



Groundbreaking Ceremony

Hope Lutheran Church, Plant City, FL

Saturday, May 30, 2020

AS WE GATHER

“As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house[a] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 2:4-5

OPENING HYMN

“The Church’s One Foundation”

LSB 644; vs. 1, 4-5

- 1 The Church’s one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the Word.
From heav’n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
- 4 Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.
- 5 Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav’nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

Text: Public domain

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: Unless the Lord builds the house,

C: **Those who build it labor in vain.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray: God of the Church, Your Word, Your grace, and the faith You have given to Your children have blessed Hope Lutheran Church for 63 years. Give to us gathered here these gifts in rich measure as we build Hope for the future. May our vision not be bound by what we are but freed for service according to what we might become by the power of Your Spirit, that together we boldly reach into our community to connect people to Jesus, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 29:10-14

¹⁰This is what the Lord says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. ¹¹For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹²Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴I will be found by you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Peter 2:1-9

¹So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6:47-49

⁴⁷Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: ⁴⁸he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

GROUNDBREAKING REMARKS

*Rev. Dean R. Pfeffer, Sr. Pastor; David Booher, Building Committee Chair
Nick Trivunovich, Capital Campaign Director; Ken Hartmann, Congregational President*

RECOGNITION OF LOCAL OFFICIALS

BREAKING OF GROUND BY THE PASTORS

P: We now break this ground in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit, that the sanctuary which will be built here may serve as a place where God will cause His name to dwell and where He will come to His people and bless them.

C: **Amen.**

BREAKING OF GROUND BY PASTORS, BUILDING COMMITTEE, CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS, AND LOCAL LEADERS

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the Gospel be faithfully preached, the Sacraments rightly administered, and prayers and praise continually offered here from generation to generation.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING PRAYER

P: Almighty and everlasting God, bless this place where we are about to build a house for Your honor and worship. Grant Your favor to all who will be engaged in the work of building, that the construction may be completed, the building set apart to Your glory, and Your holy name worshiped here in truth and purity to all generations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

P: We are now entering the mission field!

C: 'Here am I! Send me!'

CLOSING SONG

"In Christ Alone"

ABS (2) 42

**In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm thro' the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when striving cease.
My comforter, my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross, as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine—Bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the pow'r of Christ I stand.**

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May 30, 2020

Rev. Dean Pfeffer and church members
Hope Lutheran Church
2001 N. Park Road
Plant City, FL 33563

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Greetings in the name of the One who Rose and Ascended on high, Jesus, our Savior!

What a grand occasion to gather and celebrate the goodness of the Lord as you build hope for the future! I am sorry that I am unable to be with you now, but hope and pray that I can join you when you dedicate this facility to the work of the Lord. The beginning of a building process is filled with anticipation and excitement. As the site is prepared, as the crews start their work, as the plans continue to move forward, know that you are all in our prayers as we rejoice in how God's blessing is being made visible among you.

You have done a marvelous job in your capital campaign, and I know that LCEF is happy to also partner with you as you grow. We also stand with you, with great pride in your vision, and with gratefulness for the leadership of your pastor and others who are building for Hope. May the joy of Jesus surround you all, and may His angels stand guard around this site, to keep all who work on this project safe and filled with Hope in Jesus!

Congratulations Hope Lutheran Church on this new foundation for connecting people to Jesus. May He be seen as you serve the Lord and continue building hope for the future!

In His peace,

Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Walton, President
The Florida-Georgia District, LCMS

PASTORS AND STAFF

Rev. Dean Pfeffer, *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Shea Pennington, *Associate Pastor*

Rev. Miguel Sanabria, Jr., *Spanish Ministry Pastor*

Christine Mansell, *Director of Music*

Mike McMinn, *Guitar*

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Tom Eggebrecht, *LCEF Ministry Support Consultant*

Rev. Dean Pfeffer & Rev. Shea Pennington, *Pastoral Staff*

Jim Drapp & Nick Trivunovich, *Campaign Directors*

Brian Heipp, *Campaign Coordinator*

Wayne & Gloria Warner, *Prayer Directors*

Patrick & Jessica Griffin, *Communications Directors*

Tom Reagin, *Inform Director*

Wendell Lattz & Christine Mansell, *Lead Gifts Directors*

Kathy Drapp, Liz Pfeffer & Nora Trivunovich, *Initial Commitments & Celebration Directors*

Sandra Booher & Cindy Kemp, *Visitation Directors*

Becky Hartmann & Rev. Shea Pennington, *Young Adult, Youth & Children Emphasis Directors*

Rev. Dean Pfeffer, *Friends of the Congregation Director*

Tom & Ellen Whitehurst, *Follow-up Directors*

David Booher, Mike & Willa McMinn, *Impact Phase Directors*

BUILDING COMMITTEE

David Booher; Jim Drapp; Jack Goetsch; Patrick Griffin

Ken Hartmann; Rev. Dean Pfeffer; Jesilynn Pfeffer

Rev. Shea Pennington; Meghan Trivunovich

Nick Trivunovich; Nora Trivunovich; Tom Whitehurst

Mark Johnson, *Architect*,
Dykes-Johnson Architects, Inc.

Clayton Jenkins, *Contractor*,
T. Clayton Jenkins Construction Co., Inc.

