



Morning Worship

February 26, 2023

Preparation for Worship

Kathleen Wilkins, organist

Brothers and sisters, choose from among you those who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn responsibilities over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. ~ Acts 6:3-6

Invitation to Worship

The Church's One Foundation

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the Word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation and tumult of her war
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

We Are Travelers on a Journey

We are travelers on a journey,
Fellow pilgrims on the road;
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
I will hold the Christ light for you
in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.

Sister, let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.
Brother, let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you;
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.

I will weep when you are weeping,
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
Till we've seen this journey thro'.

When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.

Words of Welcome

Christian Johns, Youth Minister

Ordination of ROBC Deacons

Parrish Kyle and Jan Holland

Hymn No. 482

Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Chorus:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Chorus

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Chorus

Charge to New Deacons

Dr. Steve Laufer, Senior Pastor

Deacon Testimonies

CarMichael Kyle, reading for Parrish Kyle

Gail Stewart, reading for Jan Holland

Covenant of Ordination

Greg Stahl, Associate Pastor

Church: We have called you out of our fellowship to serve the Kingdom of God in and through River Oaks Baptist Church.

Deacons: I accept the calling which you have given me. I understand that I am to serve under the reign of God.

Church: To do so means that each must serve even as Christ serves, to minister rather than to be self-serving. What have you experienced personally in relation to Jesus Christ?

Deacons: I have received Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, and seek to follow Him in profession and in deed.

Church: Our church exists to impact our society for Christ by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ through facilitating inward spiritual growth which demonstrates itself in loving, outward ministry to others.

Deacons: I actively support the mission of this body, believing that we are many members but only one body under the Lordship of Christ.

Church: We accept the Holy Scriptures as the objective authority for understanding the Lordship of Christ.

Deacons: I affirm that to be true.

Church: Thus, we set you apart through ordination, not to serve our personal interest, but God's interest through us. We do not ask from you more than we ourselves are willing to give, but ask you to lead us by serving, encouraging, speaking the truth in Christ's love, and being obedient to Christ and his Kingdom.

Deacons: I accept your call to ordination, acknowledging that I am God's servant. Pray for me, so that our fellowship together may reflect the unconditional love of Christ.

Season of Prayer

Rev. Martus Miley

Choral Worship

Prayer for Peace

words by St. Francis of Assisi

music by Benjamin Harlan

Dr. Sarah Spencer, pianist

Sermon

Dr. Laufer

Take Me to the River

Acts 8:4-40

Closing Song

O How He Loves You and Me

O how He loves you and me.

O how He loves you and me.

He gave His life, what more could He give?

O how He loves you, O how He loves me,

O how He loves you and me.

Jesus to Calvary did go
His love for sinners to show.
What He did there brought hope from despair.
O how He loves you, O how He loves me,
O how he loves you and me.

Parting Words

Dr. Laufer

Postlude

Kathleen Wilkins