



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

September 17, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost | Deacon Ordination

Gathering Music

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

ST. PETER;

Words by John Oxenham,
Music by Alexander Robert Reinagle

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

THE SERVANT SONG;

Words and music by Richard Gillard

“Great Are You Lord”

Words and Music by Jason Ingram,
Leslie Jordan, and David Leonard

“The Answer”

Words and Music by
Christian McIvor ©2023

Prelude

“Jesus, Lord, We Look To Thee”
Cynthia Griesedieck

arr. Cindy Berry

Welcome

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

Call to Worship

Jerry Chiles

One: There are many gifts but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

All: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

One: God works through each person in unique ways, but it is God's calling to which we respond.

All: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

One: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

All: Together we seek after God, offering all that we have and all that we are in service of God and one another.

† Opening Song

“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”

HYMN TO JOY;

Words by Jane Parker Huber
Music by Ludwig van Beethoven adapt. Edward Hodges

**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.**

(cont'd on the next page)

† *Please rise in body or spirit.*

**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.**

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

Children's Sermon

Nancy Register

Pastoral Prayer

Anna Beth Cross

Offertory Anthem

**"Many Gifts, One Spirit"
GBC Choir**

Words by Matthias Claudius, alt;
Music by Mary Lynn Lightfoot

All good gifts around us are sent from heav'n above;
We thank you God, we thank you God for all your gifts and all your (wonderful) deeds,
And for your love.

Refrain 1:

Many gifts, one Spirit, in grateful song our voices raise.
Many gifts, one Spirit, our thankful hearts sing joyful praise.

All good gifts are simple gifts bestowed by God's loving care.
And may we use these precious gifts to help inspire, reach out and love.
So many gifts to share!

(Refrain 1)

God is the only Maker of all things near and far;
Painting the wayside flower and lighting the evening star.
Blessing us with the sunshine and soft, refreshing rain;
With heart and voice we sing and rejoice for all good gifts,
For all God's love, for simple gifts.

(cont'd on the next page)

Refrain 2:

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.

(Refrains 1 and 2)

Many gifts (give thanks for all good simple gifts),
Many gifts (give thanks for all good simple gifts).
Oh, we thank you God, we thank you God,
For simple gifts.

† 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

Gary Hollingsworth

Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Elizabeth Santana

Homily

“Before You Ever Did a Thing”

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

Litany of Deacon Ordination

Cathy Perkinson

Leader: Brothers and sisters, every Christian is called to follow Jesus Christ, serving God through the power of the Holy Spirit. God now calls you to a special ministry of servanthood within the church. Do you believe that you are truly called by God and Greystone Baptist Church to the life and work of a deacon?

Candidates: I believe I am so called.

Leader: Do you now in the presence of God and the church commit to assist in responding to the needs of this church family, to help bear burdens of grief, trouble or any kind of sorrows, and to assist in the ministries of Greystone?

Candidates: I do, with God's help.

Leader: Will you be faithful in prayer, in the reading and study of the Scriptures, in stewardship of spiritual and material goods, in seeking the will of God for the church, and in promoting the unity of Christ's body?

(cont'd on the next page)

Candidates: I will, with God's help.

Leader: Will you do your best to pattern your life in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a living example to all people and in all things seek not your own glory but the glory of the Lord Christ?

Candidates: I will, with God's help.

Leader: Greystone, in placing this mantle upon these servants, will you faithfully support them in their ministry?

People: We will, with God's help.

Leader: May the Lord empower all of us to fulfill the commitments we have made during this service today.

All: Amen.

The Laying on of Hands

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

✠ Musical Response 589

“Here I Am, Lord”

THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS;
Words and Music by Peter Scholtes

Verse 1:

**I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?**

Refrain:

**Here I am, Lord, is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.**

Verse 2:

**I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?**

(Refrain)

Verse 3:

**I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?**

(Refrain)

Celebrating Community

Christian McIvor

Benediction

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

Postlude

“Take the Name of Jesus With You”
Cynthia Griesedieck

arr. David Smither

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