

Welcome to the living Stone, the source of life. The workmen took one look and threw it out; God set it in the place of honor. Present yourselves as building stones for the construction of a sanctuary vibrant with life, in which you'll serve as holy priests offering Christ-approved lives up to God. The Scriptures provide precedent: Look! I'm setting a stone in Zion,

a cornerstone in the place of honor.

Whoever trusts in this stone as a foundation

will never have cause to regret it.

To you who trust him, he's a Stone to be proud of, but to those who refuse to trust him,

The stone the workmen threw out

is now the chief foundation stone.

For the untrusting it's

. . . a stone to trip over,

a boulder blocking the way.

They trip and fall because they refuse to obey, just as predicted.

But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted.

RESPONSE

One: Let us be doers of the Word and not hearers only.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

PASTORAL REFLECTION "Building Blocks" Pastor Leigh

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.

***HYMN**

*"As We Gather At Your Table"
(Listen to it played all the way through first!)*

***As we gather at your table, As we listen to your word,
Help us know, O God, your presence; Let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story Till we claim it as our own;
Teach us through this holy banquet How to make Love's vict'ry known.***

The Peru Community Church practices open communion. Everyone is welcome at the table of Jesus Christ. Please take a piece of bread and a cup of juice (or gluten-free cracker) and return to your seat to receive. If you cannot come up front, the pastor will come to you. Offerings will also be received in the plates in the front.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

This is the table of new life.

Here the risen Christ meets us—not as we were, but as we are becoming. Come, you who long for renewal. Come, you who carry death and loss. Come, you who hope for beginning again. All are welcome here, for love has already made you new.

Great Thanksgiving

One: The Holy One is with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them toward the light.

One: Let us give thanks for the gifts of God.

All: It is good to give thanks and praise.

Holy One, Source of Life, you breathe creation into being.

Out of dust you form us; out of chaos you shape beauty;

out of death you call forth life. In Jesus, born among us, you showed us life that cannot be extinguished. Even when violence silenced him, you spoke resurrection.

Even when hope was buried, you opened the grave of possibility.

And so we remember:

At the end of his earthly life, Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

He took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying: