

September 26, 2021

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22

Courage for Community
American Indian Ministry Sunday
United Samoan Ministries Stewardship Sunday

Esther's story is hidden history for most modern United Church of Christ congregations. Readings from the Old Testament book that bears her name only appear once in the three-year cycle of the lectionary, which is the calendar of Bible readings used by many congregations to guide worship. And there are several readings to choose from each Sunday, so unless a congregation is very thoughtful and deliberate in choosing to share her story, you might not know anything about her.

This is not so for our Jewish brothers and sisters in faith. Each year in the festival of Purim, her story is celebrated with joy and gratitude as one of the great heroes in the centuries-long battle against anti-Semitism.

Hidden histories are those stories from the past that have either been forgotten or deliberately suppressed as a way to center only one telling of history. On this day in the UCC, as we bring Esther out of hiding, we celebrate the voices of two significant groups whose stories have too often also been hidden.

American Indian Ministry Sunday is an opportunity to hear the voices of our Native American siblings. According to caimucc.org, American Indian congregations "are an integral part of the life of the United Church of Christ. We maintain our Indian traditions by employing our Native values and cultures to witness in our communities through authentic and postcolonial Indian expressions of the Christian faith."

United Samoan Ministries Stewardship Sunday is a chance to recognize the UCC's Samoan congregations. You can find their web presence on Facebook at [united-samoanministriesucc/](https://www.facebook.com/united-samoanministriesucc/), where they proclaim: We are the body of Christ, gathered and scattered in various states and cultural environments, proclaiming our faith in our Risen Lord Jesus Christ! The United Samoan Ministries of the UCC is established to provide a setting for members of Samoan congregations to gather for fellowship, spiritual nurturing, mutual support, and communications, and strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ.

Learn about Esther, and then join these two organizations in keeping language alive and telling stories that reveal hidden histories.

