

## Order of Worship

*Let us be as open vessels that God's spirit may enter.*

The Community Gathers: Experience God's presence in the assembly. Please greet one another with joy and welcome new friends into our community of love.

*You are welcome here...come and worship!*

**Focus:** *Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your Nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.* Maya Angelou

### 9:55 Preparation for worship:

#### Gathering Music:

#### Responsive Call to Worship:

**Leader:** We live in a beautiful land, flowing with abundant harvest.

**People:** Yet people in our country are hungry every day.

**Leader:** We have so many blessings given to us by God.

**People:** Children go to bed hungry and cold; they live on the streets.

**Leader:** Lord, we thank you for the blessings you have bestowed upon us.

**People:** Lord, remind us that we must share these blessings for all so that no one goes hungry; no child goes to bed cold and people no longer live on the streets. We pray that we may find a better way. Amen.

#### Opening Hymn:

#### Invocation:

We gather this day to praise God for the abundance of gifts we have been given as we look ahead to joining with others around a table of plenty. As these gifts are a blessing to us, help us to be a blessing to others. Open our hearts to your word and your ways

this day, O Lord. As we count our blessings around the table, help us to remember those who dwell in lands of poverty and war. Help us to find ways to reach out to them in ministries of hope and peace, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

#### Lord's Prayer:

#### Awakening:

#### Message for the children and the child in each of us:

**Scripture Reading:** Autumn Psalm of Contentment, Psalm 100, John 6:1-14

After the reading, you may choose to respond, "Thanks be to God."

#### Sermon:

#### Meditation Music:

**Musical call to Prayer:** (two times) Hush now in quiet peace, be still your mind at ease. The Spirit brings release, so wait upon the Lord.

#### Prayers of the People:

Silent Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

**Offertory:** In the spirit of Thanksgiving, let us bring forth our gifts with gratitude.

**Doxology:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication:** In Unison

Weaver of all life, in this joyous season

we offer our heartfelt thanks for the abundance that surrounds us and ask that you remind us to extend the season of thanksgiving as we share these your gifts with your people that they may know a better harvest. AMEN

Children's Sharing Time:

Benediction:

As you celebrate this Thanksgiving,  
may the depth of your gratitude give you hope  
to work toward a better harvest of the ground and of the Spirit.  
Thanks be to God. **AMEN**

Recessional: *Go in Peace*

**Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day.  
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.  
celebrate and share the joy. Celebrate new life.  
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always**

**Thank you to Music Director and our Musician today: Michelle Currie  
Thank you also to Gail Quinney, our dedicated Children's Minister**

**Rev. Paula Norbert (207) 205-4951 or ([pnorbert1217@gmail.com](mailto:pnorbert1217@gmail.com))**

If you are interested in joining Union Church or would like to set up a time to meet with our Pastor, please contact Pastor Paula directly.

# **Union Church**

## ***Biddeford Pool***

*...a place of peace and Presence by the sea*



## **A Time To Give Thanks**

*you are welcome here*

***November 18, 2018 – 10:00 A.M.***