



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

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



Covenanter Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 11th, 2026, 10:00 am

20th Sunday After Pentecost

Thanksgiving Sunday

Music as We Gather

Gathering

***Congregational Introit: "You Are Loved"**

Mary Ellen Kish

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:

Welcome, family of God!

God has visited the earth and watered it.

**God has provided the people with grain and
crowned the year with overflowing bounty.**

The earth has yielded its increase, God; our God has
blessed us!

Let us give thanks and praise to God!

Pastoral Prayer:

The orchards are full, the crops are being harvested,
gardens are yielding tomatoes and cucumbers, squash
and potatoes. The grocery shelves may be overflowing
with local produce on top of the normal imports. There
is abundance in your Creation and so we praise you for
your generosity, O God.

**Yet too often, the economic systems function as if
there is only scarcity, inciting people to believe
that there is not enough.**

But you have taught us not to fear and promised that
you will always provide for our needs. Change hearts
and minds.

**O God, change actions and systems so that we can
rejoice in your abundance and share generously all
that you have entrusted to us. We praise you for
your generosity, O God, Amen.**

***Opening Hymn: “For the Beauty of the Earth”**

VU #226

- 1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 2 For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 3 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.
- 4 For each perfect gift sublime
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,
God of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

Recognizing Our Congregational Designated Minister:
Susan Rigby

Susan spent the last 21 years travelling and teaching China to the Philippines and several isolated communities in northern Canada. Being with and teaching young people has always been her calling no matter where she lived, gathering for meals and fellowship was her way of life. The opportunity to serve at Orchard Valley is an answer to prayer - as teaching about God's love has always been at her centre.

Celebrating our Centre for Christian Studies Student:
Andy Pitter

Andy resumed her education in 2022 by enrolling in the Centre for Christian Studies' diaconal program as a Continuing Education student. She completed their Certificate in Social Justice last spring and is now working on their Certificate of Christian Education and Worship.

Celebrating Council Leadership Roles:

Tim Warmington, Chairperson

Timothy Paul Ramsay Warmington, born in Ottawa, Ontario the year of our Lord 1974, to Mrs. Shirley Jane Ramsay Warmington and Mr. William Paul McMaster Warmington - both of Montreal, Quebec. As a child, he attended Metcalfe United Church, in the small, farming community of Metcalfe, Ontario.

Mr. Warmington believes in the principle of service before self. A career union activist, federal public servant, manager, volunteer firefighter, and humanitarian aid worker are all hats he currently wears. He is proud to be

granted the opportunity, through the confidence of the Congregation (which he holds dearly), to be able to serve the Orchard Valley United Church Pastoral Charge as Chair of Council and the Executive Committee. He is also an enthusiastic member of the Property Committee and the Covenanter Church Committee. If you need a gift card for any reason, please see him - he knows a guy.

Ian Ford, Co-Chairperson

Ian is a father and husband who has a deep faith in Jesus's teachings of peace and non-violence. Ian's calling to the United Church comes from a deep sense of social justice and the need for radical peace makers in this world.

Learning with Our Children

Susan Rigby

Hymn: "Our Father, Our Mother" (Notre Père, Notre Mère)

TLUS #69

Notre Père, Notre Mère
Creator of the universe
You whom your children call God the eternal

God of hope and God of light
Bread of life and clarity
Hallow'd be they name
Sing everywhere and glorify

And on earth as it is in heav'n
O God of grace and goodness
Help us to remain faithful to your will

Give us, every day, nourishment and love
Teach us to forgive
As you know how to forgive

Protect us from the flowers of evil
Of stormy nights and fear
And guide us to the stars
In the heart of your heart

Notre Père, Notre Mère
May our lives be prayers
That lift us up to you.
Amen! Amen!

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture:

Psalm 65 (reflective)

Luke 17:11-19

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem: “Blue Green Hills”

J. Martin

offered by the Orchard Valley United Church Choir

(please raise & wave your hands in appreciation if able to do so)

Reflection: “Thankful People”

Rev. Dr. Linda Marcotte

Celebrating

*** 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.

Lighting the Mission and Vision Candle

Offertory Prayer:

Giver of Great Gifts, we pray surrounded by family, friends, and neighbours. We bring our offerings to celebrate the goodness of community and all that being community entails. We lift up our hearts in gratitude to become part of the gift that we give. This we pray with sincerity and hope. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Mission and Service

Work of the Congregation

*** Closing Hymn:** “Now Thank We All Our God” VU #236

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart,
and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when
perplexed,
and free us from all ill in this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God
for all that has been given,
the Son, and Spirit blest
who dwell in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore

Extinguishing the Candles

Blessing: Amen!

*** Sung Blessing:** “Change the World with Love” *J. Martin*
Offered by the Orchard Valley United Church Choir

Postlude