Appendix H

GROUND BREAKING FOR AN ACCESSIBLE PARKING LOT Northside Presbyterian and St. Aidan's Episcopal Churches.

The Congregation meets in front of the steps.

The Service starts with a Psalm of praise and a blessing of the steps.

Psalm 150

Refrain:

- 1. Hallelujah! Praise God in the holy temple; give praise in the firmament of heaven.
- 2. Praise God who is mighty in **deed**; give praise for God's excellent **great**ness. (refrain)
- 3. Praise God with blast of the **ram's**-horn; give praise with strings and **pipe**.
- 4. Praise God with timbrel and dance; gaive praise with strings and pipe. (refrain)
- 5. Praise God with resounding **cym**bals; give praise with loud-clanging **cym**bals.
- 6. Let everything that has **breath** praise the Lord. Halle**lu**jah! (refrain)

Blessing of the Steps:

Behold, I will rise up and go enter the house of the Lord!

V. The Lord shall watch over your going out and yout coming in:

R. From this time forth for evermore.

Let us pray.

Sovereign Lord, Bless this way of going up and coming down. You, who are Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end: Send your servants out from this place on many errands, be their constant companion in the way, and welcome them upon their return, so that coming and going they may be sustained by your presence, O Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The congregation moves up the steps and begins to process around the parking lot, begining at the southeast corner singing. "Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

At the south west corner the procession halts for the planting of a stake. During the planting of the stake, a praise of the Archangel Gabriel is offered:

Praise to you Gabriel, Messenger of God. Open our hearts to hear your words of solace and strength, your support and challenge. Send us out to prepare the way.

The procession continues to the northwest corner for the planting of a second stake. (Singing prepare ye the Way) During the planting of the stake, a praise of the Archangel Raphael is offered:

Praise to you Raphael, God's Healer. Support with your grace all who come to this place for healing of body, mind, heart, or spirit. Bless this Lot designed to provide access and safety to all who enter these sanctuaries.

The procession continues to the northeast corner for the planting of a third stake. While processing sing the following litany:



All loving God, Creator of <u>hea</u>ven and earth, Have mer-cy on us.

God, our Christ, Redeemer of the world. Have mer-cy on us.

God the Holy Spirit, Sandtifier of the faithful, Have mer-cy on us.

Holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God, Have mer-cy on us.

O Christ the Rock, on which your people, as living stones joined together, grow into a spiritual house;

Defend your Church, we pray.

O Christ the Vine, of which your <u>people</u> are the branches; **Defend your Church**, <u>we pray</u>.

O Christ the Head of the Body, of which your <u>people</u> are the members; **Defend your Church**, <u>we pray</u>.

O Christ our Prophet, you teach the way of <u>God</u> in truth: **Defend your Church, <u>we pray.</u>**

O Christ our Priest, you offered yourself upon the Cross, and now make intercession for <u>us</u> on high.

Defend your Church, we pray.

O Christ our Sovereign, your reign over all the earth, and make us citizens of your heavenly realm.

Defend your Church, we pray.

O Christ, you sent the Holy Spirit upon the Church, clothing it with power from on high:

Defend your Church, we pray.

During the planting of the stake, a praise of the Archangel Michael is offered:

Praise to you, Michael, Commander of the Host of Heaven, visit your encouragement on all who come to this place, inspire us, grant us hope, and send us on our way in service to God's love, peace, and justice.

The procession continues to the southeast corner for the planting of a fourth stake. While processing sing the following litany:

(Same musical setting)

We pray to you, Lord Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may be devoted to the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of <u>bread</u> and the prayers.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we may make disciples of all nations, baptizing <u>them</u> in the your Name. Lord, <u>hear our prayer.</u>

That you will fulfill your promise to be with us always, even to the ages of ages, Lord, hear our prayer.

That you will sustain all members of your holy Church, that in our vocation and ministry we may truly and devoutly serve you, Lord, hear our prayer.

That you will bless the clergy of your Church, that they may diligently preach the Gospel and faithfully celebrate the holy Sacraments, Lord, hear our prayer.

That you will bless the clergy and ministers of your Church, that they may diligently preach the Gospel and faithfully celebrate the holy Sacraments, Lord, hear our prayer.

That you will heal the divisions in your Church, that <u>all</u> may be one. Lord, <u>hear our prayer</u>.

Arise, O God, maintain your cause:

Do not forget the lives of the poor.

Look down from heaven, be hold and tend this vine; Preserve what your right hand has planted.

Let your ministers be <u>clothed</u> with righteousness; Let your faithful people <u>sing with joy</u>.

Duringthe planting of the stake, a praise of the Archangel Uriel is offered:

Praise to you Uriel, Light of God. Bless this Lot with the light of your presence that all who encamp here may enjoy the protection of your radiance.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Let your continual mercy cleanse and defend your Church, O Lord; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The congregation gathers on the east side of the parking lot. for the Service of the Word:

Greeting

By the word of the Lord God's works come into being. As the shining sun looks on all things, so the work of the Lord is full of God's glory. (Sir. 42:15,16)

Leader: Let us Pray

Creator God, we give you thanks for the glory of your creation. With joy, we praise you as we come together to celebrate another great event in our lives together as a community. Help us to move forward in the confidence of your loving support. Amen.

