

645 Built on the Rock



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how
 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the



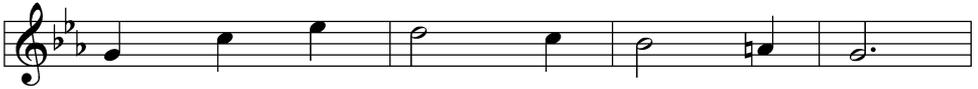
stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's
 church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing



ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives
 faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -



ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
 ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.



But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
 Choos - es to live with us in love,
 Yet He would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
 You, not the world, My face shall see.



Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
 With all His grace and His fa - vor.
 And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
 My peace I leave with you. A - men."

ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:
the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

Thanksgiving for Light

L Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Psalm 141

C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,

the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice

when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,

the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

II Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



I Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.



II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref - uge.



Strip me not of my life.

C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in



the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

L Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

Preparing to Hear – Ephesians

- Saint Paul wrote this to the church about five years after he had been with them and about three years before the first letter to Timothy, who served the Ephesian congregation.
- Paul had first made contact with a group of disciples at Ephesus during his third missionary journey and ended up staying there for three years.
- The letter is written during Paul's imprisonment in Rome. It is most likely written at the same time as the letter to the Colossians. Both letters share common material and the trip from Rome to Colosse would most likely go through Ephesus.
- The letter is one of general encouragement. The only real trouble that seems to be addressed is division between the Jewish and Gentile members of the congregation.

Things to Listen for in Ephesians

- The Holy Spirit moves Paul to begin this letter with a beautiful Trinitarian Berakah prayer - that is a prayer of blessing. It weaves our blessing (praising) God for His blessings (good gifts bestowed on us). It begins with God the Father and flows beautifully into praising God the Son and rejoices in the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- Paul talks about giving thanks for the faith and love of the Ephesians which then again ends up focusing on the blessing of God in Christ.
- The first thing Jews and Gentiles had in common was that they were dead in their sin. The second thing they had in common was that God made them alive in Christ Jesus, and the third thing was that the Holy Spirit gave them faith.
- Christ is back in the center as the one who came for all, Jew and Gentile alike and in him is our citizenship, our unity, our family status.
- Even as Paul moves into Christian living, the message of Christ remains in the center as binding force for the church and the power for living according to God's direction. He is even the center of Christian marriage as it is made so clear.
- Paul makes clear that the battle of life is against spiritual forces and that the only way to stand it is to be equipped with the very armor of God.

Key Memory Passages in Ephesians:

- ✓ 2:8-10 "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."
- ✓ 6:10-20: "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil..."

- 1 Christ, our human likeness sharing,
Heaven's love on earth portrayed;
Christ the Shepherd, tending, caring,
In His death our ransom paid:
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,
Be Your life in us displayed.

- 2 Hear the word that Christ has spoken,
Help the weak, the hungry feed;
See the pow'rs of darkness broken,
Sinners pardoned, captives freed:
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,
Help us meet our neighbor's need.

- 3 Christ, in ev'ry congregation
Build Your temple, stone by stone,
With Your word as firm foundation
For a faith matured and grown:
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,
Make in us Your Gospel known.

- 4 Come, O living Christ, renew us,
As of old in wind and flame;
With the Spirit's pow'r endue us,
Servants of Your saving name:
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,
Christ whose kingdom we proclaim.

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Reading and Hearing - Ephesians

Christ and the Church (1:1-3:21)

- Triune Blessings in Christ (1:1-14)
- Thanksgiving and Prayer (1:15-23)
- Dead by Nature, Alive in Christ by Grace Alone (2:1-10)
- Gentiles and Israel, One in Christ (2:15-22)
- Paul the Preacher to the Gentiles (3:1-13)
- Prayer to Grasp the Love of Christ (3:14-21)

The Baptized Life of a Believer (4:1-6:20)

- Baptism Unites (4:1-16)
- Baptism Clothes the Believer (4:17-32)
- Baptism Directs our Steps (5:1-20)
- Baptism Orders our Relationships (5:21-6:9)
- Baptism Equips us with God's Armor (6:10-20)

Conclusion (6:21-24)



1 Rise! To arms! With prayer em-ploy you, O Chris-tians, lest the
 2 Cast a - far this world's vain plea - sure And bold - ly strive for
 3 Wise - ly fight, for time is fleet - ing; The hours of grace are



foe de-destroy you; For Sa - tan has de-signed your fall.
 heav'n-ly trea - sure. Be stead-fast in the Sav - ior's might.
 fast re-treat - ing; Short, short is this our earth - ly way.



Wield God's Word, the weap - on glo - rious; A - gainst all foes be
 Trust the Lord, who stands be - side you, For Je - sus from all
 When the Lord the dead will wak - en And sin - ners all by



thus vic - to - rious, For God pro-protects you from them all.
 harm will hide you. By faith you con-quer in the fight.
 fear are shak - en, The saints with joy will greet that day.



Fear not the hordes of hell, Here is Em - man - u - el.
 Take cour - age, wea - ry soul! Look for - ward to the goal!
 Praise God, our tri-umph's sure. We need not long en-dure



Hail the Sav - ior! The strong foes yield To Christ, our shield,
 Joy a - waits you. The race well run, Your long war won,
 Scorn and tri - al. Our Sav - ior King His own will bring



And we, the vic - tors, hold the field.
 Your crown shines splen - did as the sun.
 To that great glo - ry which we sing.

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Sit

Offering

Stand

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For [*names of synodical and district presidents*], for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For [*name of president or monarch*], for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**

The prayers then continue:

- L** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:
C **Thanks be to God.**
- L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

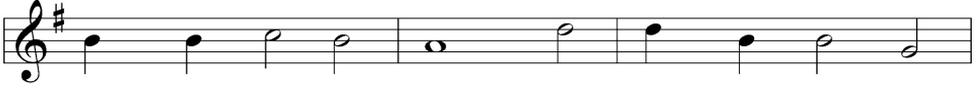
Silence for individual prayer may follow.

- L** Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:
C **To You, O Lord.**

697 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, And
2 To us on earth He came to bring From
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, Who
4 For us Christ lived, for us He died, And



Christ shall give you light; So learn His love, its
sin and fear re - lease, To give the Spir - it's
died that He might save; With kind and gen - tle
con - quered in the strife; A - wake, a - rise, go



length and breadth, Its full - ness, depth, and height.
u - ni - ty, The ver - y bond of peace.
hearts for - give As God in Christ for - gave.
forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

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Acknowledgments

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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