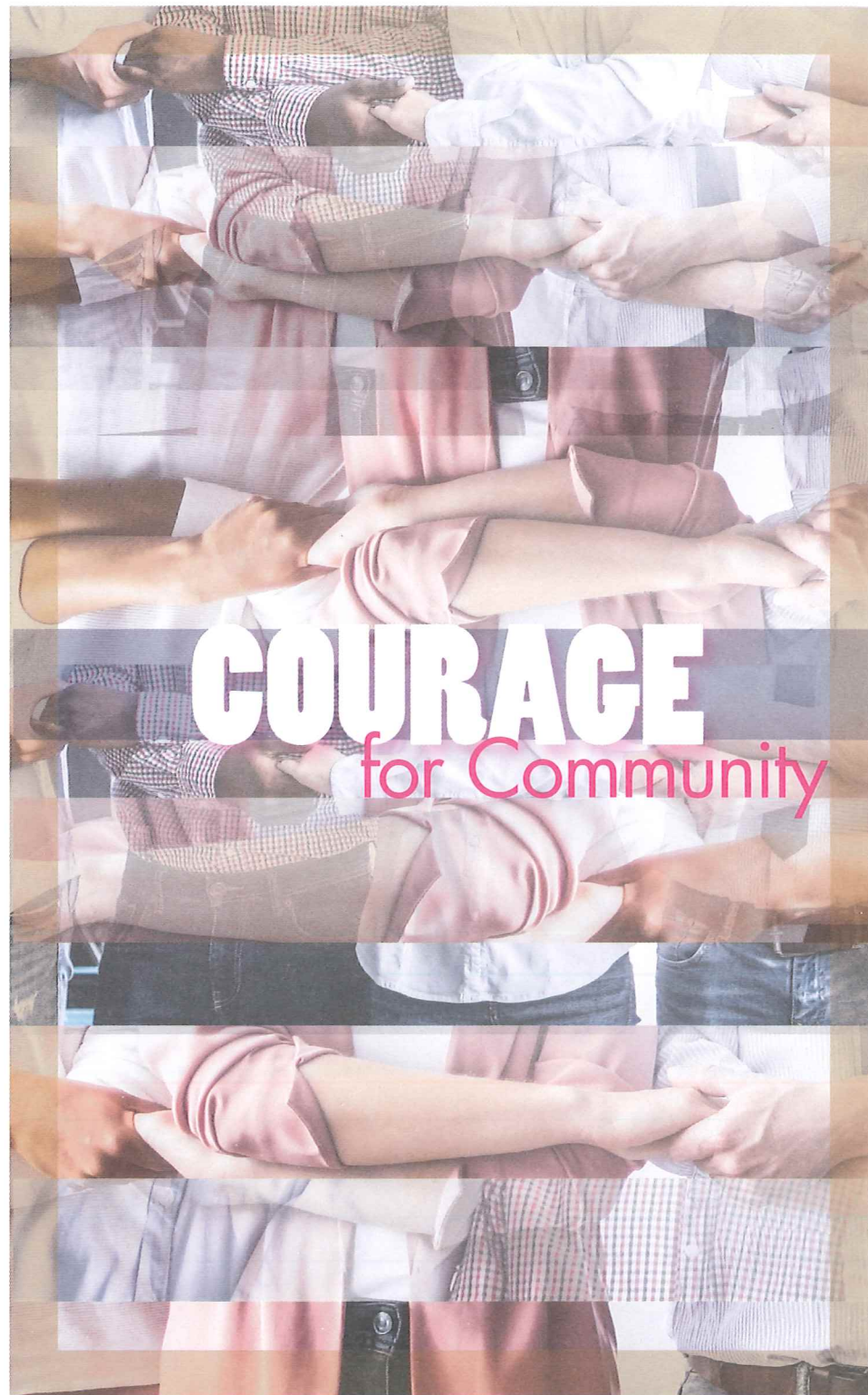


UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

8 1/2" x 11" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

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BUC0104



Bismarck-Mandan Area
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



1200 E Highland Acres Rd, Bismarck, ND 58501
701-223-2915 www.uccbismarck.org

September 26, 2021 at 10 AM Livestreamed
Pastor: Rev. Gretchen Deeg | Liturgist: Carrie Mandigo
Musicians: Joann Otterness | Video: James Mandigo

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

No matter who, no matter what
No matter where you are on the journey of life;
You're welcome, welcome in this place.
Accepted and welcomed by God's grace.

CALL TO WORSHIP

All: We are the church together.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

HYMN All My Hope on God is Founded NCH 408

SCRIPTURE Psalm 19:7-14

CONFESSION

Embodied God, remind us that we are surrounded by the people you have created and by the many gifts we have to share with in community. We confess that in our own struggle to survive, we have ignored you and one another. We have forgotten that great blessing of walking alongside one another in faith. Make us mindful. Make us compassionate. Help us to see you in one another. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN – After this time, children are welcome to stay in the sanctuary or attend Sunday School. Masks are required over the age of 2.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witness to our risen Savior.

AFFIRMING OUR COVENANT

As one body, we affirm the sovereignty of Christ and we covenant with God and with one another to walk together in all God's ways, as they are made known to us in the words of scripture, the traditions of the church, and in our continuing search for meaning and truth.

CHOIR ANTHEM Oh, How I Love Jesus arr. Lynn Shaw Bailey

SCRIPTURE Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Mark 9:38-50

SERMON Rev. Gretchen Deeg

HYMN O Great Spirit Sing! 91

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN We Would Be Building NCH 607

CARRY GOD'S LOVE

Thank you caring for one another by masking and monitoring your own health. Masks and social distancing are required inside.

Permission to stream the music in this service obtained from
ONE LICENSE, License #732302-A



Welcome to our New Members!

We are blessed to share this community of faith with one another and welcome Larry & Karol Parker, and StarAnn & Claude Heir along with their son Carson as new members today. The next new member Sunday will be on Nov. 21st. Contact Pastor Gretchen with your interest in officially joining Bismarck UCC.

Sponsor a Sunday Openings

We have openings most Sundays in October. Celebrate or honor someone or a date meaningful to you and help continue to provide Sunday worship opportunities to others. Contact the church office or visit www.uccbismarck.org/donate.

