



Greystone
Baptist Church

*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

The Worship of God

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 25, 2023

Gathering Music

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!”

NICAEA;
Words by Reginald Heber,
Music by John Bacchus Dykes

“Gratitude”

By Brandon Lake, Dante Bowe,
and Benjamin Hastings

“Earth: Beloved Community”

By Christian McIvor ©2018

“For Everyone Born”

Words by Shirley Erena Murray,
Music by Brian Mann

Prelude

“For the Beauty of the Earth”
Pam Weis

By Conrad Kocher,
arr. Pepper Choplin

Welcome

April Alston

† Call to Worship

† Opening Song

“Touch the Earth Lightly”

Words by Shirley Erena Murray,
Music by Colin Gibson

(See music and text on page 5)

*During the last stanza of our Opening Song,
all children are invited to come forward for today’s children’s sermon.*

Children’s Sermon

April Alston

Pastoral Prayer

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

† *Please rise in body or spirit.*

Offertory Anthem

“For As the Rains Come Down”

By Douglas Wagner

GBC Choir

Refrain 1:

For as the rains come down to water the ground,
and make the green earth bud,
So shall the word of the Lord fall soft on His sheep,
and nourish them with love.

Verse 1:

For ye shall go out, go out, with joy,
and be led forth with peace.
The mountains and hills into singing shall break,
and all the trees shall clap their hands.

(Refrain 1)

Refrain 2:

Alleluia, Alleluia.
Alleluia, Alleluia praise the Lord.

(Verse 1)

Refrains 1 and 2:

For as the rains come down to water the ground, (Alleluia,)
and make the green earth bud, (Alleluia,)
So shall the word of the Lord fall soft on His sheep, (Alleluia,)
and nourish them with love. (Alleluia, praise the Lord.)

Ending:

For as the rains come down,
praise ye the Lord!

† Doxology 817

“O Bless the Gifts”

LAMB OF GOD;

Words by Samuel Longfellow, alt., Music by Twila Paris

**O bless the gifts our hands have brought;
And bless the work our hearts have planned.
Ours is the faith, the will, the thought;
The rest, O God, is in Your hand.**

† Prayer of Dedication

Jerry Chiles

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25

Cathy Perkinson

Sermon

“What We Are Creating (Restoration)”

Christian McIvor

Silent Reflection

Invitation

Christian McIvor

† Musical Response

“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”

HYMN TO JOY;

Words by Jane Parker Huber,
Music by Ludwig van Beethoven

God, you spin the whirling planets,
fill the seas and spread the plain,
mold the mountains, fashion blossoms,
call forth sunshine, wind, and rain.

We, created in your image,
would a true reflection be
of your justice, grace, and mercy
and the truth that makes us free.

You have called us to be faithful
in our life and ministry.

We respond in grateful worship
joined in one community.

When we blur your gracious image,
focus us and make us whole.

Healed and strengthened as your people,
we move onward toward your goal.

God, your word is still creating,
calling us to life made new.

Now reveal to us fresh vistas
where there's work to dare and do.

Keep us clear of all distortion.

Polish us with loving care.

Thus, new creatures in your image,
we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.

Celebrating Community

Anna Beth Cross

Commissioning for PASSPORTkids Participants

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

Postlude

“‘Forever’ with ‘Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee’”
Pam Weis

Arr. Bethany K. Smith
and Mary McDonald

Opening Song from page 1 "Touch the Earth Lightly"



1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,
2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



nour - ish the life of the world in our care:
a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
wa - ter that bless - es and air that is sweet,
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,
we who would fos - ter clouds of di - sas - ter,
health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,
teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,



trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
us - ing us gent - ly and mak - ing us one.

An Australian aboriginal saying opens this gentle hymn from New Zealand on the stewardship of creation. "Clouds of disaster" in the second stanza refers to the testing of nuclear devices then occurring in the Pacific Ocean, but the concern for all created things is timeless.

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With Us:**



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