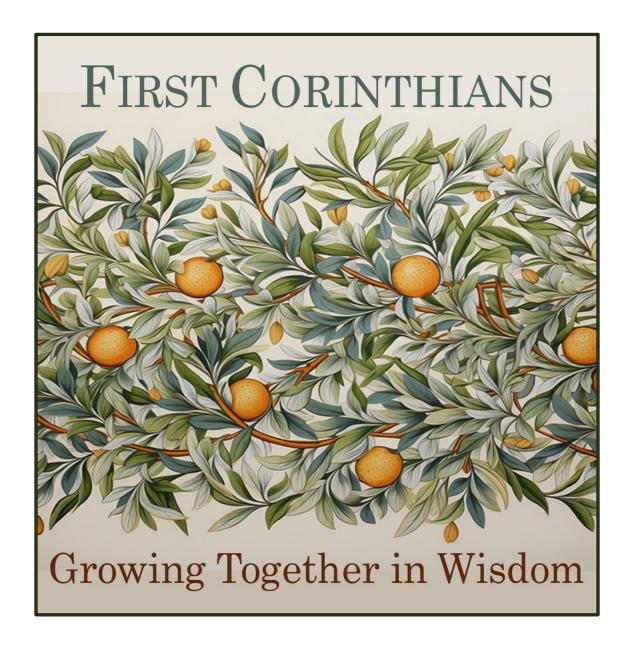


CORNERSTONE

Presbyterian Church



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL

Fifth Sunday of Easter 28 April 2024

Pastoral Notes

For the Pastoral Notes today, I've asked our Children's Coordinator, Meredith Suits, to tell us about our fast-approaching Vacation Bible School on May 28-31.

Dear Cornerstone Family,

After the gorgeous weather of last week, it finally feels like spring is here to stay, which also means (incredibly) that summer is on the horizon. Like many of you who have been busy making summer plans, the children's ministry at Cornerstone has been busily preparing to kick off our summer fun with Vacation Bible School, and I have lots of information for you today—how you can sign up your children, how you can be a volunteer, and how to help even if you can't volunteer during the events.

This is Cornerstone's 4th VBS, and we have had such fun the last few years hosting our kids and their friends outside at Jim Warren Park. The theme this year is *Torchbearers*—a nod to the Olympics which will happen later this summer—and we will be spending our evenings together talking about light: what the Bible tells us about light as a created reality, how Jesus is the light of the world, and why we are called to carry on the light of Jesus until he returns.

Many of you have seen the announcements about VBS in the online newsletter and around the church, but in case you haven't, I'll share the most relevant details. VBS will be May 28-31 at the Jim Warren Park enclosed pavilion and surrounding grounds. May 28 is our family kick-off night—we will have pizza for all, a craft for the kids, and a great time fellowshipping with one another. The VBS events begin Wednesday, May 29, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. and continue at the same time and place on Thursday and Friday nights. All children who are rising kindergarten through rising 6th grade are invited to join us. Parents, please sign up as soon as you can with the QR code below. We want to make sure we have plenty of materials for your kiddos and enough volunteers to make it all possible, so knowing who's coming is really pivotal in our planning right now.

Thankfully, we have all the in-person volunteers we currently need for each evening of VBS. This is such an answered prayer, and I'm so grateful for a congregation full of people willing to spend every evening one week during May to minister to our children. What a gift!

Even if you can't join us in person for VBS this year, there are many other ways to help. You'll see the QR codes below for our Amazon wish list and a sign-up genius for supplies and snacks. We have some really fun crafts, snacks, and games planned for this year, and your contributions will help make this possible.

Lastly, please pray for VBS. Pray for the safety of all our children, for their hearts to hear and receive the good news about Jesus, and for God to use these early experiences with Scripture and with the church to create adults who walk faithfully with Christ all of their lives.

Thanks, everyone, for your support and your prayers as we prepare for a week of learning and fellowship.

