

ANTHEM

Lord Build Our House (Schram)

Chancel Choir

November 10, 2024
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: There's a difference between planning and preparation. We can't plan the future that God holds, but we can prepare for each day by practicing generosity. Generosity helps us to forgive and to heal; it helps us to make peace in the world; it helps to bring justice and mercy to those in need. Let us dedicate our gifts and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

(Please stand in body and/or spirit)

DOXOLOGY

Praise God

Blue Hymnal, #46

(An Offering Collection Box is located on the table in the back of sanctuary, by the exit door)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All people: Free our hearts, gracious God, that your great purposes may work through our love, as they did for Naomi and Ruth before us. Multiply our gifts, Holy One, that all people may be built into a spiritual house—a house that no one can bring down. Amen.

HYMN

O Master, Let me Walk with Thee Blue Hymnal, #602

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May God build you into a spiritual house to be a shelter for those in need. Become a fortress housing God's Spirit. Touch the hearts of those you meet and heal the world.

Congregation: **We go with God's blessing.**

All people: Amen.

CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

POSTLUDE

Acolyte
Mr. Kevin Crone

PREWORSHIP MUSIC

Mr. Kevin Crone

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE & CANDLELIGHTING

Acolyte

CENTERING WORDS

*“Unless it is the Lord who builds the house, the builders’ work is pointless.”
Psalm 127:1 (CEB)*

(Please stand in body and/or spirit)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.

Congregation: **Build us into a spiritual house, O God, and we will be a holy people.**

Pastor: Unless the Lord guards the city, the guards keep watch in vain.

Congregation: **Guard our hearts and minds, that we may walk in your ways.**

Pastor: Unless the Lord is the center of our worship, our words and praise are in vain.

All people: Here and now, Holy One, may we taste eternity.

OPENING PRAYER

All people: Lord, we have come to you this day bringing all that we have, our lives, our hopes and dreams, our fears and sorrows. We place these before you in faith and hope, knowing that no matter what has happened you are with us and blessing us. Open our hearts to receive your words and your spirit, that we may find healing and comfort. Open our lives to the wondrous possibilities for service and joy that you offer to us. Ease our minds and spirits that we may hear the words of encouragement and peace this day. Amen.

HYMN

The Church of Christ in Every Age Blue Hymnal, #475

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor: With faith that looks up to God and finds confidence in the promise of grace and mercy, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Gracious God, so often we look at ourselves, our gifts and our talents, and wonder what you would do with these offerings. We don't think that we have much to give. So, far too many times, we belittle the gifts and turn our backs on the needs and opportunities present to serve, believing that our gifts cannot possibly make a difference. We think that we must possess the greatest of talents and wealth in order to truly please and serve you. How foolish we are! Forgive us when we stop listening to your healing and comforting words and focus on our anxieties. Heal us, Lord. Help us know that you have given to us such blessings and that these blessings are truly wonderful and meant to be used to joy and service to others. Help us to bring our lives, just as they are, to you and to receive your gentle touch and healing grace. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: God is the Creator of all that is.

Congregation: God wants to create the future with us.

Pastor: It is up to us to surrender to God's leadership and contribute to the future.

Congregation: This is the real meaning of forgiveness – to know we have surrendered to God and are loved eternally.

All people: Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

Blue Hymnal, #35

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor: God is building our lives into a spiritual house of love, hope, and blessing. Let us rejoice in God, our builder, as we share signs of Christ's peace with one another using the words: "Welcome" and "Peace be with you."

Congregation: "Welcome" and "Peace be with you, too."

(The congregation may be seated, as the children & youth come forward)

JESUS SAID, "LET THE CHILDREN COME"

HYMN

Take My Life, and Let it Be

Blue Hymnal, #609

HEBREW READING

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

GOSPEL READING

Mark 12:38-44

SERMON

Rev. Laura C. Baker

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: We believe that our God sees us, feels us, and listens to us. Let us lift the celebrations and concerns of our beloved community.
(JOYS AND CONCERNS SHARED)

All people: Dear God, we know that you have heard our prayers, and we ask that the comfort of the Holy Spirit be with us today and every day. In addition to our joys and concerns we've already named aloud, we come to you today full of emotions. Elections always seem to bring that out in us - worry and hope, fear and frustration. The list could go on. So today we bow our heads and ask for guidance. Open our ears to hear the groans of creation. Open our eyes to see the needs of others. Open our hearts to make room for empathy. Give us the wisdom to navigate challenging conversations. Give us the patience to disagree with grace. Give us the compassion to make decisions for the greater good. And when all else fails, bring us back to love. Bring our hearts and our hands, our dreams and our hopes, our anger and our frustration, our hurt and our fear, all back to love. With hope we pray; with hope we are sustained. We ask these things the name of Jesus Christ who taught us to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All people: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.