



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 24, 2023

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Music

“When the Poor Ones” EL CAMINO; Words by José Antonio
Olivar and Miguel Manzano trans. George Lockwood,
Music by Olivar and Manzano, arr. Alvin Schutmaat

“As the Wind Song” WAIRUA TAPU; Words by Shirley Erena
Murray, Music by Swee Hong Lim

“God of Wonders” Words and Music by Marc Byrd
and Steve Hindalong

“Blessed Be Your Name” Words and Music by Matt Redman
and Beth Redman

Prelude

“Surely The Presence/Holy Spirit, Thou Art Welcome” arr. Laura Keiter
Cynthia Griesedieck

Welcome

Anna Beth Cross

† Call to Worship

One: The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.

All: It is a small seed, but has some surprises in store for us.

One: When it is grown, it is a very large shrub.

All: Even the birds can find places in its branches for their nests.

One: God’s transforming love begins in small ways to enter our hearts.

All: Lord, plant those seeds of transforming love in us that they may grow into deeds of service and generosity to others. Amen.

† Opening Song

“Now Thank We all Our God” NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT;
Words by Martin Rinkart trans. Catherine Winkworth (alt.),
Music by John Crüger, harm. Felix Mendelssohn

**Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

(cont'd on the next page)

† Please rise in body or spirit.

**O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.**

*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

Offertory Anthem "God Wouldn't Bring You This Far to Leave You" GBC Choir

by Tom Trenney

Refrain:

God wouldn't bring you this far to leave you.

God wouldn't bring you this far to let you go.

God wouldn't bring you this far to leave you.

No height, nor depth, nor anything else can separate us
from the love that God will show.

(Repeat Refrain)

My God delivered Daniel from the lion's den
and Jonah from the belly of a whale!

God led the Hebrew people to their freedom in the end.

God's love for us will never ever fail!

(Refrain)

Young David slayed Goliath. Miriam walked across the sea.

The walls of Jericho came tumblin' down.

Queen Esther saved her people. Paul and Silas were set free.

Take up your cross! One day you'll wear a crown!

God will not leave you. The Lord will not leave you wherever you go!

(Repeat 7x)

God wouldn't bring you this far to leave you.

No! God will not ever let go!

† **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**

Blair Andrew

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:31-33

Carl Dawson

Sermon

“What if we already have enough?”

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

Silent Reflection

Invitation

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

† **Musical Response 87**

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

CRUSADERS’ HYMN;
Anonymous German Hymn from *Münster Gesanbuch*,
Music from *Schlesische Volkslieder*, arr. Richard S. Willis

**Fairest Lord Jesus; Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and man the Son.
Thee will I cherish; Thee will I honor,
Thou my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.**

**Fair are the meadows; Fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine; Fairer still the moonlight
And all the twinkling starry host.
Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heav’n can boast.**

**Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!**

Celebrating Community

Steve Rose

Stewardship Moment

Bob Potter

Benediction

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

Postlude

Pam Weis

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