

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Gathering Prayer**

**\*Call to Worship**

God of Unfolding

**God of Becoming**

God of Transforming

**God of Revelation**

God of Revolution

**Ancient God of Beginning Again:**

We celebrate your Creative and Creating Love!

**Lead us in Your ways of Expansive Life.**

**Opening Hymn #509**

“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading – Acts 9:1-20**

Response: This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Come as a Child**

**Sermon**

“An Unlikely Friendship”

**Choir Anthem**

“I Choose Love”

**Prayer of Reconciliation**

**Merciful God, you call us to walk in newness of life and to share this life with others.  
Yet, we look away from this identity—distracted by messages of shame and inadequacy.  
We forget that when we do not embrace the grace you give us,  
it is impossible to share that grace with others.  
Set us free from self-condemnation and shame  
so that we may share your life-giving love with others.**

***Quiet Reflection***

**Assurance of Grace**

...For we know that in Jesus Christ,

**We are forgiven and made whole. Thanks be to God.**

**Response Hymn #240**

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

### Great Thanksgiving

... gathered in love and this cup shared to give hope to all.  
And now we pray together the prayer of our savior,

**Our Creator in heaven, holy is your name, your kin-dom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### Sharing the Elements

Leader: Let us join as one though we are in many places and receive the gift of God,  
the bread of heaven.

Unison: **We are one in the bread we share.**

### Communion Tune #507 "Come to the Table of Grace"

Leader: The cup of salvation.

Unison: **We are one in the cup we share.**

### Communion Tune #507 "Come to the Table of Grace"

Our prayer after this time of remembering God's bountiful grace is one that we will sing together. Please stand in body or in spirit to sing "Help Us Accept Each Other".

### Sending Hymn #754 "Help Us Accept Each Other"

### Benediction and Charge

*The world is now too dangerous and too beautiful for anything but love.*

*May your eyes be so blessed that you see God in everyone.*

*Your ears, so they hear the cry of the poor.*

*May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch is a sacrament.*

*Your lips, so you speak nothing but the truth with love.*

*May your feet be so blessed that you run to those who need you.*

*And may your heart be opened, so set on fire, that the love we share,  
the love of God, changes everything.*

### Postlude