



United  
Women  
in Faith

## **United Women in Faith's Sunday Order of Service: A Sample**

By Glory E. Dharmaraj

**Prelude** [Any selected hymn]

**Choral introit**

**Opening prayer (in unison)**

Eternal God, we have gathered here in your sanctuary this morning as members of your family to worship you as our Living God. Community-making God, you have called us to be in community with each other. Enable us to center ourselves for renewal in your presence, commitment to your mission, and ministry with the least of these, here and around the world. Equip us with your Holy Spirit to witness to your love and power, healing and reconciliation, nurturance and new life. Inspire us once again to be the tellers of the old, old story in ever new contexts, that Jesus has come so that all may have life, in fact, more than life, Life in its Fullness, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

**Opening hymn**

**Litany**

One: God of mission, you remind us this morning once again to seek your kingdom first.

**All: God of abundant living, you call us to steep our lives in your initiatives.**

One: God of infinite provisions, you tell us not to worry about missing out, and promise us that you will take care of our everyday concerns.

One: God of grace, you summon us back to your kingdom, as the goal and purpose of our lives.

**All: God of faith, hope, and love, you fit your daughters and sons for various activities for the sake of your mission.**

One: Most holy God, you call us to live out your Gospel through word and deed

**All: by public and personal witnessing, through acts of charity and works of mercy.**

One: O God of mystery, we are constantly surprised by the working of your Spirit in our midst.

**All: O Holy Spirit, continue to guide us, as we offer ourselves to your bidding, and commit ourselves to work for the reign of God here and afar.**

One: In the name of One Eternal God,

**All: Jesus the Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**Scripture Reading**

Psalm 68: 4-11 (NASB)

Luke 8: 1-3 (NRSV)

Liturgist: The Word of God for the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**



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### Hymn

"Many Gifts, One Spirit" (*United Methodist Hymnal* #114)

### The Sermon "Women in Mission, Living the Vision"

### Hymn

"Hymn of Promise" (*United Methodist Hymnal* #707)

"Christ for the World We Sing" (*United Methodist Hymnal* #568)

### The Offering of Gifts and Tithes

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" (*United Methodist Hymnal* #94)

### Prayer of Dedication

God of mission, we thank you for your gifts that surround us. Out of our gratitude to your faithful love, we give ourselves and this token of monetary gift for the furtherance of your mission. Bless our gifts that they may be multiplied for the transforming ministries of the world. In your name, we pray. Amen.

**Prayer** (Include congregation's joys and concerns)

### Litany of confession

Leader: If we have hallowed you as "Our Father in Heaven" and have cut ourselves off from you and each other—

If we have prayed for your kingdom to come and have been bogged down by our own concerns—

**ALL: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: If we have prayed for your will to be done and have schemed and acted in our own ways—

If we have prayed for our daily bread and have succumbed to the economics of consumerism—

**ALL: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: If we have sought forgiveness for our sins from you and have not had the grace to forgive others—

If we have prayed to overcome temptation and have not trusted in the strength in your love—

**ALL: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: If we have prayed for deliverance from evil and have not risked an unpopular witness to stand against structures of evil and iniquity—

If we have prayed for your kingdom, power and glory and have chosen instead lesser gods we have manufactured—

**ALL: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.**

### Words of assurance (Based on Hebrews 12:1-2)

God gives strength to the least of God's saints. God gives us strength to set aside every weight and sin that clings so closely. God helps us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer of our faith. Amen.



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**Recessional hymn**

"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" (*United Methodist Hymnal*, #569)

**Benediction**

May God whom heaven and earth cannot contain burst forth into new life in you. May Christ bless you with the power of the Gospel to disturb and heal you. May the Holy Spirit accompany you beyond the known path so that you may proclaim your faith in action without fear and without apology. Amen.

**Postlude** [Selected hymn]

Stand as you are able.

**United Women in Faith's Sunday can be celebrated any Sunday of the year. This resource—as with any United Women in Faith resource—can be adapted to suit your local organization's needs.**