

The Holy Eucharist
with
A Thanksgiving for Treasured Spaces
and
The Groundbreaking for Our New Building



The Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Highland, Maryland

*The Liturgy of the Word takes place in the Parish Hall.
The Liturgy of the Table takes place in the Church.
Slips of paper and pens are available for the congregation to write prayers,
thanksgivings, and hopes, which will be placed in a vessel
and entrusted to the foundation of our new building.*

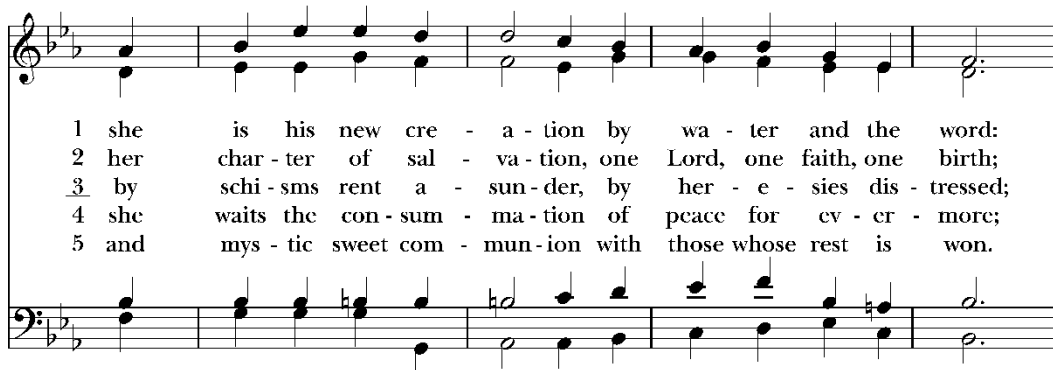
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Parish Hall

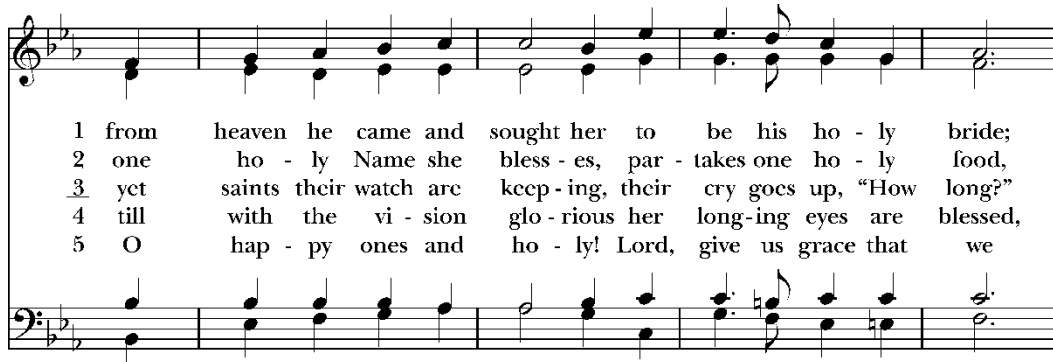
Opening Hymn – 525 The Church's One Foundation



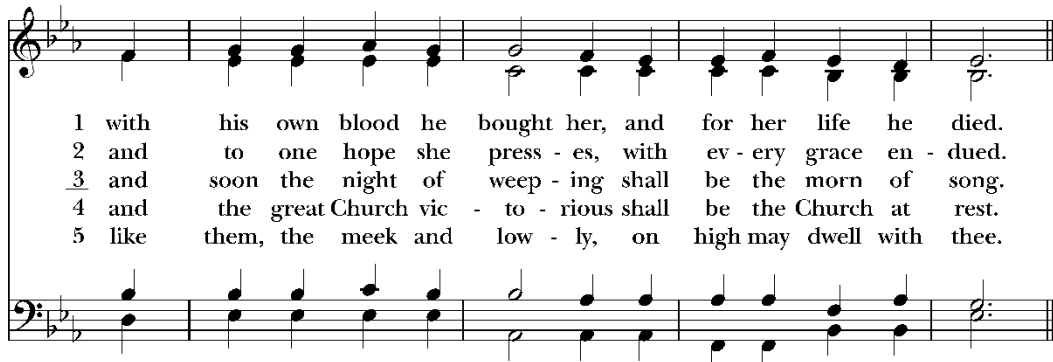
1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war
5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,



1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word:
2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;
4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.