Sincerely,

Meredith Suits

VBS REGISTRATION	VBS VOLUNTEER INTEREST (Youth, too!)	SIGN UP GENIUS FOR SUPPLIES	AMAZON WISH LIST

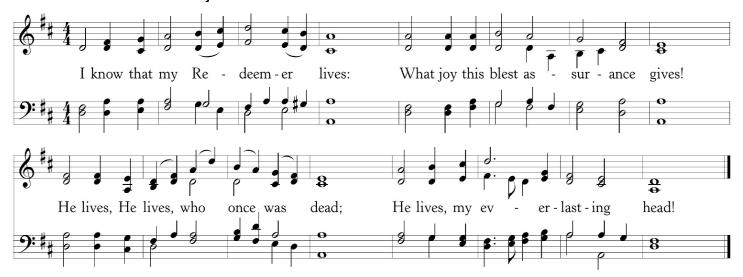
Worship Notes—As we continue in I Corinthians chapter I, Paul appeals to the church in Corinth to "be united in the same mind and the same judgement" as he addresses various divisions among them that they may remember the power of the cross of Christ. The Call to Worship from Psalm 63 speaks of the soul's desire to seek after God and to behold His "power and glory" in the sanctuary. The opening hymn, "Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven," reminds us that we "ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven" from our Father who "tends and spares us." The New Testament Reading from the 17th chapter of the Gospel of John is part of the High Priestly Prayer of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. Christ prays to the Father that they who believe "may become perfectly one, so that they world may know" that the Father sent Him and loved them. The *Prayer of Confession* from I Peter 3 calls us to repentance for instead of having "unity of mind, sympathy, and brotherly love," we use our tongue to speak evil and deceit. The Assurance of Pardon from Colossians I speaks to the preeminence of Christ who has reconciled us through the blood of the cross. The middle hymn, "Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God," is a prayer to the Holy Spirit to instill in us "the path of peace" and "unity in the face of Christ" for "all the world to see." The Second Communion Hymn, "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" reminds us that Christ binds "all the Church in one" while the final hymn, "The Church's One Foundation," repeatedly addresses the theme of the Church as "one o'er all the earth," having one Lord, faith, birth, Holy Name, holy feast, and one hope. —Greg Wilbur

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—I Know that My Redeemer Lives, Vs I



Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-99; Music: DUKE STREET, John Hatton, 1793.

Call to Worship—based on Psalm 63:I-3

Pastor: O God, you are my God;

earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you;

All: My flesh faints for you,

as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

Pastor: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,

Beholding your power and glory.

All: Because your steadfast love is better than life,

my lips will praise you.

Hymn of Praise—Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven



Text: From Psalm 103, Henry F. Lyte, 1834; Music: PRAISE MY SOUL, John Goss, 1869

Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

+++New Arrivals, please wait in the Narthex to be seated. Following the Confession of Sin, Ushers will assist you.+++

New Testament Reading—John 17:1a, 20-26

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said,

²⁰ "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

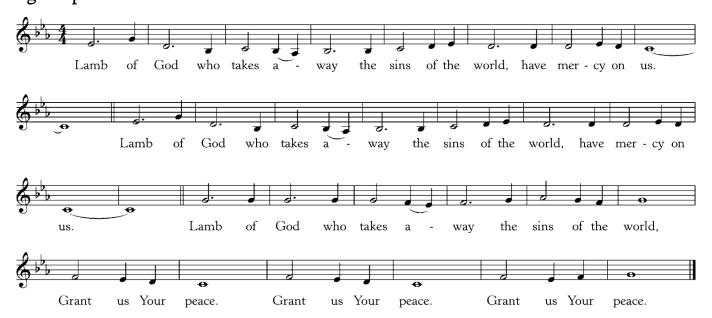
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

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—Lamb of God



Text: John I:29; Music: Franklin Agnus Dei, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

Congregational Prayer of Confession—based I Peter 3:8-12

Leader: Lord, we come to you in prayer and confession.

You call us to have unity of mind, sympathy, and brotherly love.

All: You call us to be tender hearted with a humble mind.

Leader: You have called us to bless others and in doing so, we too will obtain a blessing.

All: But too often we repay evil for evil, we revile, condemn, and scorn others.

Leader: Your Word says that "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit."

All: We confess that we use our tongue to justify our actions and attitudes, to undermine others, and to speak lies or half-truths to promote ourselves.

Leader: Your Word calls us to "Turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it."

All: We tend towards self-promotion and pursue our own goals instead of embracing peace.

Leader: For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and Your ears are open to their prayer.

All: But Your face is against those who do evil. Forgive us for seeking our own way.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—Colossians I:18-20

Christ is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

+++New Arrivals are Welcome to be Seated+++

Hymn of Praise—Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God



CCLI #11121087 $\,^{\circ}$ 2006 Thankyou Music Text and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend 2005.

The Reading of the Word—I Corinthians I:10-17

I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹ For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹² What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

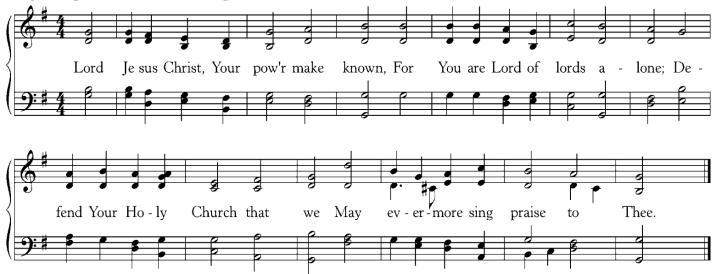
All: But the Word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon—I Corinthians: Growing Together in Wisdom, part 3

United We Stand, Divided We Fall

—Nate Shurden, Pastor

Sung Response—Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word, Vs 2



Text: Martin, Luther, 1541, Trans Catherine Winkworth, 1863, Alt. 2007; Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, *Genevan Psalter*, 1551.