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES: Sept. 26 - Oct. 3

Sunday:	11 AM Fellowship & Noon Online Fellowship
Tuesday:	2PM Quilting/Knitting (in-person) 5:30 PM Council (online)
Wednesday:	4 PM Caffeine & X-ianity (in-person) 6:30 PM Bible Study (online) 7 PM Choir Practice (in-person)
Thursday:	6 PM Music Committee
Friday:	8:30 AM Bible Study (in-person & online)
Sunday:	10 AM Worship (in-person & online) 10:20 AM Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship & Noon Online Fellowship 11:30 AM Handbell Practice

Now Hiring: Snow Removal Person

UCC is hiring an individual 16 and older to remove snow on the sidewalks this winter. If interested please call the office at 223-2915, or contact Pastor Gretchen.



Jack's Food Pantry

We are still working with Adopt-a-Block, and they continue to serve approximately 100 families per week. They currently need Canned Fruit, Mac & Cheese, and Powdered Milk

NPC 2021 Annual Meeting: Sat. Oct. 2, 10 AM - 1 PM

The conference will be on Zoom due to the current Covid surge. Worship and State of the Conference will be conducted by Rev. Deborah Blood, presentation and conversation with Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer, and a discussion of conference business will be held. Please register by Sept. 30 at <https://tinyurl.com/hrdxacc>



Bell Choir News

Adler Scheer will be meeting with the Bell Choir on Sunday, Oct. 3rd at 11:30 in the Sanctuary. Anyone who is interested and has not yet signed up should join him at that meeting.

Bible Study Groups - All are welcome

- Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM on Zoom
- Fridays @ 8:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall & online

Youth Faith Opportunities Available

Sunday School: 10:20 AM on Sundays

Confirmation: 2 PM – 4PM every 3rd Sunday

Caffeine & X-ianity: 4 PM – 5 PM on Wednesdays @ UCC

Faith-at-Home: Call 223-2915 if interested.



Church Records Update

Thank you to everyone who has returned your family information forms since receiving them in September's newsletter. We do have some on the table by the bulletin if you need one. We also have a

form available online at <https://forms.gle/eCJkgu8RBTtCWNuUA>

OUR PRAYER LIST

Families of those who are recently deceased: Esther Lang, James Burch (Darleen Cairn's nephew), Mary Donovan (Kyle Eisenbraun's mother), Connie Schwartz, Lilian Wilson, and Albert Eckman (Jana Knoll's father).

Those in need of prayer: Jon Thomson, Diane Kolberg (Jeanne Kolberg's family), Pat Lerberg, Gerald White (Chris Lennon's father), Lisa (Pam Stein's sister), Maggie Demaree, Mike Reisenauer (Darleen Cairn's nephew), Ray Klein (Mike & Pam Stein's friend), Perry Weekes, Jan Johnson, Myron Rosene, Audrey Heinle, Howard Etson, Camille Grothier, East Timor, CHYFS, Refugees, Those affected by COVID-19.

*Contact the church office to be added to our weekly prayer list.