1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
3 yet saints their watch arc keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,
5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
2 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
3 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
4 and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.
5 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900). Music: Aurelia, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1818-1876).

Opening Acclamation

All standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

And also this Collect, proper to the occasion:

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look with favor upon this your household, gathered here in a place made holy by years of fellowship, faithful teaching, and your own gracious presence among us. As we prepare to offer these walls into your hands, grant us, we pray, thankful hearts for all that has been accomplished here, steadfast faith for the work that lies before us, and the sure and certain hope that neither the passing of time nor the changing of earthly things can ever separate us from your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

The First Reading – Exodus 25:1-9

A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses: Tell the Israelites to take for me an offering; from all whose hearts prompt them to give you shall receive the offering for me. This is the offering that you shall receive from them: gold, silver, and bronze, blue, purple, and crimson yarns and fine linen, goats' hair, tanned rams' skins, fine leather, acacia wood, oil for the lamps, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, onyx stones and gems to be set in the ephod and for the breastpiece. And have them make me a sanctuary, so that I may dwell among them. In accordance with all that I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle and of all its furniture, so you shall make it.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading – Hebrews 3:1-6

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, partners in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, who was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses also “was faithful in all God’s house.” Yet Jesus is worthy of more glory than Moses, just as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God. Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that would be spoken later. Christ, however, was faithful over God’s house as a son, and we are his house if we hold firm the boldness and the pride inspired by hope.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn – LEVAS 120 There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place

- 1 There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
 And I know that it’s the Spirit of the Lord.
 There are sweet expressions on each face,
 And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

*Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet Heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love.
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.*

- 2 There are blessings you cannot receive
 Till you know Him in His fullness, and believe.
 You’re the one to profit when you say,
 “I am going to walk with Jesus all the way.”

Refrain

- 3 If you say He saved you from your sin,
 Now you’re weak, you’re bound, and cannot enter in,
 you can make it right if you will yield;
 You’ll enjoy the Holy Spirit that we feel.

Refrain

Sweet, Sweet Spirit, #120 from *Lift Every Voice and Sing II* — Words: Doris Akers (b. 1922). Music: Doris Akers. Copyright © 1962. Renewed 1990 Manna Music, Inc. 25510 Stanford Ave., Suite 101, Valencia, CA 91355. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved.

The Holy Gospel – Luke 24:13-16, 28-35

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

A THANKSGIVING OVER TREASURED SPACES

The Celebrant introduces the thanksgivings:

Beloved in Christ: Christ has stayed with us in this place, made himself known in the breaking of bread, and set our hearts burning with his presence. Before we depart, let us remember all that God has accomplished in this space, and give thanks for those whose labor and faithfulness have made it possible. In particular we remember Lenora Myerly, who generously gave this hall in memory of her husband. These walls have sheltered our common ministry; this hall has held the bonds of our fellowship; the kitchen has nourished both body and soul; the classrooms below have formed generations in the faith of Christ. Now, with grateful and expectant hearts, we release them into God's eternal keeping, giving thanks for all that was, and trusting in all that is yet to come.

For the Fellowship Hall

The Celebrant prays:

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you have given us the gift of community. In this hall we have broken the bread of friendship: coffee hours and potlucks, receptions and celebrations, pancake and parish suppers, Boar's Head and Oktoberfest celebrations without number. Here we have laughed and wept, welcomed newcomers and bid farewell to saints, argued and reconciled, sung your praises and danced for joy, and learned that your Church is built not of stone alone but of relationship. For every meal shared, every pancake and Boarman's sausage link cooked, every hand extended in welcome, every conversation that deepened our common life, we give you thanks.

Memories and Reflection – *Mr. Peter Scheidt*

Celebrant For fellowship shared and community formed,
People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Celebrant For celebrations of joy and comfort in sorrow,
People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Celebrant For the gift of this place and the memories it holds,
People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Keep these memories alive within us; through Jesus Christ, the host of every gathering. **Amen.**

Holy Ground (*Verse 1*)

This is holy ground
We're standing on holy ground
For the Lord is present
And where He is is holy (*Repeat*)

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For the Kitchen

The Celebrant prays:

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you have fed your people in every generation. From this kitchen have come forth the works of many hands: casseroles for the grieving, cookies for the joyful, sustenance for the hungry, and the patient labor of those who serve without seeking recognition. Here ministry has been measured in coffee urns and dish soap, in early mornings and late nights, in the quiet faithfulness of those who understand that feeding the body feeds also the soul. For every pot of soup stirred with love, every pan scrubbed clean, every meal offered in your name, we give you thanks.

