

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 I Peter 2:5, 6

# The Worship of God

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

adapt. By Stuart K. Hine

Christian McIvor

Gathering Music	"Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkn	ess" CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT; Words and Music by Bernadette Ferrell
	"For Everyone Born"	FOR EVERYONE BORN; Words by Shirley Arena Murray, Music by Brian Mann
	"Gratitude"	Words and Music by Brandon Lake, Dante Bowe, and Benjamin Hastings
	"The Answer"	Words and Music by Christian McIvor ©2023
Prelude	"How Great Thou Art" Susan Gardner	O STORE GUD; Text: Stuart K. Hine, Music: Swedish Folk melody;

#### Welcome

## \* Call to Worship

One: We give praise to our God who gathers us as one people.

- All: We delight in our God who has mercy upon us.
- One: We seek to be one with those seeking home, those seeking safety, those needing welcome.
- All: Open our eyes that we may see the sufferings of displaced people.
- One: We pray for those whose lives have been dislocated by war, famine and injustice and we welcome them to find sanctuary among us.
- All: Open our ears that we may hear the cries of those deep in despair.
- One: We open our doors to all those who search for a new life, a new home, a new promise.
- All: Guide our mouths that we might speak words of hope.
- One: Give us open hearts that we may be truly welcoming to the stranger in our midst.
- All: God, remind us that through our acts of love and hospitality we are restored to you. Amen.

*† Please rise in body or spirit.* 

### **†** Opening Song

"Living Stones"

Words and Music by Christian McIvor ©2020

Verse 1: Come! See! Let your heart be set on fire! And go! Tell! Add your voice now to the choir! Join us as we sound the invitation To work to bring about a new creation! Pre-chorus: Here, we are answering our call; Every member equipped to bring light and hope to all. Chorus: We will bring God's reign near and in the love of Christ be led, Doing the Word, making it heard. And all are welcome here! Come to the table and be fed! From near and far, come as you are. Here, you will never be alone. In the glory of God, we're building a church of living stones! Verse 2: Open up your mind to transformation That offers justice, peace, and liberation. Growing as we honor our tradition;

Together, we'll move forward in our mission.

(Pre-chorus, Chorus 2x)

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

Children's Sermon		Kay Meyer
Pastoral Prayer		April Alston
Stewardship Moment		Bob Millikan
Offertory Anthem	"Welcome to God's Love" GBC Choir	Words by Lindy Thompson, Music by Mark Miller
	l kinds, love the only tie that binds nds, welcome to God's love.	
	in this holy, sacred space, e, welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome!	

Welcome! Welcome! Come and feel God's love!

(cont'd on the next page)

No proof required of your worth, a gift to you before your birth from God, who made the heavens and earth. Welcome to God's love.

We'll love each other and take care of every need encountered there, within God's heart there is room to spare. Welcome! Welcome! Welcome! Welcome!

Welcome! Welcome! Welcome to God's love! Come, and live God's love!

* Doxology 817	"O Bless the Gifts"	LAMB OF GOD; Words by Samuel Longfellow, alt., Music by Twila Paris		
O bless the gifts our hand And bless the work our he Ours is the faith, the will, The rest, O God, is in You	earts have planned. the thought;			
<b>†</b> Prayer of Dedication		Sammy Roberts		
Scripture Reading	Ruth 1:6-18	Michael-David Rowe		
Sermon	"Tiny Ripples of Hope"	Lin Story-Bunce		
Silent Reflection				
Invitation		April Alston		
* Musical Response	"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"	Words and Music by Doris Akers		
Verse 1: There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.				
Refrain: Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.				
Verse 2: There are blessings you ca till you know him in his fu you're the one to profit wl "I am going to walk with J	llness and believe;			

#### **Celebrating Community**

#### **Sending Song** "Peace, Salaam, Shalom" by Pat Humphries and Sandy Opatow Higher voices start, then lower voices enter. Repeat ad lib. Sa-laam, Sha-lom,\_\_ Peace, Sa-laam, Sha-lom. Peace, **Benediction** Lin Story-Bunce Postlude "Our Great Savior" HYFRYDOL; Text: J. Wilbur Chapman, Susan Gardner Music: Rowland H. Richard, arr. by Robert Harkness

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We welcome Lin Story-Bunce as our guest preacher this morning. Lin has served as one of the pastors of the College Park community since 2009. Lin is a native of Lexington, NC, where her family still calls home. She earned a B.S. in Math Education from Campbell University (which she rarely uses) and a Master of Divinity degree from Wake Forest University School of Divinity. A lifelong athlete, Lin played soccer in college for the Fighting Camels. She is married to Caryanne Story-Bunce who is an educator in Greensboro. Together, Lin and Caryanne enjoy trying

to keep up with their children, Loukas, Maryn, Rya, and Paxton. They also adore their two aging pups, Wake and Parker. Lin is a teacher, preacher, dreamer and procrastinator who has a knack for trying to do way too many things in far too little time.

#### **Greystone Staff**

Chrissy Tatum Williamson, Senior Pastor April Alston, Associate Minister, Children and Preschool Anna Beth Cross, Associate Minister, Students and Digital Discipleship Christian McIvor, Minister of Worship, Music, and the Arts Pam Phillips, Weekly Preschool Director Steve Rose, Property Manager Annette Variano, Administrative Assistant





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