

## 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!

### 9:55 Preparation for worship:

**Focus:** *Since love grows within you, so beauty grows. For love is the beauty of the soul.* Saint Augustine

**Gathering Music:** *When Love Finds You (by Vince Gill/Michael Omartian)*  
-Cheryl Sager & Neal Zweig

### Welcome:

#### Call To Worship:

**Leader:** God of our hearts...here we are-

**All: We've come with thirsty hearts, praying that your word will satisfy us.**

**Leader:** We come with aching hearts, praying for good news to comfort us.

**All: We come with overflowing hearts, praying for a chance to share your love.**

**Leader:** You, who know our hearts and hear our prayers,

**All: Be with us now in this time of worship. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn: God of Great and God of Small #366**

#### A Shared Prayer of Invocation:

**Leader:** Universal Spirit of love, O God within each one of us, whose power reaches to the stars, whose love connects us one to another and to all creation -- we are one.

**Men: We cry out with the pain of this broken world. With all our capacity for love, we ask: why can't we wrap this world in love and bring healing? We confess that we are not always able to express the love we know is inside us. We feel constricted and**

**hesitant, afraid that our love will be rejected or misused.**

**Women:** We pray for forgiveness, that we may learn to forgive others and accept their forgiveness of us. Help us let go of fear so we can move on, opening our hearts to one another. We pray for empowerment that we may learn to love more fully. Let our love shine forth from this sacred place that others may know that here they will find freedom, acceptance, community and love.

**All: We give thanks for the blessings of love in our lives and for the chance we have to love again and always. May we feel the love inside us connecting with the love in each other and the stars.**

**Amen.**

#### Lord's Prayer:

**Awakening:** *If I Had A Hammer (by Pete Seeger/Lee Hays)*  
-Cheryl Sager & Neal Zweig

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

**Scripture Reading:** A reflection from Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.;  
1 John 4:7-9,11-12 -Ken Murray  
*After the reading, you may respond, "Thanks be to God."*

**Sermon:** The Power of Love Rev. Paula Norbert

**Meditation Music:** *All You Need Is Love (by John Lennon/Paul McCartney)*  
-Michelle Currie

**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:** *You Raise Me Up (by Rolf Lovland)* -Cheryl Sager & Neal Zweig

**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:**

**Children's Sharing Time:**

**Closing Hymn:** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #19

**Benediction:** Go now into the world, inspired by the extravagant love of God. Live generously, with open hands, loving one another as if your lives depended on it. And may the abundant love of God surround you, may the extravagant grace of Jesus Christ sustain you, and may the constant presence of the Holy Spirit inspire and encourage you in every good deed and word.

**Postlude: 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.**

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.

Many thanks to Michelle Currie, our Music Director and to our Musicians today, Cheryl Sager & Neil Zweig

# *Union Church*

## *Biddeford Pool*

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



*norwesterseaglass*

# *Love*

*You are welcome here*  
*February 16, 2020 – 10:00 A.M.*