Memories and Reflection – *Mr. Timothy Swygert*

Celebrant For the ministry of hospitality,
People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Celebrant For those who have served without ceasing,
People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Celebrant For the gift of this place and the work it has enabled,
People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Keep the spirit of service alive within us; through Jesus Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. **Amen.**

Holy Ground (*Verse 2*)

These are holy hands
He's given us holy hands
He works through these hands
And so these hands are holy (*Repeat*)

For the Sunday School Classrooms

The Celebrant prays:

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you have commanded us to tell to every generation the story of your saving love. Faithful teachers have gathered week after week, year after year, preparing and teaching with patience and wisdom, planting seeds whose harvest they might never see. Here, small hands have crafted crosses and colored pictures of your saints; young voices have learned to pray; generations have heard the stories of God's people and met Jesus. For every teacher who gave their time and heart, for every lesson taught, every song sung, every prayer learned by heart, we give you thanks.

Memories and Reflection – *Mrs. Sally Swygert*

Celebrant For the formation of young disciples,
People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Celebrant For teachers patient and creative,
People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Celebrant For the gift of these places and all who have learned within them,
People **We give you thanks, O Lord.**

Keep the fire of learning alive within us; through Jesus Christ, the teacher of all truth. **Amen.**

Holy Ground (*Verse 3*)

These are holy lips
He's given us holy lips
He speaks through these lips
And so these lips are holy (*Repeat*)

The Prayers of the People

The people may stand or kneel.

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Blessed God, you make yourself known in the breaking of bread and walk with your people on every journey: We pray for your holy Church throughout the world. Open our eyes to recognize your presence that we may be faithful witnesses wherever we are gathered. We remember especially Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Carrie, our Bishop; and all who minister in your name.

Leader Lord of the pilgrim way,
People **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace in our world, our nation, and our community. For those in positions of authority, that they may govern with justice and wisdom. For all who suffer from violence, poverty, or oppression, that they may find hope and deliverance.

Leader Lord of justice and peace,
People **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all in any kind of need or trouble. For the sick and the suffering, the lonely and the grieving. For those whose prayers are written on paper and will be buried in the ground this day: hear the hopes and longings of our hearts.

Leader Lord of compassion,
People **Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all who have worshiped, served, and grown in faith within these walls, and for all who have passed through these doors before us. May their faithfulness inspire our own.

Leader Lord of memory and hope,
People **Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for our Building and Capital Campaign committees, for all whose devoted labors have brought us to this day, and for all who have given generously of their treasure. We pray for the architects, engineers, contractors, and laborers whose hands will shape these new spaces; grant them skill, safety, and wisdom, that the work of their hands may be a worthy offering unto you.

Leader Lord of all creation,
People **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our congregation in this time of transition. God who dwells among your people and calls us to be your sanctuary: keep us united in purpose when we are scattered in location. Strengthen the bonds of affection among us. Help us to remember that we are the Church; living stones, built upon Christ the cornerstone, wherever we are gathered.

Leader Lord of the pilgrim people,
People **Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the faithful departed who now rest in your eternal light. May their example inspire us, and may we one day join them in that place where all things are made new.

Leader Lord of life eternal,
People **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Release of the Parish Hall Building

Celebrant: Let us return these spaces to God's keeping, in faith that what is laid down shall be raised up.

Celebrant: For all that has been,
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant: And for all that will be,
People: **Yes. Amen.**

The Celebrant continues

What was built in faith shall be laid down in faith.
What was given for a season we now return with gratitude.
What held our past shall give way to our future.

Celebrant: Unless the Lord builds the house,
People: **Those who build it labor in vain.**

The Celebrant, with hands extended over the spaces, says

Let us pray. Almighty God, we return these walls to your keeping, giving thanks for every meal shared, every child taught, every gathering held, every act of service performed within them. As these walls are laid to rest, we are reminded that you bring life from death, and that what is surrendered in faith is raised in glory. As our forebears built faithfully for us, give us wisdom and faithfulness to build what will serve generations yet to come. The fellowship forged here, the faith formed here, the love kindled here: we carry them with us. We will bring them back when new walls rise.

