

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

**Please stand if you are able GtG = Glory to God hymnal*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 138)*

One: We give thanks, O LORD, with all our hearts;

**All: We bow down toward your temple and give thanks
for your steadfast love and faithfulness.**

One: Though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve us;

All: You stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers us.

One: Fulfill your purpose for us, for your steadfast love endures forever.

All: Let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN** “From All That Dwell Below the Skies” *GtG 327*

**1. From all that dwell below the skies
let the Creator’s praise arise:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung
through every land, in every tongue.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**2. In every land begin the song;
to every land the strains belong:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
In cheerful sound all voices raise
and fill the world with joyful praise.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

(continued...)

**3. Eternal are thy mercies, Lord;
eternal truth attends thy word:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Words: Stanzas 1,3, Isaac Watts, 1719; stanza 2, A Pocket Hymn Book, 1781. MUSIC (LAST UNSERFREUEN, LM): Geistliche Kirchengesang, 1623, alt.; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Public Domain*

UNISON PRAYER ADORATION OF CONFESSION

We thank you for showering us with blessings and for sharing the Good News of the Gospel with us. We are not worthy of your love, and we do not deserve your favor. We have sinned by speaking words that kill and destroy. We have sinned by acting in ways that bring pain, separation, and loss. From our hearts come evil thoughts and desires. From our hearts we have born false witness and engaged in slander. Forgive us and show us how we are one body with many members. In this moment of silence, hear our personal confession of sins...

SILENT PRAYER *(moment of silence for personal confession)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The gifts and calling of God are irrevocable...God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that God may be merciful to all. What was intended for harm has been redeemed for the good of the world.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: “Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)” *GtG 581*

- 1. Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, amen**

*Text: Traditional liturgical text; Music: (GLORIA PATRI (Greateorex)):
Henry W. Greateorex, 1851. Public Domain*

THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*One: O Lord, we present ourselves to you as a living sacrifice, make us
holy and acceptable to you. May we not be conformed to this world
but may we be transformed by the renewing of our minds, so we may
discern what is your will—what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

All: Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Old Testament	Isaiah 51:1-6; 56:1, 6-8	[NRSV]
Epistle	Romans 12:1-8	[NRSV]
Gospel	Matthew 16:13-20	[NRSV]

SERMON “A House of Prayer for All People” *by Reverend Emily Rosencrans*

***HYMN** “Let Us Build a House” *GtG* 301

1. **Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ
shall end divisions.**

Refrain
**all are welcome; all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.**

2. **Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God’s children dare to seek
to dream God’s reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God’s grace;
here as one we claim
the faith of Jesus:**

Refrain

3. **Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine, and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ
the feast that frees us:**

Refrain

(continued...)

4. **Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end
to fear and danger:**

Refrain
**all are welcome; all are welcome;
all are welcome in this place.**

5. **Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim
from floor to rafter:**

Refrain

Words: Marty Haugen, 1994; © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.
MUSIC (TWO OAKS): Marty Haugen, 1994; © 1994 GIA
Publications, Inc.;
Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under
ONE LICENSE #A-739819. All rights reserved.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(THE NICENE CREED)

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

(continued...)

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
He came down from heaven.
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

**Our Father,
Who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power and the Glory
Forever.
Amen**

OFFERING

Invitation

*One: Let us give generously to the One who gives life, hope, healing,
purpose and love. Let us give so God's house may be a house
of prayer for all people.*

Reflection

***THE DOXOLOGY** GtG #607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.
Amen.**

*TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988; © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg
MUSIC (OLD HUNDREDTH, LM): Genevan Psalter, 1531.
Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE
#A-739819. All rights reserved.*

**Prayer of Dedication*

One. We pray these gifts will bring justice for the oppressed and righteousness for all people. We dedicate this offering to the One who makes a way for salvation and reveals God's deliverance. Jesus Christ is the solid rock on which we stand. With these gifts may we build a house of prayer for all people.

All: Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" GtG #298**

- 1. Lord, you give the great commission:
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose
with renewed integrity:
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.**
- 2. Lord, you call us to your service:
"In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us
closer in community:
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.**
- 3. Lord, you make the common holy:
"This my body; this my blood."
Let us all, for earth's true glory,
daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us
share your children's liberty:
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.**

4. Lord, you show us love's true measure:

"Father, what they do, forgive."

Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.

May your care and mercy lead us
to a just society:
with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

5. Lord, you bless with words assuring:

"I am with you to the end."

Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend,

and, amid the cares that claim us,
hold in mind eternity:

with the Spirit's gifts empower us
for the work of ministry.

*Words: Jeffery W. Rowthorn, 1978. © 1978 Hope Publishing Company.
MUSIC (ABBOT'S LEIGH): Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941; © 1942, ren. 1970
Hope Publishing Company. Used by permission through CCLI License
#11178434. / #20702248.*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

One: Let us go forth to build a house of prayer for all people.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

And the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: Amen.

***POSTLUDE POSTLUDE**