

Sunday November 14, 2021
Large Stones and Buildings—What Lasts

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: Come into this time of worship by the new and living way in Christ Jesus.

People: We come with true hearts in full assurance of our faith.

Leader: Come with joyful expectation.

People: We gather in full confidence of the gospel's promise.

Leader: Let us praise God together and open ourselves to the power of the Holy Spirit

**People: That we may encourage and support each other
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and to be God's instruments of grace.**

Opening Prayer **Unison**

**In you, O God, we find refuge from our turbulent world.
We work each day to bear witness to your justice through our ministries.
While the journey towards true peace that lies ahead is long,
our incremental steps continue to take us closer to that promised day.
Renew in us the strength, faith, and courage we need to persevere
so that the promised day will come when your will
is being done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

Hymn #119: My Soul Gives Glory to God
(Please see separate attachment for the score)

Hymn Leader: Carol Bellamy

- 1) My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its praise.
God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways.
- 2) My God has done great things for me: yes, holy is God's name.
All people will declare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim.

- 3) From age to age, to all who fear, such mercy love imparts,
dispensing justice far and near, dismissing selfish hearts.
- 4) Love casts the mighty from their thrones, promotes the insecure,
leaves hungry spirits satisfied, the rich seem suddenly poor.
- 5) Praise God, whose loving covenant supports those in distress,
remembering past promises with present faithfulness.

Prayer of Confession **Unison**

**Despite our best efforts, O God, we have not always lived as we should.
Our own short-sightedness and impatience
have led us to make choices based upon our immediate needs over your
desires.**

**Many of the challenges we have faced have evoked fear in us.
We have let these fears at times overwhelm our faith and trust in you.**

**We see injustices all around:
in the papers, on television, on the web,
or walking through our community.**

**Yet we often cannot bring ourselves to speak out
or take action against them.**

We know you created this world with enough for everyone.

Yet, in this land of plenty, people know deprivation.

**Forgive us that we have not done enough
to sustain and support the sacredness of the common good.**

Forgive us and lead us into your ways of living.

Moments for Reflection and Silence

Assurance of Pardon

A cord of love binds us to God.
God will not allow us to enter Sheol or to see the Pit.
We are forgiven and saved by God's love for us.
Thanks be to God.

Passing of the Peace

Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you
People: **And also with you!**

Daniel 12:1-3

12 “At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Psalm 16 excerpts

- ¹ Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
² I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you.”
³ As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,
in whom is all my delight.
⁵ The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.
⁷ I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
⁸ I keep the Lord always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.
¹⁰ For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.
¹¹ You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Special Music

Carol Bellamy

Gospel Reading**Mark 13:1-8 (NIV)****The Destruction of the Temple Foretold**

13 As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” ² Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.” ³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

Musical Interlude

Sermon: Large Stones and Buildings—What Lasts

Music for Meditation

Prayers of the People

Hymn #537 Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed (verses 1 and 2)

**1) Christian, rise and act your creed;
let your prayer be in your deed;
Seek the right, perform the true,
raise your work and life anew.**

**2) Hearts around you sink with care,
you can help their load to bear;
You can bring inspiring light,
strengthen them to do the right.**

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer **Unison**

Offering Invitation

Our offering is a faith statement.
By offering our treasure to God,
we believe that what we do here in this church
does make a difference in this world
and that by this offering we will hasten the day when the lame shall leap for joy,
the blind shall see, and that scarcity and deprivation will exist only in our
memories.

Offering and Dedication Unison

**We return a portion of what we have received from you, O God,
in gratitude for all that you have bestowed upon us.
Bless this offering.
Grant that it may continue to sustain and support the ministries of this
church to bring the light of Christ into this community and the world
beyond. Amen.**

Benediction Unison

**What endures is not the edifices we build,
but the work of God that we accomplish
through our ministries in the name of Christ Jesus.
Let us go forth from here empowered by the Holy Spirit
to be God's instruments of justice rooted in love
to further the work of Jesus and to move us closer to God's reign of peace.**