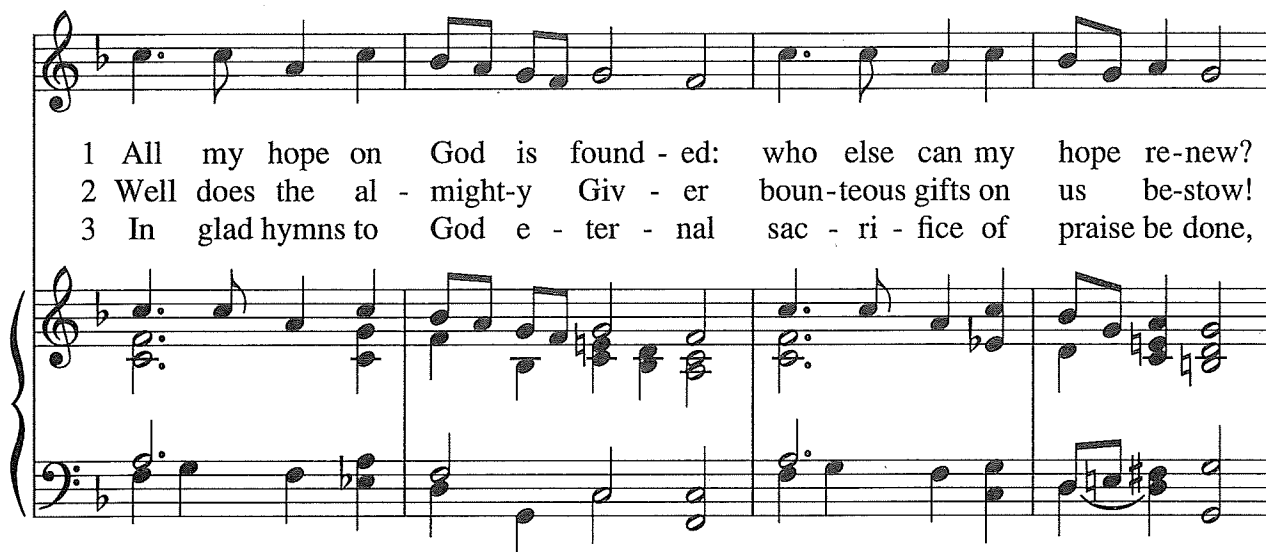
All My Hope on God Is Founded

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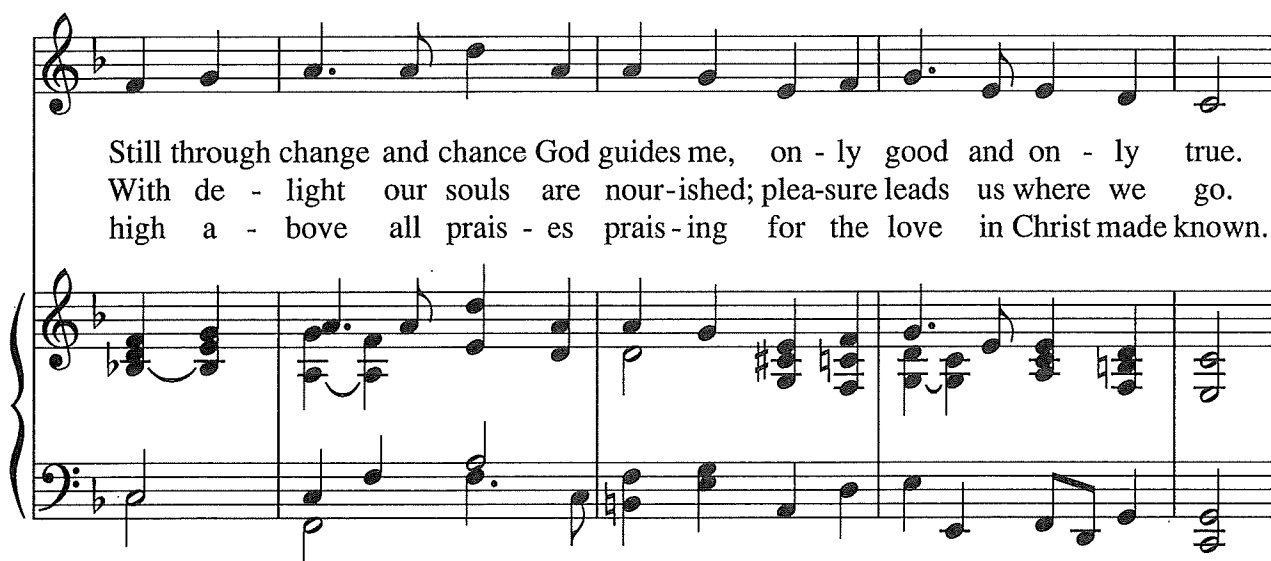
Joachim Neander, c. 1680

