

PRELUDE

◇ A time of quiet preparation

Christ, the Cornerstone/ B. Price
How Firm a Foundation/ arr. E. Broughton

WORDS OF GREETING

Jim Harris

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Ephesians 2: 19-22 (NIV)

Leader: Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,

People: **Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.**

Leader: In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.

People: **And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.**

Leader: Let us worship Jesus

People: **The King and Cornerstone of the church.**

IN PRAYER

*WE PRAISE OUR GOD

HYMN OF PRAISE 347 (vss. 1-3 & 6)

The Church's One Foundation

*WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

I Peter 2:4-10 (NIV)

Leader: As you come to him, the living Stone--rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him--

People: **You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.**

Leader: For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone, "

People: **Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected**

has become the capstone, " and, "A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message-- which is also what they were destined for.

Leader: But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

People: **Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.**

*WE EXALT OUR LORD

WORSHIP SONGS

Leader: Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.
Ephesians 2:12-13 (NIV)

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ CHORAL OFFERTORY

Lord, I Believe/ arr. L. Shackley

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 20:9-19 (NIV)

⁹ He went on to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. ¹⁰ At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹ He sent another servant, but that one also they beat and treated shamefully and sent away empty-handed. ¹² He sent still a third, and they wounded him and threw him out.

¹³ "Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my son, whom I love; perhaps they will respect him.'

¹⁴ "But when the tenants saw him, they talked the matter over. 'This is the heir,' they said. 'Let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.'

¹⁵ So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

"What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them?"

¹⁶ He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others." When the people heard this, they said, "May this never be!"

¹⁷ Jesus looked directly at them and asked, "Then what is the meaning of that which is written: 'The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone'?" ¹⁸ Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed."

¹⁹ The teachers of the law and the chief priests looked for a way to arrest him immediately, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people.

SERMON

A Sure Foundation
series: Jesus and the Parables
Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas

WE COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PREPARATION

THE INVITATION

THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Please Note: An elder is available in the rear of the sanctuary during communion to pray with you regarding any needs or issues in your life.

WE REMEMBER THOSE IN NEED

THE LOVE OFFERING/CLOSING HYMN **252**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

*WORDS OF PEACE

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

(4 years through 5th grade)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE