

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: **R**

Refrain:

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Basket of Blessings

Gathering Words:

One: This is a joyful day in the life of this congregation,

All: as we celebrate the many lives that have been touched,

One: We celebrate the gift we are to one another,

All: as we learn and grow along this journey.

One: We give thanks for the branch of God's family that we are
today,

**All: And for what God will inspire us to become tomorrow.
Amen and Amen!**

Children's Time

The Doxology

Sharing the Story: Matthew 18:21-35

Focus on the Word

Music:

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

**VU #364,
vss. 1,2,4**

'Forgive our sins as we forgive,'
you taught us, Christ, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs, and will not let
old bitterness depart?

O cleanse the depths within our souls
and bid resentment cease;
then, bound to all in bonds of love,
our lives will spread your peace.

Prayer in Action

Affirmation:

One: We are not alone,

All: We live in God's world.

One: As we go forth from this place and this time of celebration,

All: we are called to be the church in our daily lives.

One: How does God call us into the world?

**Men: By celebrating God's presence in every moment of our
lives;**

Women: *By living with respect in a fragile creation;*

Men: By loving and serving others;

Women: *By seeking justice and resisting evil;*

**Men: By proclaiming Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and
our hope.**

One: God goes with us, today and every day.

All: **We are not alone. Praise be to God!**

Music:

“We Shall Go Out”

VU #586

We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.

We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
expressive love alive in every heart.

We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.