Receive our offering of thanksgiving, O Lord, and bless the new vessel you are preparing for the ministry that never ends; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever. **Amen.**

Silence

The Celebrant continues

Let the walls rest in God's keeping, until the day of their rising.

We are Standing on Holy Ground *(Chorus)*

We are standing on holy ground,
And I know that there are angels all around
Let us praise Jesus now.
We are standing on holy ground

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The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**
The People greet one another.

THE PROCESSION TO THE CHURCH

The Celebrant says:

Let us go forth in peace, bearing with us the memories of this place, as we process to God's holy table.

People **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

During the procession, the vessel containing the written prayers is carried into the church.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Offertory Anthem

He's Always Been Faithful

arranged by Tom Fettke

During the anthem, the offerings of the people are collected.

The written prayers remain with the vessel to be presented at the altar.

Presentation Hymn

Song of Thanks and Praise (The Offering)

All stand as the offerings are brought forward.

Holy Father, with this our offering.
We give thanks, for we are standing
In your grace

Father we love you, we give you our hearts.
Standing before you, we open our arms.
Standing before you. We want to receive you;
We want to show you. We want you to know
We treasure ... treasure ... Your Grace.

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The Celebrant receives the prayers, saying:

We receive these prayers, thanksgivings, and hopes of your people. May they be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, and may their longings be fulfilled according to your gracious will. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you have called your people to be builders of your kingdom on earth. As we prepare to break this ground in faith, we commend this work into your hands. By your grace, may the building that rises from this place be a dwelling of welcome and formation, fellowship and service, where your people are equipped to build your kingdom.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing,

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as in heaven
Give us today our daily bread.
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 Breaking of the Bread

Silence is kept.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Hymns During Communion

Come to the Table Spread

© 1991 Brian Kerr

Chorus:

Come to the Table spread
 With the Living Bread of Christ the Savior
 Come to this place of peace
 To find release from all your burdens

1) This is his body that for you was broken
 Do this in remembrance Christ died for you.

Chorus

2) This is the Blood of the New Covenant
 Which is shed for many to forgive their sins.

Chorus

3) Take his yoke upon you and learn of him
 For his yoke is easy and his burden is light.

Chorus

Hymn 325

Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees

Let Us Break Bread



1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; _____
 let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; _____



when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris-ing sun,



O Lord, have mer-cy on me. _____



3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; _____

let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

Refrain

when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Words: African-American spiritual. Music: *Let Us Break Bread*, Afro-American spiritual; arr. and harm. David Hurd (b. 1950).

Hymn 335

I Am the Bread of Life

I Am the Bread of Life

1 I am the bread of life; — they who
 2 (The) Bread that I will give is my
 3 (Un-) less — you cat — of the
 4 I am the re - sur - rec - tion, —
 5 (Yes,) Lord, — we be - lieve — that —

1 come to me shall not — hun - ger; they who be -
 2 Flesh for the life of the world, and they who
 3 Flesh of the Son of — Man — and —
 4 I — am the — life. — They who be -
 5 you are the Christ, the

1 lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 2 eat — of this bread, they shall — live for
 3 drink — of his Blood, you shall not have life with -
 4 lieve — in me, e - ven — if they
 5 Son — of God who — has

1 me — un - less the — Fa - ther draw them.
 2 ev - er. — they shall — live for ev - er.
 3 in you. you shall not have life with - in you.
 4 dic, — they shall — live for ev - er.
 5 come — in - to — the — world. —

Descant

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them

Refrain

And I will raise them up, and I will raise them

up, and I will raise them up on the

up, and I will raise them up on the

last day. _____ 5 Yes, day.

last day. _____ 2 The

3 Un- day.

4 —

5 Yes,

(?)

Final Ending

The descant may be sung after stanzas 4 and 5.

Words: Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927), adapt. of John 6. Copyright © 1971, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. Music: *I Am the Bread of Life*, Suzanne Toolan (b. 1927); arr. Betty Pulkingham (b. 1928). Copyright © 1971, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food .in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ENTRUSTING OF OUR PRAYERS

The vessel containing the written prayers is brought forward.