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.

^{* &}quot;Catholic" refers to the universal church of God's people throughout all time and from all places

Sung Response—Sanctus



CCLI #11121087 Text: Is 6:3, Rev 4:8, Mt 21:9; Music: Franklin Sanctus, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

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san-na in the

Pascha Nostrum—I Corinthians 5:7-8, Romans 6:9-II

Pastor: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;

high - est, Ho

All: therefore let us keep the feast.

san-nah in the

Pastor: We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again;

All: death no longer has dominion over him.

Pastor: For the death he died he died to sin, once for all,

All: but the life he lives he lives to God.

Pastor: So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin

All: and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

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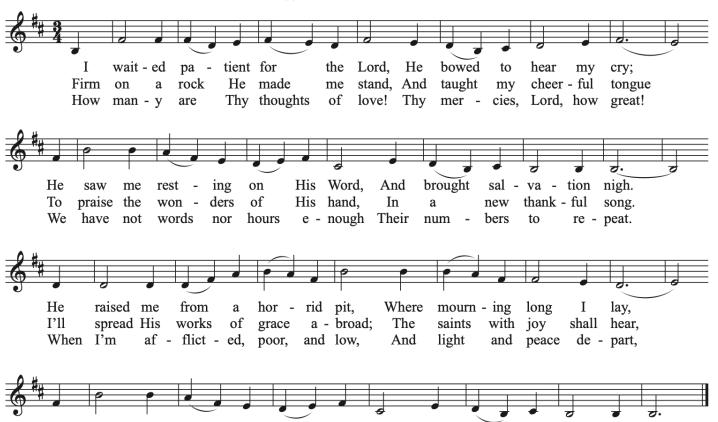
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The Lord's Supper is the family meal for Christians. We invite all baptized Christians who are members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, and who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully 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. Proceed to the first table for the bread, and then on the second for wine/juice.

Psalm of the Month—Psalm 40: I Waited Patient For The Lord



Text: Based on Psalm 40; Music: FINGALL Traditional Irish Melody, adapt. Gregory Wilbur & Jeremiah Small, 2008.

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Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper

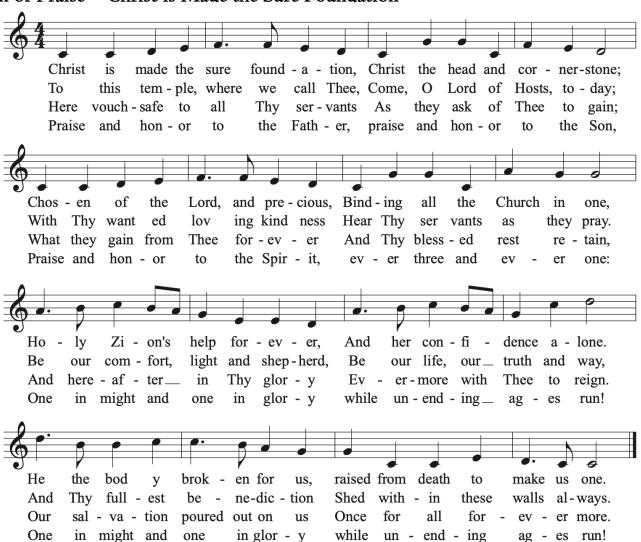
If you are not able to partake in the Lord's Supper today, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

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

Hymn of Praise—Christ is Made the Sure Foundation



7th Century Latin Hymn Tr. J. M. Neale 1861 Ad. lyrics by Noah Aikens, Music Noah Aikens

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—The Church's One Foundation Vs I-3, 5, 6



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 Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Sung Response—He is Risen! Vs 4



Text: Eric Schumacher, 2004; Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Cologne, 1623.

Missions Prayer—Chris, Savanna, and their two daughters are involved in Matthew 28:19,20-work amongst the Persian diaspora in Western Europe. Through teaching English as a second language and operating out of a local, national church partner they are spending their 'initial' term overseas learning Farsi fully, leading and facilitating Bible studies amongst Persians, and working with the materially-poor asylum seekers located in the country where they now live.

- Please pray for our Farsi language learning. It's been about a year now of regular practice through books, online
 tutors and Persians in person. It is difficult work since we aren't enrolled in a formal language learning school, but
 we are grateful that the Holy Spirit has been blessing our efforts by providing us with much-needed encouragement
 and growing out comprehension and speaking daily!
- Please pray for Savanna as she is not only teaching English and assisting in the Persian ministry work at our church but she is also homeschooling our 5 year-old daughter.
- Please pray that God would continue to unite our hearts to fear His name. We want to be drawn together as a couple and a family more and more as we seek to make Christ preeminent in all things that we do and say.
- We need wisdom and humility as we minister amongst this people group. Most of the Persians are new Christians and come to our bible studies with many great questions. They also are seeking asylum and lost all their belongings.

