



SUNDAY WORSHIP
DECEMBER 29, 2019

Welcome to Worship

We are so glad that you have joined us for worship this morning and we want you to know that you are always welcome. Regardless of who you are, where you come from, what you do professionally or in your spare time, there is always a place for you here at Greystone.

You can give us a record of your visit by filling out the blue **Friendship Pads** as they are passed down the pews during the service. This will give us a chance to connect with you and help you learn more about Greystone. You can also ask one of the Ministers or Ushers who will direct you to information about our church. We also invite you to visit our website where you'll learn more about Greystone.

YOUR WHOLE FAMILY IS WELCOME!

Worship Care is available in our preschool area for babies to five-year-olds during both the 8:45 and 11:00 services. If you would like your children to participate in Worship Care, please stop by the check-in desk to register and drop off your children. We also have activity bags available for children of all ages. They are located in the basket near the entrance to the Sanctuary.

We hope you find Greystone to be a vibrant, diverse community of faith. Our members come from a wide-range of spiritual backgrounds and life experiences. All of them care deeply for each other and the world around them. At Greystone, we believe **"Every Member is a Minister."** We pray your worship with us today leads you further down the path of God's calling upon your life.

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Reflection

In the cave—it sheltered them, at least,
safer than four square-set right angles—
in the cave the threesome felt secure
in the reek of straw and old clobber.

Straw for bedding. Outside the door,
blizzard, sandstorm, howling air,
Mule rubbed ox; they stirred and groaned
like sand and snowflake scoured in wind.

Mary prays; the fire soughs;
Joseph frowns into the blaze.
Too small to be fit to do a thing
but sleep, the infant is just sleeping.

Another day behind them now,
its worries past. And the "ho, ho, ho!"
of Herod who had sent the troops.
And the centuries a day closer too.

That night, as three, they were at peace.
Smoke like a retiring guest
slipped out the door. There was one far-off
heavy sigh from the mule. Or the ox.

The star looked in across the threshold.
The only one of them who could
know the meaning of that look
was the infant. But He did not speak.

- Joseph Brodsky, *Flight into Egypt*

Translated by Seamus Heaney



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday, December 29

10:30 am

As we gather, take a moment to prepare your hearts for worship

Prelude	“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”	arr. Jack W. Jones
	Pam Weis, Organ	
Welcome		April Alston
Call to Worship 268		Chris Haire, Congregation
Carol 269	How Great Our Joy!	JUNGST
	Stanzas 1 & 2	
Carol 270	Joy to the World	ANTIOCH
	Stanzas 1, 2 & 3	
Carol 271	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You	HYMN TO JOY
	Both stanzas	
	<i>Children come forward during last stanza.</i>	
Children’s Message		Becky Sansbury
Musical Reflection	“Love Has Come”	BRING A TORCH
	Pam Weis, Organ	
	<i>Children will collect pocket change during this time.</i>	
Pastoral Prayer		Steve Rose
Offertory Hymn 259	Angels, from the Realms of Glory	REGENT SQUARE
	Stanzas 1-4	
Offertory Prayer		Patsy Chiles

Offertory

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

arr. Line

Cynthia Griesedieck, Piano

Doxology

GREENSLEEVES



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low.



Praise God, a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host. Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost.



This, this is Christ, the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;



Haste, haste to bring him laud the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Text and tune public domain. Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre, The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville, TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website <http://www.umcworship.org>. Email address: music@gbod.org.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:13-23

Marty Glazier

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Christmas Praise

“You’re Here”

Francesca Battistelli/Ben Glover

Sarah Wheeler

Sermon

“In the Dark of Night”

April Alston

Discipline of Silence

Take a moment to hear what the Spirit may be speaking to you.

Carol 256

Love Has Come!

BRING A TORCH

A minister will be at the front during this time to welcome any prayer need or decision you would like to share - whether it is to publicly profess faith in Christ or to join the Greystone church family. Respond as God's Spirit leads.

Passing the Peace

April Alston

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrating Community

Amanda Atkin

Sending Song 258

Go Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While Shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold! thro'out the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

Public Domain

Benediction

April Alston

Postlude

Cynthia Griesedieck, Piano

Worship Notes

A carnation is placed at the front this morning in honor of Virginia Creamer's 94th birthday on January 3.

Thank you to Cranberry Tree Farms for their gracious donation of wreaths and for the beautiful Chrismon trees in the Sanctuary.

Worship Leaders

Patsy Chiles, Deacon of the Week

(chilesp630@aol.com, 919-783-5780)

Patsy is married to Jerry. They joined in November of 2012 and are members of The Edge class. Patsy serves on the Bereavement Team, as Chair of the Outreach Committee, and volunteers in the Worship Care Ministry.

We are grateful to the **Greystone members** who have helped to lead in worship this morning.

Prayer and Praises

- Mary Fran Perkinson
- David Ammons
- Susan Burnette's friend, Rick Rowe
- Joy Croom Griffin's friend, Jordan Hiatt
- Ginny Liverance
- Ginny Liverance's friend Adam Raichyk
- Jill Pike's nephew, Brett Ciccone
- The Pendergrass family
- Steve Little's cousin, Trudy
- Virginia Creamer's grandson, Cary Creamer
- Joyce Beauchaine
- Gary Hollingsworth's family on the death of his father, Leon Hollingsworth, 12/10/19
- Carrie Franz's family on the death of her mother, Estelle Seeley, 12/5/19
- The Thompson's friend, Don Fish; his granddaughter, Faith; and their family on the recent death of Faith's father.
- Vercie Eller's family on the death of her sister, Mildred (Millie) Spalzer, 12/1/19

The prayer list has been updated as of print date, 12/19/19.

