

Sunday, August 22nd

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements



***Call to Worship**

Leader: The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous;

People: God's ears are open to their cry.

Leader: Let us worship the One who clothes us in strength

People: and quenches our souls with mercy.

***Hymn # 409 – God is Here!**

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here, as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive: we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

If we are honest with ourselves and with you, Holy God, we can confess the many gods who have staked a claim in our hearts. Whether it be our worship of money or power, nation or family, personal liberty or individual choice, alcohol or some other form of numbing drug, we betray you in a myriad of ways. Have mercy on us, O God. Turn us from the golden calves we erect in your presence. Return us and our hearts to worship you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sunday, August 22nd

Sermon: Who Will We Serve?

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Special Music

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***Hymn # 301 – Let Us Build a House (All Are Welcome)**

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of Christ shall end divisions: All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine, and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space; as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: All are welcome; all are welcome; all are welcome in this place.

***Charge and Benediction**

***Congregational Response: Hymn # 606 – Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Postlude

GATHERING

409

God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an

of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful

full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.

Commissioned for the dedication of a renovated worship space in Austin, Texas, this text is one of the few to devote attention to how customary church features facilitate worship. The tune was composed in wartime Britain to replace a Haydn tune tainted by Nazi associations.

Here, as in the world a - round us, all our
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we

var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing
 si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness
 wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in
 have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not

of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

THE CHURCH

301 Let Us Build a House

All Are Welcome

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)
 C7 F C F B^b C Dm

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
 2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)
 F C F Dm7 Gm C

safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
 strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
 wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
 wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
 vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)
 Gm C7 B^b F Am Dm

how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)
 Gm C F B^b

vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
 strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
 laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

Although it was written for a church dedication, this text is not about a physical structure but a spiritual one. The building is at best only a vessel for the essential love and hope, life and faith, peace and justice, hospitality and nurture that form the worshipping community.

Sunday, August 22nd

THE CHURCH

Refrain

The image shows a musical score for a song titled 'THE CHURCH'. It consists of two staves of music in a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The first staff contains the main melody and lyrics: 'love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions: one we claim the faith of Je - sus: share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come; bring an end to fear and dan - ger: house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:'. Above the notes are guitar chords: (D) F, (G) Bb, (F#7) A7, (Bm) Dm, (Em) Gm, and (Bm) Dm. A double bar line separates this from the second staff, which is labeled 'Refrain'. The second staff contains the melody and lyrics: 'all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.' Above the notes are guitar chords: (F#m) Am, (Em) Gm, (D) F, (Em) Gm, (A7) C7, (D) F, (G) Bb, and (D) F. The score ends with a double bar line.

(D) F (G) B^b (F[#]7) A7 (Bm) Dm (Em) Gm (Bm) Dm

love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;
bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

(F[#]m) Am (Em) Gm (D) F (Em) Gm (A7) C7 (D) F (G) B^b (D) F

all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.