



CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL

Fifth Sunday of Epiphany

07 February 2021

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone family,

When I look back on the years of my life up till now, the years between 18-22 years old were among the most formative. I was away from home for the first time, having to do my own laundry and wash my own dishes. I was making my own decisions about the use of my time, money, and energy. I was learning (slowly) what it meant to be an adult and take responsibility for myself and others.

At the same time, I was coming into a deeper understanding of and commitment to Jesus. One of the primary channels through which that happened was a campus ministry and a college pastor. In fact, I can still hear Rev. Larry Goff's voice. I can quote specific lines from meetings we shared. He was the first person to encourage me toward pastoral ministry. Humanly speaking, it's hard to know where I'd be without his influence.

Though it's not everyone's story, a significant number of folks credit the years post high school in college or entering the work force as a critical time for Christian growth and development. This is part of the reason why Cornerstone has actively supported our denomination's campus ministry, Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), from the very beginning. Today in worship, we're taking time to focus on the ministry of RUF and introduce you to one of the campus ministers we support, as well as the area director of RUF for our area.

Richie Sessions is the RUF Campus Minister at Vanderbilt University. Richie is originally from Little Rock, Arkansas. He and his wife, Laura, met in college and were married in 2000. He graduated from Belmont University and attended Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS. In 2004 he graduated from RTS with a Master of Divinity degree. Richie ministered as the Associate Pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Cleveland, MS from 2004-2007 before becoming the Assistant Pastor to Young Adults at Independent Presbyterian Church in Memphis, Tennessee. In 2009, Richie was called to be the Senior Pastor at IPC where he served until 2015. In 2015 Richie accepted a call to minister with RUF at Vanderbilt. Richie and Laura have three children, Mamie, Griffin, and Margaret.



Britton Wood is an RUF Area Coordinator. Britton is from Birmingham, Alabama and attended Vanderbilt University. He and his wife Elizabeth met serving RUF at the University of Tennessee. After attending Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, MO, they served RUF at the University of South Carolina for four years before moving to Stanford where they served for seven years. They have two sets of identical twin girls: Mary Walton and Shelby; and Britton and Katherine. (You read that right!) As an Area Coordinator for RUF, Britton provides pastoral care and guidance for campus ministers in Western Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama.

Super excited to have these brothers with us this morning! I have no doubt you'll be blessed by sitting under their ministry and learning about the mission of RUF.

Your servant,

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Worship is a response to the love of God that brings us out of darkness into his light. The rhythm and flow of the service reflects this present reality as God calls his people and reveals himself, forgives their sins, teaches them from his Word, the Bible, feeds them, and then sends them out to live what they have learned.

This is the pattern of his love in redeeming and saving his people.

Prelude, Announcements, and Preparation

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE AND REVEALS HIMSELF

God calls His people to worship and come before Him. The Creator of all things reveals Himself through His Word and calls us into His presence.

Introit—Psalm 100: All Earth with Joy

All earth, with joy, to the LORD come with loud voices ring -
 En - ter His gates with thank - giv - ing, to His courts come prais -
 ing. With glad - ness serve the LORD; come to Him joy - ful - ly
 ing. To Him be thank - ful, and bless His name, your voices
 sing - ing. The LORD is God, Know that He made us His
 rais - ing. The LORD is good; His lov - ing - kind - ness en -
 dures, We are the sheep of His pas - ture.
 His faith - ful - ness lasts for - ev - er.

Text: Psalm 100; Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Stralsund Gesangbuch*, 1665, Arr. in *Praxis Pietatis Melica*, 1668

Call to Worship—Psalm 34:I, 3-5, 8

Pastor: I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

All: Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

Pastor: I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

All: Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

Pastor: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

All: Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

Hymn of Praise—There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, Like the wide-ness of the sea;
There is wel - come for the sin - ner, And more grac - es for the good;
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion In the blood that has been shed;
It is God: His love looks might - y, But is might - ier than it seems;

There's a kind-ness in His jus - tice, Which is more than lib - er - ty.
There is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; There is heal - ing in His blood.
There is joy for all the mem - bers In the sor - rows of the Head.
'Tis our Fath - er: and His fond - ness Goes far out be - yond our dreams.