Residential / Health Care Facilities

Springmoor (SHC): Lib Daniels, Becky Dean, Sallie Greene, Pauline Noble, Juanita Register,
Greta McMillan

Sunrise at North Hills: Jean Brown

If you have an emergency or a need for a pastor outside of normal office hours, please call our on-call number, 919-817-8975. The minister on call this week is April Alston.

Updated Prayer Requests - We hope you will provide updates to the concerns you have previously shared with us and continue to inform us of ways that we can prayerfully support you and those close to you. We are hoping to keep this list vital and current by updating it every month. Any request that you submit will remain on the prayer list for a month. After a month we hope that you will offer an update and advise if this is still an ongoing need. We are humbled and grateful for the ability to come alongside you in your distress and in your joy to offer prayers to our loving, creative and merciful God.

Coming up at Greystone

Pocket Change Sunday: This morning our children will collect your pocket change and donations to fund a dental van. Greystone is arranging for the Baptist Dental Van to come to Cedar Point Apartments on January 18, 2020. On this Saturday, anyone who needs dental care will be served at no charge. Your funds will bring the van to the apartment complex and provide supplies for the dentists who are donating their time and services.

This Week's Office Schedule - The church office will be closed from Mon., 12/30 - Wed., 1/1/20. The office will re-open on Thurs., 1/2/20.

Jan. 5, 2020 - Epiphany Sunday Gift Exchange

We hope as you begin 2020 that you will join us next Sunday for worship on the first Sunday of the new year, Epiphany Sunday. Epiphany is the church's celebration of the Magi bringing their gifts for the Christ child. We are asking that you bring a small gift to worship on this Sunday. Gifts can be homemade or purchased, edible or not. Please bring a small gift to share with a fellow worshipper. At the end of worship you will choose a gift to take with you. Join us as we celebrate the gifts of the Magi, the gift of our church fellowship and the eternal and transformative gift of Jesus to our lives. There will be two worship services (8:45 and 11:00).

Music Ministry Schedule - The regular Sunday afternoon/evening music ministry rehearsal schedule resumes on 1/5.

Thank You - A BIG thanks to all who contributed to our Buddy Break Christmas party. There was so much joy as we celebrated Christmas with our Buddy Break families. The food and gift donations were appreciated and we appreciate the great support our ministry has received from our Greystone family!

Youth Parent Coffee & Dessert Gathering - Join April and the Student Leadership Committee for coffee, hot chocolate, tea and dessert on Jan. 12, at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. While we eat, we will have conversations about what our youth programs at Greystone should look like and what our youth need most. This a great way for you to share your hopes and dreams as well as concerns. Come share with us memories from your own youth experience and what made an impact on you as a teen. Help us continue building a program that meets the needs of our youth and provides them opportunities to grow in faith.

Save the Date: Annual Crockpot Cook-off & Kid's Dessert Contest, February 1, 2020, 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

African Children's Choir - Please mark your calendar and invite your friends! Greystone is hosting the African Children's Choir for a concert on Wednesday evening, February 12, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary. This choir has sung at Greystone before, and it was such a wonderful concert. You won't want to miss this opportunity to hear these young singers in the new year.

2020 Flower Calendar - You can provide flowers for the sanctuary by signing up on the calendar in the hallway. Prices start around \$65.00 at North Raleigh Florist (free delivery). You may also use your own florist and bring the flowers yourself.

Wednesday Night Live in January - Please join us on Wednesday nights in January for a 4-week series on the Poetry of Isaiah, led by Amanda Atkin. Dinner is at 5:30 PM, children and youth activities begin at 6 PM, and Adult Study begins at 6:15 PM.

Sunday, Dec. 29 10:00 am 10:30 4:00 pm	Pocket Change Sunday Coffee and Doughnuts Combined Worship Service Grace Tones rehearsal No Youth Choir, Handbell Choir rehearsals No Sunday Night Youth
Monday, Dec. 30 6:30 pm 8:00	Church office closed through Jan. 1 AA Women's Group AA Co-ed Group
Tuesday, Dec. 31 6:30 pm	AA Women's Group
Wednesday, Jan. 1	Happy New Year No Wednesday night activities
Thursday, Jan. 2 7:00 pm	PAL Meeting
Friday, Jan. 3 9:00 am 8:00 pm	Preschool Staff meeting AA Group

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Child Care Helpers

Today

Lou Dawson, Steve & Linda Wheeler, Kay Roberts,
Joy Croom Griffin

Sunday, January 5

Lilian & Ben Grant, Megan Mallard, Joan Nelson,
Laura Nelson, Johnny Glover, Kim Craig

Our Mission

WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE, WE WILL BUILD A CHURCH
OF LIVING STONES, WHERE EVERY MEMBER IS A MINISTER AND IS
EQUIPPED TO EXPRESS GOD'S LOVE BY WORD AND DEED TO ALL PEOPLE.

Based on 1 Peter 2:5, 6