Ps. 62:5-8; 1 Tim. 6:17

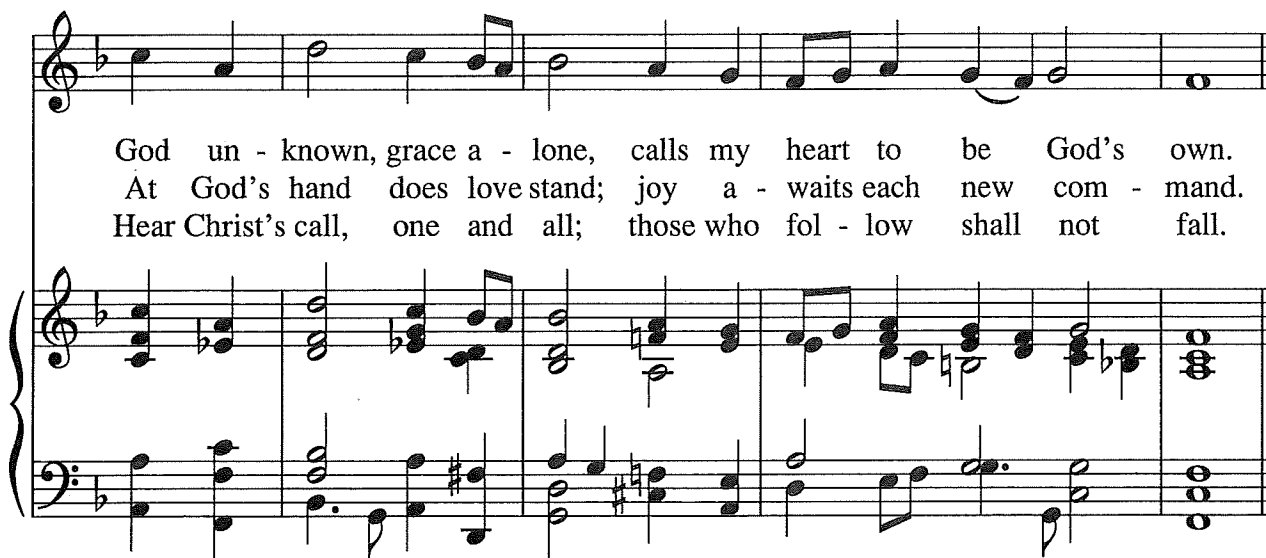
Paraphr. by Robert Bridges, 1899; alt.



1 All my hope on God is found - ed: who else can my hope re-new?
 2 Well does the al - might-y Giv - er boun-teous gifts on us be-stow!
 3 In glad hymns to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of praise be done,



Still through change and chance God guides me, on - ly good and on - ly true.
 With de - light our souls are nour-ished; plea-sure leads us where we go.
 high a - bove all prais - es prais-ing for the love in Christ made known.



God un - known, grace a - lone, calls my heart to be God's own.
 At God's hand does love stand; joy a - waits each new com - mand.
 Hear Christ's call, one and all; those who fol - low shall not fall.

British composer Herbert Howells studied with Charles V. Stanford at the Royal College of Music in London and later taught there. The tune was composed for an English school and

Tune: MICHAEL 8.7.8.7.3.3.7.
 Herbert Howells, 1930, 1977

O Great Spirit

$\text{♩} = 44$

Em Am⁷ Em B⁷/F[♯] Em D⁶ C Am⁷ Bsus B

1. O Great Spir - it, earth, sun, sky and sea,
 2. O Great Spir - it, dawn be - fore the day,

$\text{♩} = 44$

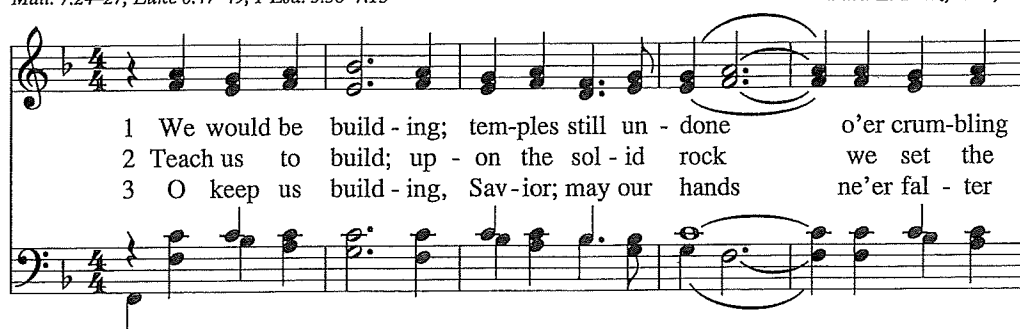
5 Em/G B⁷/F[♯] Em/G C/E Bmsus/D Am⁷ Bm Em

