



SEPTEMBER 9-10, 2023

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### ***MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:***

There is no one holy like the Lord; there is none besides you; there is no Rock like our God. You are our all in all. Bless us and draw us near to you. Amen.

### ***PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS***

### ***THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:***

- ❖ *Apart from God every activity is merely a passing whiff of insignificance.*  
- Alfred North Whitehead (Philosopher)
- ❖ *Sometimes God lets you hit rock bottom so that you know God is the rock at the bottom.*
- ❖ *The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer,  
my God, my rock in whom I take refuge,  
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.* - Psalms 18:2

### ***CALL TO WORSHIP:***

Leader: Jesus is the rock of our salvation,

**People: the foundation of our lives,**

Leader: who lifts us above bitterness and sorrow

**People: and grounds us in joy and new life!**

Leader: The Lord is our strength and salvation.

**People: We rejoice in your holy name.**

Leader: Come and worship.

**People: Our God is good.**

Leader: Jesus is the rock, the foundation of our lives.

***PRAISE SONG: "Build Us Up, Lord" (music at end of bulletin)***

### ***THE CONFESSION:***

Leader: The God who call us to build our lives on Jesus' love, and who knows us better than we know ourselves invites us to look at ourselves and be honest about

what we really place our trust in, where we build our lives. Let us confess the state of our lives to God and before one another.

**People:** We confess to you, O loving God, that we have not built our lives on the truth that Jesus told us. We have not put your call before our selfish concerns. We have not built on love for others. We have built our lives on faith in you but rather we have clung to the trappings of mortal existence. We have called Jesus our Lord but we have placed all manner of people and things ahead of our service to his reign of love and justice.

**Forgive us, and by the power of your Holy Spirit help us to rebuild our lives on you and your love. Amen.**

**Leader:** God always seeks the good of God's children. God loves us and forgives us. Let us start rebuilding in that place that will give us true life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**CONFESSIOIN RESPONSE: “You Are a Light on My Path”**  
(music at end of bulletin)

**THE LESSON:                   Ephesians 2:19-22 (The Message)**

*Ephesus was a city on the east coast of the Aegean Sea and also the Roman capital of Asia Minor. The Apostle Paul spent many months living there. Today it would be part of Turkey. The writer tells the believers there that because they are united to Jesus Christ of what all that means for them. The same might also be said to us because of our baptism into and faith in Jesus.*

That’s plain enough, isn’t it? You’re no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You’re no longer strangers or outsiders. You *belong* here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He’s using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he’s using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.

**THE GOSPEL:                   Matthew 7:24-27**

*These are some of Jesus’ words to His disciples contrasting two responses to His teachings and two consequences because of a certain response.*

‘Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise person who built their house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish person who built their house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!’

**MESSAGE: “Lessons in Building”**

**- Pastor David Schoob**

**THE MESSAGE RESPONSE: “Founded on Faith” (verses 1, 2, 4)  
(music at end of bulletin)**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER:**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.**

**THE SENDING OUT:**

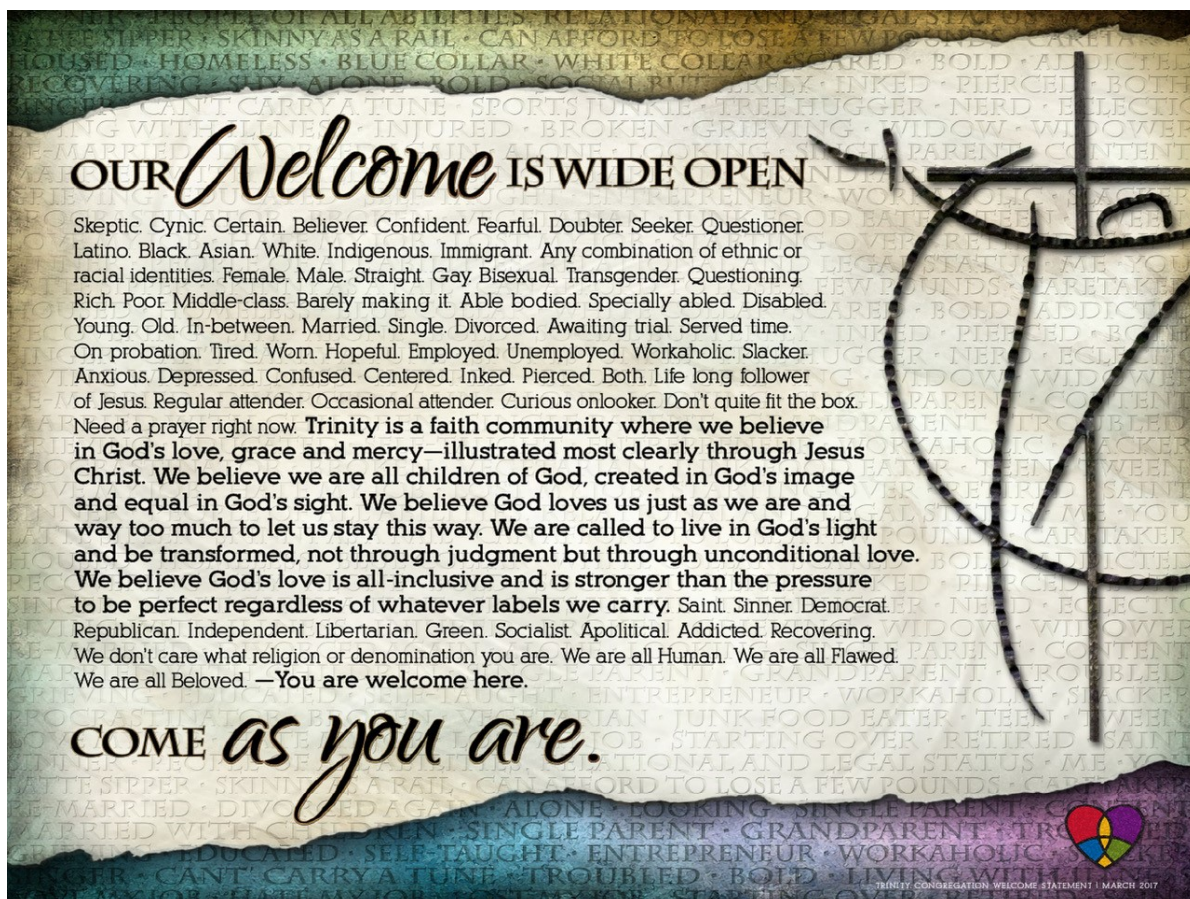
**Leader: Beloved of God, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, grounded and grown in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. Amen.**