Reader: Why are we here?

"To prepare our sacred space for all God's children. John went into all the regional around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

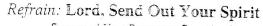
"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord, make the paths of the Lord straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth.
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

...And the crowds asked John, what shall we do? In reply he said to them, Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none.; and whoever has food must do likewise. (Luke 3:3-6; 10-11)

Leader: Let us prepare the way.

While the following psalm is sung, persons appointed stretch two cords diagonally across the space, from the northeast to the southwest, and from the southeast to the northwest, securing them to the stakes, thus forming the Greek letter X (chi), the symbol both of the cross and the name of Christ.(additional people will need to stand along the X to hold up the cords)







- 1. How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts!. * My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2. The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her **young.** * by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my Sovereign and my **God.** (refrain)
- 3. Happy are they who dwell in your **house!.** * they will always be praising you.
- 4. Happy are the people whose strength is in **you.** * whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. (refrain)
- 5. Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, * for early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6.. They will climb from height to **height**, * and the God of gods will appear in **Zion**. (refrain)
- 7. Lord God of hosts, hear my **prayer.** * harken, O God of Jacob.

- 8. Behold our defender, O God; * and look upon the face of your anounted. (refrain)
- 9. For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own **room**. * and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the **wicked**.
- 10. For the Lord God is both sun and shield; * the Lord will give grace and glory. (refrain)
- 11. No good thing will the Lord withhold. * from those who walk with integrity.
- 12. O Lord of **hosts**, * happy are they who put their trust in **you**! (refrain)

The Congregation moves to the center surrounding the X and faces out. During the following psalm, persons appointed stretch the third cord completely around the four stakes, enclosing the area. They move clockwise, beginning and ending at the southeast corner.

Psalm 48:

Refrain: (same as above)

- 1. Great is the Lord, and highly to be **praised**; * in the city of our God is the Lord's holy hill.
- 2. Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of **Zion**, * the city of the great Sovereign and the very center of the **world**. (refrain)
- 3. God is in the citadels of **Zion.** * God is known to be its sure **re**fuge.
- 4. Behold, the rulers of the earth assembled. * and marched forward together. (refrain)
- 5. They looked and were astounded; * they retreated and fled in terror.
- 7. As we have heard, so have seen, in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our **God**; * (refrain)
- 8. We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, Go God, * in the midst of your temple.

- 9. Your praise, like your name, O God, reaches to the world's **end**; your right hand is full of **just**ice. (refrain)
- 10. Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice, * your right hand is full of justice.
- 11. Make the circuit of Zion:walk round about it; * count the number of its towers. (refrain)
- 12. Consider well its bulwarks; examine its strongholds; * that you may tell those who come after.
- 13. This God is our God for ever and ever; * God shall be our guide for evermore. (refrain)

Leader: How wonderful are you, O God, in your holy places, giving strength and power to your people. Blessed are you, O God.

The congregation turns to face the center of the X.

Leader: Let us Pray.

Creator God, we gratefully accept your call to us to be your people. We give thanks for the many blessings we share, and we dedicate this space to your work and your glory.

Leader: For whom is this space? For all!

Reader: The Word is living, being, spirit, all verdant greening, all creativity. This Word manifests itself in every creature. (Hildegarde of Bingen)

Reader: When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe... No particle is ever wasted or worn out, but eternally flowing from use to use. (John Muir)

Reader: The whole idea of compassion is based on a keen awareness of the interdependence of all these living beings, which are all part of one another and all involved in one another. (Thomas Merton)

Leader: Since faithful people desire to build an accessible parking lot to support this house of prayer, dedicated to the glory of God, on this ground, now marked with symbol of Christ;

Then ,after someone takes the spade, and breakisthe ground, the leader continues.

There, we break ground for this parking lot, in the name of God and these congregations. May it suport the work of the Spirit in us and in this place from generation to generation. **Amen**

Others may join moving dirt from either the center or the perimiter of the lot.

Leader: Let us pray.

Creator God, we hear the words of connectedness and compassion, and we don't want anyone to be missing from your table. Help us to widen the welcome until all are here with us. Amen.

Leader: What does this event, this new life, this new creation mean for us? Reader: For everyone who is in Christ this is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. (2 Cor. 5: 17,18)

Song: Christ the Lord is Risen

During the singing of this song the congregation spirals out to the perimiter of the parking lot.

Leader: Let us pray.

O Lord our God, the heavens cannot contain you, yet you are pleased to dwell in the midst of your people and have moved us to set apart this space on which to build a parking lot to support this house of prayer: Accept and bless the work which we have now begun, that it may be brought to completion, to the honor and glory of your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Christ the Lord Is Risen

(Christ the Lord is risen X 2 Jesu) X 2
He has conquered death X 2 Jesu
Sin has done its worst X 2 Jesu
He is King of Kings X 2 Jesu
He is Lord of lords X 2 Jesu
All the world is his X 2 Jesu
Come and worship him X 2 Jesu
Christ our Lord is risen X 2 Jesu
Hallelujah X 2 Jesu