



the good news is..

protection & care for
the vulnerable

Welcome to Greystone

At Greystone everyone is welcomed and affirmed as God's beloved creation.

Wherever you are in life and faith:

You are valued.

You are loved.

You belong.

Cover Art: “Let the Little Children Come”

by Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell

Inspired by Matthew 19:13-15

11”x14” Acrylic, gold leaf, pen on paper

For my little niece, Angelina, whose art rests at the heart of this composition, and in whose joy we glimpse the Kingdom of God—alongside her sisters, Angelika and Ariana.

At the center of this work is a drawing made by my five-year-old niece, Angelina. I watched her joyfully scribble it in under three minutes, churning out drawing after drawing and handing each one to me with an eager smile. In this piece, she first drew a self-portrait (her wearing a crown), then graciously decided to include me (taking some creative liberties in giving me a third arm!).

I imagine the scene in Matthew 19: toddlers wailing, little ones slipping from their parents' arms, parents offering apologetic glances toward the frowning disciples as the scene around Jesus grows increasingly disorderly and loud. Those of us who've participated in group infant baptisms and baby dedications (when one cries, the chain reaction begins!), have led children's sermon moments with restless kids squirming about, or had the joy of watching our little ones participate in a kids' choir performance that goes delightfully rogue, can easily relate.

The disciples, feeling the weight of being seen as serious leaders alongside their rabbi, Jesus, may have tried to preserve a sense of reverence by shooing away the parents bringing their children to him. Yet here, Jesus reorients his disciples (and us) away from the illusion of control and reminds us that it is the joyful, unruly, sincere presence of a child to whom the kingdom truly belongs. Just a chapter earlier, in Matthew 18, Jesus tells his followers that unless they become like little children, they will not even enter the kingdom. Surely the disciples thought Jesus couldn't mean that literally—right?

While I've been busy making art, Angelina has been busy being an artist. I surely could learn a thing or two from her about inheriting the kingdom.

— Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell

The Worship of God

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gathering Music

“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”
GBC Worship Band

RESIGNATION
Words by Isaac Watts (alt.)
American Folk Melody harm. Dale Grotenhuis

“Come! Live in the Light!”

Words and Music by David Haas

“Tell Me Something Good”

Words and Music by
Christian McIvor ©2026

“Peace Like a River,” “Amen,”
“Guide My Feet,” and “Kum Ba Yah”
GBC Children’s Choir

Traditional Black Spirituals

Prelude

“Wherever I May Wander”
GBC Handbell Choir

arr. Sondra K. Tucker

Welcome

Steve Rose

†Call to Worship

One: God loves the field mouse.

All: God loves the crows that take flight when church bells ring.

One: God loves the baby, cooing in the back pew.

All: God loves the child who rocks and claps.

One: God loves the one with wrinkled hands and soft eyes.

All: God loves the bumblebees and the tabby cats.

One: God loves those who walk, crawl, and roll.

**All: God loves the giant oaks and the evergreens,
standing strong over all of us.**

One: God loves the young, the impressionable, and the earnest.

All: There is no bit of creation that God does not love.

One: So let us worship this good-news God!

All: Amen.

† Please rise in body or spirit.

†Opening Hymn

“Live into Hope”

TRURO
Words by Jane Parker Huber
Music from *Musica Sacra*

**Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!**

**Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.**

**Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.**

**Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.**

Children's Sermon

April Alston

Centering Song

“I'm Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table”
(Excerpt)

Traditional Black Spiritual

**I'm gonna sit at the welcome table, O Lord;
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days, Hallelujah.
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table; I'm gonna
Sit at the welcome table one of these days.**

Call to Confession

Anna Beth Cross

Prayer of Confession & Words of Forgiveness

One: God said, “When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them.”

All: Holy God, we confess, we have mistreated the immigrants in our land.

One: Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

All: We confess, we have clung to guns and war more than we have pursued peace.

One: God said, "When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow."

All: We confess, we have hoarded our resources and failed to care for our neighbors.

One: Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them."

All: We confess, we have gatekept the good news in unfair ways.

One: Fortunately for all of us, God also said, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine."

All: By God's grace, despite our sin and shortcomings, we are redeemed, claimed, forgiven, and loved.

One: May this good news change our lives!

All: Amen.

Offertory Anthem

"When Our Voices Rise"
GBC Choir

Words and Music by Rollo Dilworth

†Doxology

"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.
(Repeat)**

†Prayer of Dedication

Trish Boone

Scripture

Matthew 19:13-15, Psalm 23

Becky Sansbury

One: The Word of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Musical Meditation

"Bound for the Promised Land"
GBC Handbell Choir

arr. Sondra K. Tucker

Sermon

the good news is... protection and care for the vulnerable

Bo Prosser

† **Hymn of Response** "The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound"

ST. PETER
Words by Adam M. L. Tice
Music by Alexander Robert Reinagle

**The church of Christ cannot be bound by walls of wood or stone.
Where charity and love are found there can the church be known.**

**True faith will open up the door and step into the street.
True service will seek out the poor and ask to wash their feet.**

**True love will not sit idly by when justice is denied.
True mercy hears the homeless cry and welcomes them inside.**

**If what we have we freely share to meet our neighbor's need,
then we extend the Spirit's care through every selfless deed.**

Celebrating Community

April Alston

Benediction

Bo Prosser

† **Sending Song**

"Tell Me Something Good"
(Chorus)

Words and Music by
Christian McIvor ©2026

**Tell me, tell me something good.
Together, ground us in the ways we should
Live out a love and faith so radical
That we could bring great hope and joy for all.**

Postlude

"Pastorale"
Cynthia Griesedieck

by Franklin Ritter

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Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed
Cover Art: "Let the Little Children Come" by Carmelle Beaugelin Caldwell
A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

*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

Greystone Staff

April Alston, Associate Minister, Children and Preschool
Anna Beth Cross, Associate Pastor of Faith Formation and Administration
Christian McIvor, Minister of Worship, Music, and the Arts
Bo Prosser, Interim Pastor
Steve Rose, Property Manager
Brenda Vaught, Weekday Preschool Director
Pam Weis, Staff Accompanist
Simone Williams, Ministry and Communications Assistant

**Scan to Connect
With Us:**



Greystone Baptist Church | 7509 Lead Mine Road, Raleigh, NC 27615
Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 PM (M-TH) | Ph: (919)847-1333 | Email: office@greystonechurch.org
Website: www.greystonechurch.org | Facebook: @greystonebaptistchurch | Instagram: @greystonechurch