

***Congregational Introit:**

"You Are Loved"

ME Kish

You are loved. You are light. You are whole.

You are blessed. Let us join in the call.

There is love. There is light. There is hope to be shared.

Worship in Love, Love Divine, Love within.

(Repeat)

Lighting the Candles

Recognition of the Land

We live, work, play and pray in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

We have respect for all people of this land as we live out the United Church apology and move forward towards being the community that the Creator calls us to be together.

We give thanks for this land and recognize that we are all treaty people.

Welcome

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Centring Music

Call to Worship:

As the church of old did, let us gather and receive the delivered messages from our forebearers. Help us read as people of faith and hear and be glad for God's encouraging message. Gathered today may be encourage and strengthen each other. Let us spend some time here, with the blessing of peace as we teach and preach the word of the God.

Pastoral Prayer

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

Refrain:

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**

Listening

Time with Young and Young at Heart

The Lord's Prayer – "Our Creator...."

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture:

Acts 15:1-35

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music:

offered by Rev. Marion Davis and Nancy Handrigan

Message: Ethnography – a Pastoral Practice

Rev. Krista Anderson

*** Hymn:** "There's a Spirit in the Air" VU #582

1 There's a spirit in the air,
telling Christians everywhere:
'Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working in our world.'

- 2 Lose your shyness, find your tongue,
tell the world what God has done:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!
- 3 When believers break the bread,
when a hungry child is fed,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working in our world.
- 4 Still the Spirit gives us light,
seeing wrong and setting right:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!
- 5 When a stranger's not alone,
where the homeless find a home,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world
- 6 May the Spirit fill our praise,
guide our thoughts and change our ways.
God in Christ has come to stay,
live tomorrow's life today.
- 7 There's a Spirit in the air,
calling people everywhere:
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

Lighting our Vision & Mission Candle

*** Offertory Hymn:** “What Does the Lord Require of You”
(x3)VU #701

- 1 What does the Lord require of you?
What does the Lord require of you?
- 2 Justice, kindness,
walk humbly with your God.
- 3 To seek justice, and love kindness,
and walk humbly with your God.

* Offertory Prayer

God, as the church of old, let this whole assembly be a church of signs and wonders for what God has done among the peoples of this world. May this wonder pass from our offerings through to the world today.

Prayers of the People

Mission and Service

Work of the Congregation

*** Hymn:** “O Jesus, I Have Promised” VU #120

O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain for ever near me, my Saviour and my friend:

I shall not fear the journey if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.

O let me feel you near me: the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but, Jesus, then draw nearer and shield my soul from
sin.

O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
now speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you,
that where you are in glory your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Saviour and my friend.

*** Extinguishing the Candles**

*** Blessing:**

God promised to rebuild David's fallen tent. God restored it and provided a place where the rest of humankind may seek God. May we also be a people who rebuild and restore, learning as we go. Help us as we go into the world from here today, to share this message of blessing. Amen

*** Sung Benediction:** “Go Now In Peace”

Besig

Go now in peace...never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Postlude