There is no place where earth's sor - rows Are more felt than up in Heaven;
For the love of God is broad - er Than the mea - sure of our mind;
Souls of men! why will ye scat - ter Like a crowd of fright-ened sheep?
Was there ev - er kind - er shep - herd Half so gen - tle, half so sweet,

There is no place where earth's fail - ings Have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
And the heart of the E - ter - nal Is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
Fool - ish hearts! why will ye wan - der From a love so true and deep?
As the Sav - ior who would have us Come and gath - er at His feet?

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1854; Music: HOLY MANNA, Attr. To William Moore, 1825.

New Testament Reading—Romans 15:14-21

14 I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another. 15 But on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God 16 to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit. 17 In Christ Jesus, then, I have reason to be proud of my work for God. 18 For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed, 19 by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ; 20 and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else’s foundation, 21 but as it is written,

“Those who have never been told of him will see, and those who have never heard will understand.”

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE & RECONCILIATION

The People of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God’s favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Sung Response—When All Thy Mercies



When all thy mer - cies, O my God, My ri - sing soul sur - veys, Trans -
When worn with sick - ness, oft hast Thou With health re - newed my face; And
When na - ture fails, and day and night Di - vide Thy works no more, My



port - ed with the view, I'm lost In won - der, love and praise.
when in sins and sor - rows bowed, Re - vived my soul with grace.
ev - er grate - ful heart, O Lord, Thy mer - cy shall a - dore.

CCLI #11121087 © Fernando Ortega, 1991 Text: Joseph Addison, 1712; Music: Fernando Ortega, 1991

Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 119:9-16

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing.
You have taught us that we keep our way pure
by guarding it according to Your word.

**All: We say that we seek You with our whole heart,
but we wander from Your commandments.**

Pastor: May we store up Your word in our hearts
that we might not sin against You.

**All: Blessed are You, O Lord;
teach us Your statutes.**

Pastor: May we regularly speak Your word.

**All: Lord, we do not delight in Your testimonies
as much as we delight in riches, fame, or self fulfillment.**

Pastor: Teach us to fix our eyes on Your ways.

**All: Give us a delight in Your statutes
that we may not forget Your word.**

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—I John 3:4-5

Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness;
sin is lawlessness.

Know that Christ appeared in order to take away sins,
and in him there is no sin.

