January 23, 2022
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Call to Worship
(Psalm 19, Nehemiah 8)

One: God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

All: God calls us to be builders as well.

One: God calls us to build our lives:

All: to restore broken places and continue to grow.

One: God calls us to build our faith:

All: to study the Word and ponder its interpretation.

One: God calls us to build our community:

All: to build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.

One: God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of Scripture:

All: to preach the good news of God's love and liberation for all people.

Hymn 265 ***"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"***

Prayer of Confession
(Nehemiah 8, Psalm 19)

All: God of our Restoration, whenever we come home to you, we realize how far we have strayed and how much we have forgotten of your law and your love. We have not loved you with our whole hearts or loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, heal us, and restore us to our relationship with you; through Jesus Christ, in whom we trust.

(Silent confession)

Amen.

Prayer of Declaration

One: God's word does not come to condemn us, but to make us wise, reviving our souls and rejoicing our hearts. God's Word has been fulfilled among us in Jesus Christ, who sets us free to live in accord with God's own jubilee.

All: Thanks be to God!

Scripture

Psalm 19

1 The heavens are telling the glory of God;
  and the firmament* proclaims his handiwork.
2 Day to day pours forth speech,
  and night to night declares knowledge.
3 There is no speech, nor are there words;
  their voice is not heard;
4 yet their voice* goes out through all the earth,
  and their words to the end of the world.
In the heavens* he has set a tent for the sun,
5 which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
  and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
  and its circuit to the end of them;
  and nothing is hidden from its heat.
7 The law of the Lord is perfect,
  reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure,
  making wise the simple;
8 the precepts of the Lord are right,
  rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear,

enlightening the eyes;
9 the fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring for ever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.
10 More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.
11 Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
12 But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
13 Keep back your servant also from the insolent;*
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.
14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Luke 4:14-21

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. 16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 18 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' 20And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of
the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13For in the one
Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—
and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. 14 Indeed, the body does not
consist of one member but of many. 15If the foot were to say, 'Because I am
not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part
of the body. 16And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not
belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17If the
whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were
hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18But as it is, God arranged the
members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19If all were a single
member, where would the body be? 20As it is, there are many members, yet
one body. 21The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again
the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' 22On the contrary, the members
of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23and those members
of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and
our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; 24whereas
our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the
body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, 25that there may be
no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for
one another. 26If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one
member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. 27 Now you are the body of
Christ and individually members of it. 28And God has appointed in the church
first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts
of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of
tongues. 29Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work
miracles? 30Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all
interpret? 31But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more
excellent way.

Affirmation of Faith:
(The Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the

third day he rose
again, he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and
the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic
Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

> **All: God of life and of new life, bless these gifts that we have given that they may further your reign in this world. Amen.**

Hymn 306 ***"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"***