you are___ with - in___ and all a - round me.
 stir us___ with - in___ to hear you as we pray.

We Would Be Building

Matt. 7:24-27; Luke 6:47-49; 1 Esd. 5:56-7:15

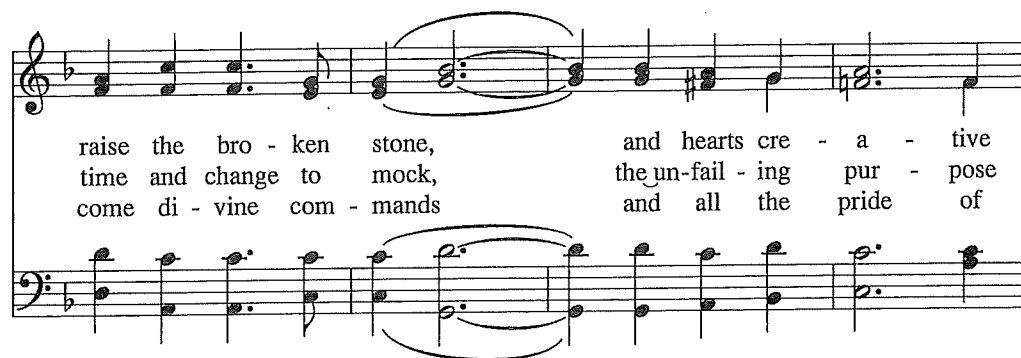
Purd E. Deitz, 1935; alt.




1 We would be build - ing; tem - ples still un - done o'er crum - bling
 2 Teach us to build; up - on the sol - id rock we set the
 3 O keep us build - ing, Sav - ior; may our hands ne'er fal - ter



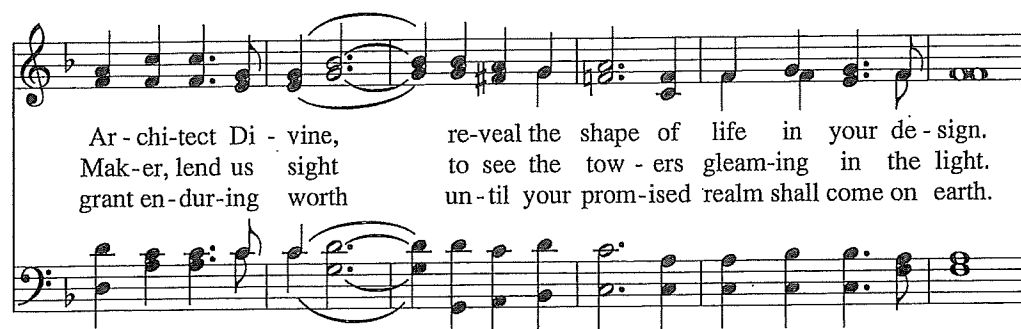
walls their cross - es scarce - ly lift, wait - ing till love can
 dream that hard - ens in - to deed, ribbed with fine steel, both
 when the dream is in our hearts, when to our ears there



raise the bro - ken stone, and hearts cre - a - tive
 time and change to mock, the un - fail - ing pur - pose
 come di - vine com - mands and all the pride of



bridge the hu - man rift. We would be build - ing,
 of our no - blest creed. Teach us to build; O
 sin - ful will de - parts. We build with you; O



Ar - chi - tect Di - vine, re - veal the shape of life in your de - sign.
 Mak - er, lend us sight to see the tow - ers gleam - ing in the light.
 grant en - dur - ing worth un - til your prom - ised realm shall come on earth.