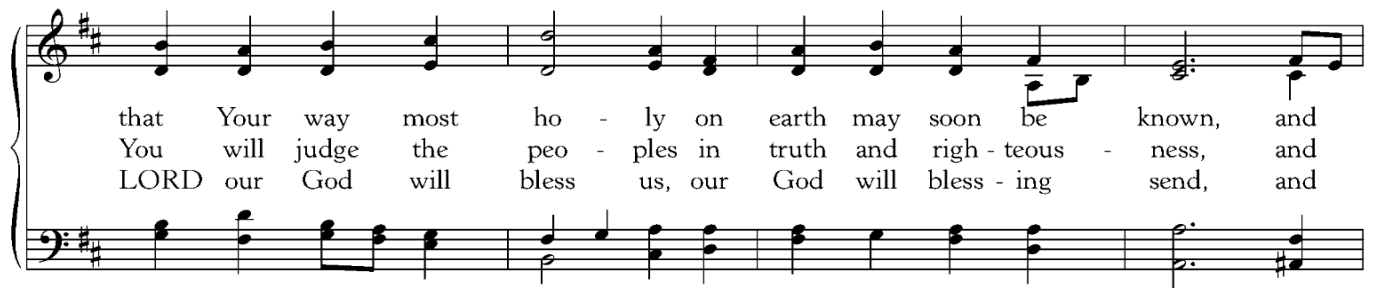
Psalm 67: O God, To Us Show Mercy



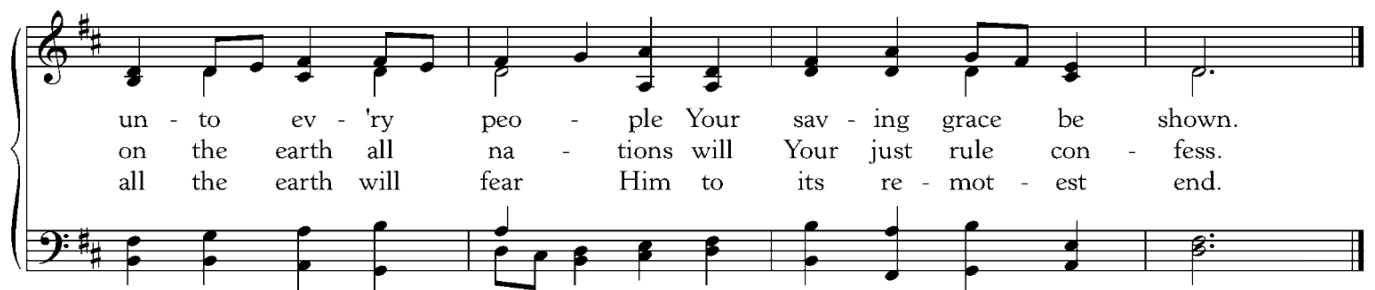
O God, to us show mer - cy and bless us in Your grace, and
Let all the peo - ples praise You, let all the na - tions sing; in
Let all the peo - ples praise You, let all the na - tions sing. Then



cause to shine up - on us the bright - ness of Your face, so
ev - 'ry land let prais - es and songs of glad - ness ring; for
earth in rich a - bun - dance to us her fruit will bring. The



that Your way most ho - ly on earth may soon be known, and
You will judge the peo - ples in truth and righ - teous - ness, and
LORD our God will bless us, our God will bless - ing send, and



un - to ev - 'ry peo - ple Your sav - ing grace be shown.
on the earth all na - tions will Your just rule con - fess.
all the earth will fear Him to its re - mot - est end.

Text: Psalm 67, *The Psalter*, 1912; Music: MEIRIONYDD, Welsh Hymn Melody, William Lloyd, 1840; alt 2008.

Missions Report—Reformed University Fellowship

—Rev. Britton Wood, Area Coordinator for Western Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama

The Reading of the Word—John I:43-51

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” ⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” ⁴⁷ Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” ⁴⁸ Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” ⁴⁹ Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” ⁵⁰ Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” ⁵¹ And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

All: But the Word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon—*The Skeptic Meets Jesus*

—Richie Sessions, *Reformed University Fellowship Minister at Vanderbilt University*

Sung Response—O Praise the Father

O praise the Fa-ther, Praise the Son, The Lamb for sin - ners giv - en.

The first system of music features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The vocal line consists of quarter and eighth notes with lyrics underneath. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

And Ho - ly Spir-it, through whom a - lone Our hearts are raised to Heav - en.

The second system of music continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. It concludes with a final chord in the piano part. The lyrics are aligned with the notes in the vocal line.

Text: John Mason, 1683; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2011.

Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty,
the Creator of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven

and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church,
The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

* "Catholic" refers to the universal church of God's people throughout all time and from all places

Sung Response—O Splendor of God's Glory Bright, Vs I

The image shows a musical score for a sung response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "O Splendor of God's glo - ry bright, O thou that bring - est light from light, O Light of light, light's liv - ing spring, O Day, all day's il - lum - in - ing." The music is written in a clear, legible font with standard musical notation.

Text: St. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Music: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

God offers to His people the gift of communion with Him through the grace of the sacrament and we respond in thanksgiving.

