

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

Epiphany of our Lord

Gathering Music

"What Child Is This?"

"The First Nowell"

GREENSLEEVES: Words by William C. Dix, Traditional English Melody

THE FIRST NOWELL: Traditional English Carol, Music from W. Sandys' Christmas Carols

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

GO TELL IT; Traditional Black Spiritual, Stanza Words and Arrangement by John W. Work III

"Glory (Let There Be Peace)"

Words and Music by Chris Stevens, Matt Maher, and Rachel Popadic

Pam Weis

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

Call to Worship

- One: God of today, tomorrow, and yesterday, as we begin this new year, we once again find ourselves looking for you.
- We ask that you make yourself known to us. All:
- One: Reach into our spirits to give us a boost of confidence that love is real and we are not alone.
- All: Remind us that we are beloved in your eyes.

One: We know that you are with us in our joy. You are with us in our sorrow.

And you are with us now. Let us worship our loving creator together. All:

Please rise in body or spirit.

Prelude

Welcome

† Opening Carol 256

"Love Has Come!"

Love has come— a light in the darkness! Love explodes in the Bethlehem skies. See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; Hear how their song of joy arises: Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Love is born! Come share in the wonder; Love is God now asleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of His mother; What is the name her heart is saying? Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers; Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

Love has come— He never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free. Love is Jesus within and among us; Love is the peace our hearts are seeking. Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas; Love! Love! Praise to You, God on high!

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

Children's Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Anthem

"Fall on Your Knees" GBC Choir Christian McIvor

by Pepper Choplin

Come, see the Child, He is here by the fire, silently come, draw near the manger side. Look in His face and see the world's salvation, and feel the holy peace, fall on your knees.

Open your eyes, now the holy star is rising, rays of the light will shine to touch your soul. Open your heart to the glory and the wonder. Feel the holy peace, fall on your knees.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born. O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

(Cont'd on the next page)

April Alston

Come now and fall on your knees as you worship in His presence. Thanks be to God you have found the holy child. Blessed are all who have seen the Lord's salvation. Come and lift your voice. Let your heart rejoice and praise the Prince of Peace, fall on your knees.

Fall on your knees.

† Christmas Doxology

Praise God for gifts of hope and peace, Praise God for gifts of joy and love, Praise God for sending Christ to dwell On earth for us, Emmanuel. Amen.

† Prayer of Dedication

Sermon

"Bringing Gifts That Matter" Matthew 2:1-12

"We Three Kings"

Silent Reflection

Communion

† Musical Response 288

Verse 1: We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar— Field and fountain, moor and mountain— Following yonder star.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

Verse 2: Born a King on Bethlehem's plain; Gold I bring to crown Him again, King forever, ceasing never Over us all to reign.

(Refrain)

OLD HUNDREDTH; Words by Roger Lynn, Music from the Genevan Psalter

Gary Hollingsworth

Andy Hale

Chrissy Tatum Williamson

(Cont'd on the next page)

Verse 3: Frankincense to offer have I; Incense owns a Deity nigh. Prayer and praising, all men raising, Worship Him, God on high.

(Refrain)

Verse 4: Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom— Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone cold tomb.

(Refrain)

Verse 5: Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; Alleluia, alleluia! Earth to heav'n replies.

(Refrain)

Celebrating Community

Benediction

Postlude

Anna Beth Cross

Andy Hale

Susan Gardner

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Our guest preacher this morning, Rev. Dr. Andy Hale, is the associate executive coordinator of CBF North Carolina. His work focuses on helping congregations and clergy thrive, emerging young adult ministries, and collaborating with the executive coordinator. Before his role at CBFNC, Hale served as the senior pastor of University Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's church starts specialists, and the founding pastor of Mosaic Church of Clayton. A graduate of Campbell University and Campbell Divinity School, he also holds a Doctor of Leadership in global perspective from George Fox University, focusing on congregational thriving through cognitive and social psychology.

Andy is leading a conversation on **"Redefining Success"** in the Fellowship Hall during the SS hour. All are invited.

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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