

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: Winter is a lesson about the fine art of loss and growth. Its lesson is clear; There is only one way out of struggle and that is by going into its darkness, waiting for the light, and being open to new growth. -Sr. Joan Chittister

Gathering Music: *Here Comes The Sun (by George Harrison)* -Michelle Currie

Welcome:

Call To Worship:

Leader: Beyond our busyness, above the cold winter floor there is a glory rising born of heaven and reaching out to each one of us,

All: A light that shines through the clouds, an invitation seeking all of who we are that transfigures the world

Leader: that transforms darkness into hope, that brings life from a cross where old life ends and new life is born

All: In glory Jesus meets us here, raising us from depths of the valley to the height of the mountain, carrying the fullness of our humanity and bringing us hope. Amen.

Opening Hymn: In The Bleak Midwinter vs. 1,3 & 4 #144

Invocation:

**God of many names and mystery beyond all our naming,
Persist in guiding us to a quiet measure of this moment,
That we might link heart to heart in the stillness and calm,
Leaving behind all of the concerns of yesterday or worries to
come on the shore of this quiet moment.**

**We who gather together today join in breath over breath
So that we might hold the beauty of this time in our hearts,
the gifts of winter in our lives and be grateful. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Awakening: *The Storm Is Passing Over (by Charles Tindley/Barbara Baker
Arr. by Patricia Mulholland & Michelle Currie)* -The Union Church Choir

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

Scripture Reading: Matthew 17:1-9, Listening to Winter,
by Macrina Wiederkehr Polly Nodden
After the reading, you may respond, "Thanks be to God."

Sermon: Lessons In Winter Rev. Paula Norbert

Meditation Music: *Remembering The Light ~ Piano Solo (by Kevin Kern)*
-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: *Go Light Your World (by Chris Rice)* -Michelle Currie

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: Light Dawns On A Weary World

#79

Benediction:

The time has come to depart this holy place.
Be not afraid. The Spirit of the Living God
goes ahead of you, with you, guiding you.
May God bless you and keep you
May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you
May God look kindly upon you and give you peace.

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.

Our Pastor's Info: Rev. Paula Norbert (207) 205-4951 or
(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 website: www.unionchurchme.com. Church Address:
Union Church, P.O. Box 344, B.P. ME. 04006. Phone: 207-282-4172.

Many thanks to Michelle Currie, our Music Director, and to our
Choir Director Patricia Mulholland & The Union Church Choir.

Union Church

Biddeford Pool

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



By Viktoria Haack

Lessons In Winter
You are welcome here
February 23, 2020 – 10:00 A.M.