Words of Institution and the Lord's Table

Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is the family meal for Christians. We invite all baptized Christians who are members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, and who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ to join us.

If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. You can find some sample prayers on the next page. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the church.

At Cornerstone, we come forward to receive communion. We have options for wine and grape juice. The bread and wine or juice are stacked together.

Psalm for February—Psalm 30: I Will Sing Your Mercies Lord

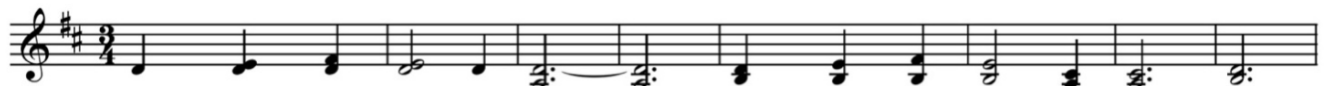
1. I will sing Your mer - cies, Lord, how You heard and
 2. Your dis - pleas - ure swift - ly fades, e - ven when Your
 3. I have tast - ed both ex - tremes: con - fi - dence and
 4. In pro - found dis - tress I prayed, "Gra - cious God, pro -
 5. Then my grief was turned to joy; then my laugh - ter

an - swered prayer: foes dis - armed and fears re - lieved;
 an - ger burns. Though the night is full of tears,
 deep dis - may; from Your strength, se - cu - ri - ty;
 - long my days! Can the grave ex - tol Your name?
 was re - stored. One un - end - ing song of thanks

You have lift - ed my de - spair.
 with the dawn our joy re - turns.
 from Your si - lence, dis - ar - ray. I will sing,
 Let me live and sing Your praise."
 I will bring to You, my Lord!

I will sing, I will sing Your mer - cies, Lord.

Hymn of Communion—Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ



Thy works, not mine, O Christ, Speak glad - ness to this heart;
Thy wounds, not mine, O Christ, Can heal my bruis - ed soul;
Thy cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne the awe - full load
Thy death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid the ran - som due;
Thy right - eous - ness, O Christ, A - lone can cov - er me;



They tell me all is done, They bid my fear de - part.
Thy stripes, not mine, con - tain The balm that makes me whole.
Of sins that none could bear But the in - car - nate God.
Ten thou - sand deaths like mine Would have been all too few.
No right - eous - ness a - vails Save that which is of Thee.



To whom save Thee, who canst a - - lone



For sin a - - tone, Lord, shall I flee?

© Copyright 2017 Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1899; Music: Greyfriars Press, 2017

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper

If you are not able to partake in the Lord's Supper today, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth. Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. *Amen*

Prayer of Belief. Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. *Amen*

Prayer of Commitment. Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. *Amen*

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen*

Hymn of Praise—Jesus, I Come



1. Out of my bon - dage, sor - row and night, Je - sus I come; Je - sus, I come__
2. Out of my shame - ful fail - ure and loss, Je - sus, I come; Je - sus, I come__
3. Out of un - rest and ar - ro - gant pride, Je - sus, I come; Je - sus, I come__
4. Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Je - sus, I come; Je - sus, I come__



In - to Thy free - dom, glad - ness, and light Je - sus, I come to__ Thee,__
In - to the glo - rious gain of Thy cross, Je - sus, I come to__ Thee.__
In - to Thy bless - ed will to a - bide, Je - sus, I come to__ Thee.__
In - to the joy and light of Thy home, Je - sus, I come to__ Thee.__



Out of my sick - ness__ in - to Thy health, Out of my want - ing and in - to Thy wealth,
Out of earth's sor - rows__ in - to Thy balm, Out of life's storms__ and in - to Thy calm,
Out of my - self__ to dwell in Thy love, Out of de - spair in - to rap - tures a - bove,
Out of the depths of ru - in un - told, In - to the peace of Thy shel - ter - ing fold,



Out of my sin__ and in - to Thy - self, Je - sus, I come to__ Thee__
Out of dis - tress in - to__ jub - i - lant psalm, Je - sus, I come to__ Thee.__
Up - ward for - ev - er on__ on wings like dove, Je - sus, I come to__ Thee.__
Ev - er Thy glo - rious face to be - hold, Je - sus, I come to__ Thee.__

CCLI #11121087 Used by Permission. Text: William Sleeper; Music: Greg Thompson, 2000.

