



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 13th, 2026, 10:00 am

16th 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:

We discover the signs of God all around us.

We pay attention.

Through the voice of others, through the movement of Creation,

God still speaks!

God's voice can be ignored but it cannot be silenced.

May we listen for that voice as it speaks to us today!

Creation's voice can be ignored but it cannot be silenced.

May we listen for these voices as they speak to us today,

in this place, our community, and throughout the world.

We listen! We attend!

Pastoral Prayer

Creator,

Fill our very being with your word and Spirit today as we worship you. Open us to experience your totality through Creation, so our spirits will be lifted up by all that surrounds us. On this seventh day, may we find rest and refreshment in our celebration of your presence and in the wonder of Creation. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Come & Seek the Ways of Wisdom" MV #10

1. Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
she who danced when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches,

for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
Showing us what love must do.

2. Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the market-place.
Hear the Word made flesh among us,
full of glory, truth, and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
peace and righteousness embrace.

3. Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit guide and close companion,
bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and earth.

Listening

Learning with Our Children – *Every Child Matters*

The Lord's Prayer – "Our Creator...."

Hymn: "For everyone born"

TLUS #23

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
For everyone born, a star overhead, and

Refrain

God will delight when we are creation of justice and joy, compassion and peace; yes

God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!

For all who share life, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for all who share life, a system that's fair, and

Refrain

For those we neglect, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of the child in hands that are wrinkled,
for those we neglect, the right to belong, and

Refrain

For all who have breath, a place at the table,
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,
a rainbow of race and gender and color,
for all who have breath, the chalice of grace, and

Refrain

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture:

Psalm 98

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem: “Beloved, Let Us Love One Another” *P. Choplin*
offered by the Orchard Valley United Church Choir
(please raise & wave your hands in appreciation if able to do so)

Message: Wonder & Delight in Creation
Rev. Dr. Linda Marcotte

*** Hymn:** “Touch the Earth Lightly” VU #307

1. Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,
nourish the life of the world in our care:
gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.
2. We who endanger, who create hunger,
agents of death for all creatures that live,
we who would foster clouds of disaster,
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!
3. Let there be greening, birth from the burning,
water that blesses and air that is sweet,
health in God’s garden, hope in God’s children,
regeneration that peace will complete.
4. God of all living, God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us,
using us gently and making us one.

Celebrating

Offering of Our Gifts

Lighting the Vision & Mission Candle

*** 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, through the life you give us and the bounty therein, we encounter the amazing web of interconnection and of interdependence in your good Creation.

Bless us and our giving as we give back some of that bounty. May we find purpose in all our relationships. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Mission and Service

Work of the Congregation

*** Hymn:** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” VU #651

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

*** Extinguishing the Candles**

*** Blessing**

*** Sung Blessing:** "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