



THE OLIN T. BINKLEY  
MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH  
WORSHIP

SIXTH SUNDAY IN CREATION SEASON  
A DEDICATION OF SACRED SPACE  
November 18, 2007

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BECOMING AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

*God of Creation, Maker of All Things, we gather in this place to pray.  
We do invite you, come now among us, come and build your church today.  
Come build a church with human frailty. Come build a church of flesh and blood.  
Jesus shall be its sure foundation. It shall be built by the hand of God.  
From "Come Build A Church" by Ken Medema*

CENTERING *May the sound of the Singing Bowl center our hearts for worship.*

PRELUDE **Let All Things Now Living** arr. Clay

Acolytes Zac and Jewel Szostak

PRAISING

INTROIT **Canon of Thanks** Donald Moore  
Children's Choirs

\* CALL TO WORSHIP Denise Cumbee Long

Leader: Beautiful are the works of God!

**People: Beautiful also are the labors of God's people!**

Leader: Beautiful is the mind of God!

**People: Beautiful also are the hopes of God's people!**

Leader: The Architect of Heaven and Earth called the worlds into being.

**People: We have shaped this community of faith into a vessel of God's love. Beautiful is our service to the world, our care for each other, and our praise to the One who gives us life and breath!**

God, creation's great designer, architect, and artisan,  
Dreamer, builder, and refiner- how we marvel at your plan!  
You have formed us to reflect you, filled us with your Spirit's breath,  
Freed us to accept, reject you, and in Christ, defeated death.

Hear our thanks for those who founded in this place a church for praise,  
Firm in Christ their faith was grounded, they a sacred space did raise.  
Builders, they, in lives and stonework, walls supporting roof and floors,  
Praising you in all their own work- solid base and open doors.

Sing we, too, of churches standing not alone in wood and stone,  
But in human lives commanding confidence in you alone.  
For high arches, rising, yearning, soaring space that fills with song,  
Windows to the world around us- God, we praise you all day long.

Shape us as your congregation, called together, sent afar,  
So as people on a journey, we can serve you where we are.  
O accept the praise we bring you, bless this work of human hands,  
May it nourish friend and stranger, Christ's own love for which it stands.

*Adapted from a hymn by Jane Parker Huber*

\*INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER (and forgive us our sins)

# ORGAN INTERLUDE

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Beth Honeycutt

*Please exchange the Peace of God with your neighbors  
saying "The peace of Christ be with you."*

### CENTERING

CALL TO PRAYER

SILENCE

PRAYER RESPONSE

**Deer's Cry**  
Caryl Thomason Price, soloist

Shawn Davey

## LISTENING

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON      Joshua 4:1-7      Nape Baker

NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS      John 4:7-13, I Peter 2:2-7

\* HYMN OF PREPARATION #461 **Lord Whose Love Through Humble Service**

*Children ages 3 through Kindergarten may depart for Worship in Room 16. Children in 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade may depart for Worship in Room 11. Children giving an offering may place it in the box on the baptistry before leaving the sanctuary.*

SERMON      “Bless These Stones”      Gloria Lightsey-Lewis

## RESPONDING

AFFIRMATION OF INTENTION:      Dale Osborne  
The Covenant of Binkley Baptist Church

Professing our faith in Jesus Christ, we covenant with God and one another to live together as members of this church in obedience to God's will as it has been and shall be made known to us. As part of the body of Christ throughout the world, we promise to express our faithfulness to Christ in love for one another and for the whole of God's creation. The Spirit of God assisting us, we further promise to attend the services of this congregation, observe its sacraments, support its mission to all people, practice faithful stewardship of our possessions and be conscientious caretakers of the Earth, endeavoring always to be a fruitful body of Christians.

PRESENTING TO GOD OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Offertory      **Offertory**      John Ness Beck

\*Doxology

*You are invited to sign the Doxology, to praise God with your body as well as your voice and mind. Please sign along with the leader, or simply sing the Doxology.*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below, Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host;**

**Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\*Prayer of Dedication

## ENDING WORSHIP AND BEGINNING SERVICE

SHARING THE LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Nape Baker

\*LITANY PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Congregational part in bold*

Great Creator, who at the beginning of time fashioned the universe and designed the world our home, who took dust from the earth and breathed our lives into being, and who gives us now this sacred space,

**with great gratitude and celebration we joyfully dedicate this place to the purposes of your realm.**

May your love be the foundation of its structure, so that its hallways remain full of grace, its walls offer safe haven to all who seek your spirit, and its doors be ever open wide to the needs of the wider community and world.

**We know that our true church home is built of people, not bricks and mortar. Yet, we cherish this sacred space as one where we will practice our calling as instruments of your peace, sowers of justice, and builders of community. We dedicate this work of our hands to your glory and love. Amen.**

\*INVITATIONAL AND RECESSIONAL HYMN

*See insert*

**God, You Have Set Us**

NATIONAL HYMN

*If you wish to become a member of this congregation of the Body of Christ today, you are invited to come forward during the first verse of this hymn to be welcomed and received.*

\* BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

**Amen**

POSTLUDE

**Hymn of Praise**

Denton

\*The Congregation standing as they are able.

# Those arriving after the Prelude may be seated at these times.

Persons wishing for assistance with hearing during the worship service are encouraged to check out an FM receiver in the Narthex just before the service begins.