**THE SENDING SONG: “Shalom” (music at end of bulletin)**

**THE DISMISSAL:**

**Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.**

**People: Thanks be to God.**



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*Build Us Up, Lord*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Build Us Up, Lord". It consists of ten staves of music in 3/4 time, with lyrics written below the notes. The score includes a chorus and several verses of text. The lyrics are: "Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your let our lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our ho - ly and will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion. doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry. Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we guide and teach each oth - er; help us to share your help us bear good fruit for you; Lord, give us vi - sion love with the world, ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - fast - r'y bro - ther. and keep us sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true. Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your word to spread the news of your Son!

# You Are a Light on My Path

The musical score is written on seven staves in a treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

You are a light on my path shin - ing for the world,  
show-ing the way lead-ing on. You are a light  
on my path shin - ing for the world,  
show - ing the way lead-ing on. You are a light on my path.

*Fine*  
Teach us Your Way, Give us Your Life,  
Ev - en in fear, we will not stray.  
I am re - solved to fol - low You.

Smile at the praise we bring. Teach us Your Way, Give  
You are our his - tor - y. Ev - en in fear, we  
You are my heart's de - light. I am re - solved to

us Your Life, Smile at the praise we bring.  
will not stray. You are our his - tor - y.  
fol - low You. You are my heart's de - light.

Founded on Faith - v. 1, 2, 4



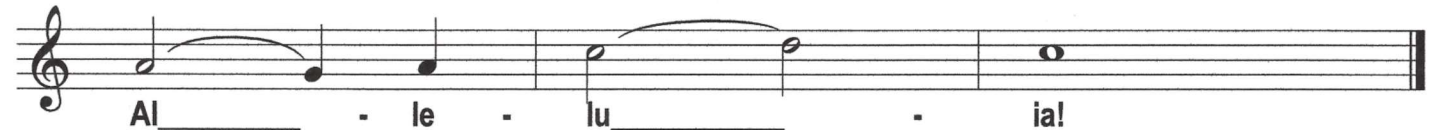
1. Found - ed on faith, the church, a - live by grace,  
2. Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.  
4. Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,



pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.  
Bap - tized in you, we learn to teach and pray.  
we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;



The word of God re - sounds through time and space:  
Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say:  
a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.



Al - le - lu - ia!

Shalom

We will seek the sha - lom of the cit - y. We will  
 work with each oth - er hand in hand. We will  
 build and we will plant. We will pray and we will dream. Come, sha -  
 lom, to our cit - ies, to our land, to our land. We will  
 build and we will plant. We will pray and we will dream. Come, sha -  
 lom, to our cit - ies, to our land. *Fine* 2

1. Seek - ing change that will last down the a - ges, till our  
 2. We'll put hands to the work set be - fore us. All our  
 cit - ies will blos - som a - gain. Seek - ing hope in these  
 tal - ents and gifts we will bring. Man - y faiths, man - y  
 streets filled with weep - ing, health and heal - ing where now there is pain.  
 cul - tures to - geth - er till our streets with glad mu - sic will ring.

Seek - ing strengths that can build new to - mor - rows,  
 Come and join in this ho - ly en - deav - or.

for we know they are here to be found.  
 In this work there's a place for us all

We will love God with soul, mind, and bod - y,  
 bring - ing peace and good will to our cit - y;

to our neigh - bors in love we'll be bound!  
 this our dream, this our pray'r, this our call!