



**Prelude** Sue Clauss

**Welcome**

**Opening Words**

Here we are. We have come with questions, with hopes and dreams.

**Open our hearts and minds**

Like those who have come before us, we yearn for some good news.

**Open our hearts and minds**

As we worship – singing songs and hearing sacred text

**Open our hearts and minds**

Here we are. Work in and through us.

**Open our hearts and minds**

**Opening Hymn** NCH #561 “When In Our Music God is Glorified”

**Prayer of Invocation**

Gracious and loving God – in our midst and in the world. We pray that when the visions come – and we know they will – we pray we will respond with curiosity and courage.

Guide us as we join your work in the world. Comfort us when we fall short. Celebrate with us when we create spaces of justice and compassion. Fill our hearts with your love. With thankfulness we pray. Amen

**Opening Response** Binder #6 “There’s A Spirit of Love in This Place”

**Children’s Time**

**The Witness of Music** Dee Ban

“Part of the Family” Jim Manley

**Reading:**

**Acts 16:16-34**

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she

followed Paul and us, she would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.' She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, 'These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.' The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, 'Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.' The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' They answered, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.' They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

**For the wisdom contained in these holy words, we give thanks. Amen**

**Sermon** Rev. Dr. Wendy Bruner

**Hymn** Handout "God, Our Nation Feels the Loss"

### **Joys and Concerns**

#### **Prayer**

Creator, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kin-dom come, your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For yours is the kin-dom, and the power,  
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**How shall we join God's work in the world?**

Gracious God, we give thanks and ask your blessings on the many and diverse gifts we bring to join you in your work in the world.

**Closing Hymn** Binder #62 “For the Music of Creation”

**Benediction**

**Postlude** Sue Clauss

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