Gracious God, receive these prayers of your people, now to be laid in the ground as the foundation of a new work. May our hopes and longings, our thanksgivings and supplications, rise with the walls that will be built above them. Accept what we cannot express; fulfill what we dare not ask; and accomplish in us and through us more than we can ask or imagine; through Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom be glory in the Church and in the world, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Blessing

May the God who walked with the disciples on the road to Emmaus walk with you in this time of change. May Christ make himself known to you in the breaking of bread, and may the Spirit set your hearts burning with hope for all that is yet to come.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn in Procession – 518 Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Westminster Abbey

During the final verse, the congregation processes toward the groundbreaking site.

The vessel of prayers is carried by a warden or building committee member.

Descant

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
 3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
 4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
 God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
 Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter
bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter
in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.
help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Mason Neale (1818-1856), alt. Music: *Westminster Abbey*, Henry Purcell (1659-1695), adapt; desc. James Gillespie (b. 1929). Descant by permission of Church Society, London.

THE GROUNDBREAKING

The congregation gathers. A spade is ready. A hole has been prepared for the vessel.

Dear friends, we have come to this place to mark a new beginning. This ground will receive the prayers and dreams of our community, planted like seeds that will bear fruit in a building yet to rise.

Celebrant Unless the Lord builds the house,
People **Their labor is in vain who build it.**

The Celebrant prays

Lord Christ, you are known to us in the breaking of the bread. Be present with us now as we break this ground. Bless the labor that will be undertaken here. May the building that rises from this place be worthy of the ministry it will shelter. And when these walls are complete, may all who enter be received as Christ receives us; with grace, with warmth, and with love that knows no stranger. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Turning of the Earth

Each person turns earth and says the appointed words:

The Rector (turning earth)

In the name of God the Father, who created the heavens and the earth.

The Senior Warden (turning earth)

In the name of God the Son, the cornerstone of the Church.

The Building Committee Chair (turning earth)

In the name of God the Holy Spirit, who makes all things new.

The Architecture Committee Chair (turning earth)

In thanksgiving for the vision and skill of those who are giving shape to our dreams.

A Longtime Member (turning earth)

In thanksgiving for all that has been.

A Child (turning earth)

In hope for all that is yet to come.

The vessel containing the prayers is presented. The Celebrant says:

Into this vessel we have placed the prayers, hopes, and thanksgivings of this congregation. Here they will rest until the building rises above them, a foundation of faith beneath a structure of service. May these prayers be answered in God's time and in God's way, and may those who gather in this new space know that they stand upon the prayers of those who came before.

The vessel is entrusted to the keeping of the Senior Warden.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing.

May Christ who makes all things new bless this beginning.

And may the Spirit strengthen you to build the kingdom.

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant The ground is broken!

People **Let the building begin!**

Celebrant Go forth as builders of the Kingdom of God!

People **We go in the name of Christ!**

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR THIS MORNING'S SERVICE

Celebrant: The Rev. Christopher Tang
Preacher The Rev. Christopher Tang
Organist: Nina Asgeirsson Feeney
Lighted Path Band: Margaret and Rick LaRocca,
Richard Boales, Scott Kramer
Choir Members: Barbara Barrett King, John Beakes, Rosemary Beakes, Martha
Cargo, Sandi Davis, Kris DeWitt, Nancy Hall, June Kerger,
Michelle Goddard Kim, Kathryn Knaus, Dave McAdoo, Julia
Purdue, Marianna Stepniak, Tristan Stepniak, Sue Stup, Dan Tyler,
Charles Wingate

		<u>Next Week</u>
Chalicerist:	Gayle Gerdes Ron Stup	Lisa Viglotti Pam Brazis
Reader:	Daniel Buettner Tom Harriman	Lauren Hubbard Dick Mitchell
Altar Guild:	Karen McAfee	Linda Glazer
Ushers:	Tim Swygert Scott Stevens	Ben Nored Randy Scourtis

The Vestry Members and Officers

Senior Warden: Ron Luman | Junior Warden: Thomas Feeney
Treasurer: Steve English | Assistant Treasurer: Kay Morice | Registrar: Rich Roca
Matt Biewer, Daniel Buettner, Gayle Gerdes, Linda Glazer,
Sharon Keeny, Paul Kim, Meghan Nickerson, Chris Painter, and Melissa Purdue

Rector: The Rev. Christopher Tang
Curate: The Rev. Connie Bowman
Organist and Choir Master: Nina Asgeirsson Feeney
Lighted Path Band Leaders: Rick and Margaret LaRocca
Parish Administrator: Vicki Hamel