

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

PreludeShall We Gather at the Riverby Robert Lowry/arr. Joe UtterbackSylvia OinesWelcomeSenior Pastor, Doug Kelly

Leader: The Lord be with you! People: And also with you!

News From The Front Urban Impact Community Development & Outreach, Lynne Blessing

Light the Christ Candle

Worship Leader, Lynne Blessing

Silent Listening

Call to Worship

Song Be the Centre Ensemble

Jesus, be the centre; be my source, be my light, Jesus Jesus, be the centre; be my hope, be my song, Jesus Be the fire in my heart, be the wind in these sails Be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus

Jesus, be my vision; be my path, be my guide, Jesus Jesus, be the centre; be my source, be my light, Jesus Be my source, be my light, Jesus; Jesus, Jesus

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Scripture Reading Ephesians 2:11-22 (The Message)

¹¹⁻¹³ But don't take any of this for granted. It was only yesterday that you outsiders to God's ways had no idea of any of this, didn't know the first thing about the way God works, hadn't the faintest idea of Christ. You knew nothing of that rich history of God's covenants and promises in Israel, hadn't a clue about what God was doing in the world at large. Now because of Christ—dying that death, shedding that blood—you who were once out of it altogether are in on everything.

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ The Messiah has made things up between us so that we're now together on this, both non-Jewish outsiders and Jewish insiders. He tore down the wall we used to keep each other at a distance. He repealed the law code that had become so clogged with fine print and footnotes that it hindered more than it helped. Then he started over. Instead of continuing with two groups of people separated by centuries of animosity and suspicion, he created a new kind of human being, a fresh start for everybody.

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility. Christ came and preached peace to you outsiders and peace to us insiders. He treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit and have equal access to the Father.

¹⁹⁻²² 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.

Hymn *The Church's One Foundation* (verses 1-3, 5)

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord

She is His new creation by water and the word

From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride

With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth

Her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth

One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food

And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued

Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed

By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed

Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How Long?"

And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One

And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won

O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we

Like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally

Children's Message

Responding to God's Great Love >> Click here to give online

Lynne Blessing

Leader: You have given all to me. **People: To you, Lord, I return it.** Leader: Everything is Yours.

People: Do with it what You will.

Leader: Give me only Your love and Your grace.

People: That is enough for me.

Song Across the Lands

Ensemble

You're the Word of God the Father, from before the world began Every star and every planet has been fashioned by Your hand All creation holds together by the power of Your voice Let the skies declare Your glory; let the land and seas rejoice

You're the author of creation; You're the Lord of everyone And Your cry of love rings out across the lands

Yet You left the gaze of angels, came to seek and save the lost
And exchanged the joy of heaven for the anguish of a cross
With a prayer you fed the hungry, with a word You stilled the sea
Yet how silently You suffered, that the guilty may go free (Chorus)
With a shout You rose victorious, wresting victory from the grave
And ascended into heaven, leading captives in Your wake
Now You stand before the Father interceding for Your own
From each tribe and tongue and nation, You are leading sinners home (Chorus)

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Ushers

Sermon Belonging to Christ, Belonging to Bethany: No Longer Strangers

Doug Kelly

Our Prayers to God >>Click here for the Virtual Prayer Wall

Song Cornerstone

Ensemble

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly trust in Jesus' Name (Repeat)

Christ alone, Cornerstone, weak made strong in the Savior's love Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchanging grace In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil (Chorus)

When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh may I then in Him be found Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless I stand before the throne (*Chorus*) Words & Music by Reuben Morgan, Edward Mote, Jonas Myrin, Eric Lilje ©2012 Hillsong Publishing CCLI #176696

Benediction Doug Kelly

Closing Song Go Now In Peace

Ensemble

Go now in peace, go now in peace; may the love of God surround you Everywhere, everywhere you may go (Repeat)

Postlude The Wall by The Brilliance Sylvia Oines

Preaching Today Doug Kelly

Leading Worship

Lynne Blessing

Ministers You, who are touched by God's grace, being healed by God's love **Date** September 25, 2022



