

**UNITE IN LOVE**

**Pre-service Music**

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

**\*Call to Worship**

One: Come, gather round, younger, older, and in between.

**ALL: Gather together from near and far.**

One: Come open and expectant, creating a symphony of praise,

**ALL: a bouquet of joy.**

One: Pray that God will weave us into:

**ALL: a people of compassion,**

One: a community of prayer,

**ALL: a family of care.**

One: Come, gather round.

**ALL: Listen to God's Word,**

One: be challenged to serve,

**ALL: and raise a voice in song.**

**\*Gathering Hymn #611**

*"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"*

*verses 1-4*

**Invitation to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God, like a loving parent,  
you watch over us and beckon us to follow the faithful path.  
But we get stuck:  
stopped by our fear of trying something new,  
trapped by our memories of past failures,  
caught in a web of conflicting choices,  
halted by the clamor of many voices.  
Free us, O God, to follow with joyful steps,  
to hear clearly your directions,  
to be bold in our loving,  
to be courageous in our caring and  
to be brave in our speaking.**

**Quiet Reflection**

**Assurance of Grace**

One: Friends, hear and share the good news:

**ALL: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made whole. Thanks be to God!**

**Response to Grace #659**

“Know that God is Good”

**Passing the Peace**

**GROW IN FAITH**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture Reading**

Acts 16:11-15, 40

**Time for Wonder** *children are invited forward*

**Reflection on the Word**

**\*The Word in Song**

“Guided by the Holy Spirit”

*Carolyn Winfrey Gillette*

Sung to the tune of #475 “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Guided by the Holy Spirit  
Paul and two friends crossed the sea.  
So the church began in Europe  
as they shared faith joyfully.  
It all started with a vision;  
Paul had had a vivid dream:  
"Come and help us," some man told him ...  
But were things there as they seemed?

Macedonia was calling;  
those three Christians traveled there.  
On the Sabbath, they saw women  
by the river offering prayer.  
One strong leader there was Lydia.  
Soon she asked to be baptized.  
In her home a church was started,  
and it changed so many lives.

Paul knew who he was expecting;  
In his vision was a man.  
Yet the ones who heard were women,  
for God had a different plan.  
May we welcome the outsider  
In the work of ministry.  
Savior, open our hearts wider  
to the church we're called to be.

**Joys and Concerns**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

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.

**REACH OUT TO OTHERS**

**Offering Invitation & Dedication**

**\*Doxology 606**

**Our Life Together**

**\*Sending Hymn #765**

“May the God of Hope Go with Us”

*all verses*

**Blessing & Charge**

**Postlude**