

***Unison Prayer**

God of the women who followed, You saw them when society overlooked them. You healed them when others defined them by their wounds. You entrusted them with purpose and partnership. Create in us that same courage. When faith requires sacrifice, strengthen us. When discipleship feels inconvenient, steady us. When generosity stretches us, enlarge our hearts. Heal what has bound us. Redeem what has tried to label us. Call us beyond comfort into commitment. May our following be faithful. May our giving be joyful. May our lives sustain what You are building. In the name of Jesus, who welcomes women as disciples and friends, Amen.

Old Testament Reading Exodus 30:20-29

New Testament Reading Luke 8:1-3

Hymn *Let Us Break Bread Together* UMH 618

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Responsive Prayer

Leader: Lord, You called women by name.

People: Call us by name.

Leader: You healed their past and gave them purpose.

People: Heal us and give us purpose.

Leader: They followed when it was costly.

People: Give us courage to follow when it costs.

Leader: They gave from their own resources.

People: Teach us to invest in what matters eternally.

Leader: They walked the road before the cross ever came.

All: Make us faithful before the applause and steadfast after the crowd is gone. Amen.

Choral Anthem

***Offering Invitation**

***Doxology** UMH 94

***Prayer for the Offering**

(Online giving available at noumc.org. Click on "Donate" tab.)

Hymn *Take My Life and Let It Be* UMH 399

Sermon Series [The Journey to the Cross: If It Wasn't For the Women](#)

Week 1: "The Women Who Followed"

Pastor Tennille Power

Communion

***Closing Hymn** *The Summons* TFWS 2130

***Benediction/Recessional**

Postlude *All Glory, Laud and Honor* Mark Hayes
arranged by Marvin Gaspard

(You are invited to be seated for the Postlude before exiting the Sanctuary.)

**Please stand if you are able.*