



Growth

March 30, 2022

Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Pastor Fritz

CALL TO WORSHIP

[All Creation Sings Hymn 975]

☒ O God, whose word well-planted yields fruit a hundredfold,
☑ **we praise your graces granted to those who sowed of old,**
☒ who by their witness scattered good seed upon the soil
☑ **where others, reaping, gathered the harvest of their toil.**

☒ O God of seed and harvest, of sun and soil and rain,
☑ **attend the word we sow, lest its planting be in vain.**
☒ Send showers of your Spirit, bright sunshine of your grace,
☑ **that multitudes who hear it your gospel may embrace.**

☒ O God, your final harvest of history's ancient field
☑ **will test with truth the proudest that human work can yield.**
☒ Oppression's blight will vanish, fair freedom's fruits increase;
☑ **and love and joy will flourish to clothe the earth with peace. Amen.**

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SONG

SKIDDLES

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE: GROWTH

☒ God says:] I will bless the person who puts his trust in me.
☑ **He is like a tree growing near a stream and sending out roots to the water.**
☒ It is not afraid when hot weather comes, because its leaves stay green;
☑ **it has no worries when there is no rain; it keeps on bearing fruit.**

▶
–Jeremiah 17:7-8 (Good News Translation)

☒ Paul wrote: “My job was to plant the seed, and Apollos was called to water it. Any growth comes from God,⁷ so the ones who water and plant have nothing to brag about. God, who causes the growth, is the only One who matters.”
–1 Corinthians 3:6-7 (*The Voice*)

☑ **¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.**
–Ephesians 4:15-16 (*NRSV*)

☒ ⁹I pray that your love will keep on growing more and more, together with true knowledge and perfect judgment, ¹⁰so that you will be able to choose what is best.
–Philippians 1:9-10 (*Good News*)

☑ **But continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory, now and forever! Amen.**
–2 Peter 3:18 (*Good News*)

SONG

SKIDDLES

MEDITATION

SONG: BUILD US UP, LORD

**1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in us a strong foundation.
Lead us to do your holy will; form and shape your new creation.
Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we guide and teach each other,
help us to share your love with the world: ev’ry sister, ev’ry brother.**

*Refrain: Growing in Christ, we plant seeds for the kingdom;
we follow in faith what’s begun!
Lord, set in our hearts the pow’r of your word to spread the news of your Son!*

**2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our lives reflect your glory.
Cast away all our doubts and fears; help us tell the world your story.
Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us bear good fruit for you,
Lord, give us vision and keep us sure. Grant us faith that's steadfast and true. *Refrain***

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BENEDICTION

☒ May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit.
–Romans 15:13 (*Good News*)

☑ **Amen. Thanks be to God.**