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benediction—from Galatians 6:14, 18

May we boast only in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to us, and we to the world. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Sung Response—Christ Be With Me (*from St. Patrick's Breastplate*)

Christ be with me, Christ with - in me, Christ be - hind me, Christ be - fore me, Christ be - side me, Christ to
win me, Christ to com - fort and re - store me, Christ be - neath me, Christ a - bove me, Christ in qui - et, Christ in
dan - ger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stran - ger.

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

Text: *Atomring indui niurt tren*, St. Patrick, 372-466, Trans by Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-95;
Music: ST. PATRICK CLONMACNOISE, Traditional Irish Hymn Melody.



Welcome to Cornerstone! We're glad you're visiting with us today and would love the opportunity to welcome you personally. We invite you to fill out our visitor card by following this link.
<https://cornerstonepresbyterianchurch.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/40/responses/new>

Focus on Church Ministry

Men's Ministry

The Tuesday Morning Men's Book Study meets every Tuesday until March 2 on the third floor at Cornerstone. Come join as we read and discuss Irwyn Ince's book, *The Beautiful Community: Unity, Diversity, and the Church at its Best*. Books are available for \$10 on The Bookshelf. Please sign up on the Cornerstone website or app.

Women's Ministry

Mark February 25 on your calendars for *Seasons of Life: Loving Well in All Circumstances*. Come to Cornerstone for an evening of safe fellowship and hearing stories of God's faithfulness to your Cornerstone sisters. Registration is open through the website and app and will be limited.

Adult Sunday School: *Means of Grace: Answering the Invitation of God's Love*

How does Christian growth really work? Beginning on Sunday, February 14th, the Cornerstone staff will consider why our best attempts at growing in grace often go wrong, and how approaching the historic Christian practices with God's love in view changes everything. With a mix of testimony, dialogue, and practical instruction, this Sunday School series aims to kindle your love for becoming more like Jesus.

Sunday School

All adult classes are combined in the chapel, youth are at Merridee's, and children are in various classrooms. Signs with room number assignments are posted in the foyers. Preschool – 4th graders should be checked in by a parent before going to their classes. If you have questions about children's Sunday School contact our Children's Director, Meredith Suits. elementary@cstonepres.org

Nursery

If you can rock babies and have been a member of Cornerstone for at least six months, we need you to serve our youngest covenant children! It takes six volunteers each week to safely care for our children. Won't you welcome the least of these (and serve their parents!) by spending an hour with them? Fill out an interest form on the website or app, or contact Jessica Michaud and Christy Shurden nursery@cstonepres.org

Cornerstone Directory

The Cornerstone Directory is online, and is easily accessible for members through the church website or app. (If you've never logged in, go to the website, click on the *member login* tab, and follow the steps.) If you have not uploaded a picture, we encourage you to do so! Or to make it even easier, send a picture to susan@cstonepres.org—we will upload it for you!

Book Recommendations for 2021

Did you resolve to read more in 2021? You won't want to miss this—Nate, Ben, Tony, and Greg made a video telling about their top book recommendations from their 2020 reads! Follow the link on the homepage of the church website and app leading you to Cornerstone's YouTube channel.

2020 Giving Statements

Cornerstone members should have received an email containing instructions regarding 2020 giving statements. If you did not receive an email or need help accessing your giving statement, contact Susan Bumpus. susan@cstonepres.org Nonmember giving statements will be mailed.

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Children's Director: Meredith Suits (865-250-3579) or elementary@cstonepres.org

Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org

Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

