



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 I Peter 2:5, 6

*Today's flowers are given by the Meyers
in thanksgiving for the Pastor Search Team.*

The Worship of God

September 20, 2026

Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time | Deacon Ordination

Gathering Music

"Love the Lord"
GBC Worship Band

Words and Music by Lincoln Brewster

"Earth: Beloved Community"

Words and Music by
Christian McIvor ©2018

"Shower the People"

Words and Music by
James Taylor

"Love Your Crooked Neighbor
With Your Crooked Heart"

Words and Music by
Christian McIvor ©2018

Prelude

"Oh, How I Love Jesus"
Sandra Hunt

American Melody, 19th c.
arr. Larry Shackley

Welcome

Anna Beth Cross

†Charge to the Church

One: Today is a day when we recognize, honor, and ordain those among us who have been called to serve as deacons. 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.

† *Please rise in body or spirit.*

† Opening Hymn

"We Have Come to Join in Worship"

HOLY MANNA
Words by Ken Bible
Music by George Atkins

**We have come to join in worship and adore the Lord our God.
Let us come in prayer, expecting God to speak His mighty Word.
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down.
Christians, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.**

**See them gather all around you, those He bought at such a cost;
See the weary, see the hurting, see the lonely, see the lost.
Be His hand, and touch the needy; be His gospel, let it sound!
Be His body, and sweet manna will be showered all around.**

**Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too.
Let us care for all His people till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven; at His banquet we'll sit down;
Christ Himself will rise and serve us living manna all around.**

Children's Sermon

April Alston

Pastoral Prayer

Christian McIvor

Offertory Anthem

"Beloved, Let Us Love One Another"
GBC Choir

Words and Music
by Pepper Choplin

Beloved (beloved), let us love one another,
Beloved (beloved), let us love one another with love that comes from God.

For love is from God, and everyone who loves is born of God.
For love is from God, and everyone who loves surely knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God,
For God is love, God is love.

Beloved (beloved), let us love one another,
Beloved (beloved), let us love one another with love that comes from God.

Beloved, let us love one another,
Beloved, let us love one another with love that comes from God,

Let us love one another (let us love one another).
So let us love.

✠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

Joan Nelson

Scripture

Matthew 22:36-40

Sandra Hunt

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Charge to Deacons and Congregation

Shake a Hand

Bo Prosser

New Deacons

To Be Ordained: Rosemary Lynch

To Be Installed: Sam Adams, Chris Austin, Bill Baxley, and Elizabeth Worley

Litany of Deacon Ordination

Brian Grant

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?

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

Bo Prosser

†Hymn of Response

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

DIX
Words by Folliot Sandford Pierpoint
Music by Conrad Kocher

**For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:**

Refrain:

Lord of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

**For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light: (Refrain)**

**For the joy of human love, neighbor, sibling, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: (Refrain)**

**For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: (Refrain)**

Celebrating Community

Steve Rose

†Sending Song

“For Everyone Born” (Refrain)

FOR EVERYONE BORN
Words by Shirley Erena Murray
Music by Brian Mann

**And God will delight when we are creators of justice
and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!**

†Benediction

Bo Prosser

Postlude

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”
Pam Weis

arr. Michael Ryan

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Greystone Staff

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
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