Welcome to Cornerstone! If you are visiting with us today, we are glad you're here! We invite you to fill out a visitor form by scanning this QR code so that we may welcome you personally. Alternatively, visitor cards are available at either entrance to the chapel and can be placed in one of the offering boxes as you leave.



Focus on Church Ministry

Golf Tournament Fundraiser

Sign up now for a Golf Tournament at the Franklin Bridge Golf Club on Monday, May 13, starting at 1:00 p.m. to support our youth mission team heading to Belize. Scan this QR code to play, sponsor a hole, or simply donate



(to donate without registering to play, enter an amount in the first question of the form and leave all other fields blank). Thank you for helping our youth get to Belize!

Children's Ministry Summer Volunteer Needs

We need teachers and assistants for the summer Sunday School session! This is a six-week commitment (June 9-July 14), and it's a great way to serve the kids of Cornerstone. Don't let summer travel stop you from signing up to serve! We always have volunteers willing to sub for teachers who are out of town. Contact: meredithsuits@gmail.com

Exploring Cornerstone

Want to learn about the history, beliefs, vision, and ministries of Cornerstone, as well as meet key ministry leaders? Interested in becoming a member? Exploring Cornerstone is the class for you. We will meet on Friday, May 31, from 6:00-8:30 p.m. and Saturday, June 1, from 8:00 a.m.-noon. Childcare will be provided. Please visit the website to register.

Book Discussion: May 6

This May we will gather to discuss All the Beauty in the World by Patrick Bringley. This memoir shows the beauty of slowing down, looking around, and seeing the people and world that God has made. Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 6, at The Corner House.

Upcoming discussions:

June 3, The Ballad of the White Horse by G.K. Chesterton July I, The Princess and the Goblin by George MacDonald

Senior Recognition Sunday: May 5

We want to publicly recognize and honor the hard work of Cornerstone members who are graduating seniors on Sunday, May 5. If you have a high school or college senior, let Drew know by contacting youth@cstonepres.org.

Youth Sunday School

There is no Youth Sunday School at Merridee's today. Youth not returning from the spring retreat are welcome to join either of our Adult classes!

Loving Franklin's Elderly

On the first Sunday of each month, a group from Cornerstone leads a brief worship service at Morning Pointe of Franklin. Please join us after the service on April 7 from I:30-2:15 p.m. Contact: ethan@cstonepres.org

Vacation Bible School—Torchbearers

Mark your calendars for May 28-31 for VBS! We will gather in the evenings (5:30-7:30 p.m.) at Jim Warren Park. And we need all our Cornerstone family to help before, during, and after VBS! Scan the QR code or visit

the church website to register your children (rising K-rising 6th grade) and view all the ways you can serve, from praying to dropping off snacks to leading a group of our covenant kids that week.



Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Team meets on the first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. to lift the needs of the congregation to the throne of grace. You can submit prayer requests to prayer@cstonepres.org or come to the church to be prayed for in person. We invite everyone at Cornerstone to join us in prayer.

Giving

There are boxes for tithes and alms at both entrances to the Chapel, or you may give safely and securely online through the website and app.

Taking the Message Home

Today's message, "United We Stand, Divided We Fall," is taken from I Corinthians I:10-17. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group.

- When Paul says we should all "agree" and that "no divisions" be among you, does that mean there's no place for disagreement in the body of Christ (vs. 10-11)?
- David Jackman says the problem in Corinth can be summarized as a "cult of personality" fueled by pride. What does he mean? Where do you see same problem in the church of our day?
- How does Paul address the problem in Corinth? How does Paul's referencing of who he baptized in Corinth figure into the point he's making in the passage?
- In reflection on v. 17, C.K. Barrett writes, "If men are persuaded by eloquence, they are not persuaded by Christ crucified." Discuss with those around you.
- What from today's message ministered to you personally?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Pastor: Nate Shurden (615-618-4707 Office) or nate@cstonepres.org
Assistant Pastor: Tony Giles (615-430-8801) or tony@cstonepres.org
Worship and Chief Musician: Greg Wilbur (615-512-4156) or greg@cstonepres.org
Church Life Coordinator: Dan Fiedler (615-812-4032) or dan@cstonepres.org
Interim Office Administrator: Whitney Ruff (615-618-4707) or admin@cstonepres.org

Bookkeeper: Tammy McCoy bookkeeper(@cstonepres.org

Women's Ministry Director: Martha Brooks (615-591-1683) or women@cstonepres.org

Men's Ministry: men@cstonepres.org

Young Adult Ministry: Taylor Thompson (717-371-0848) or youngadults@cstonepres.org
Director of Youth and Families: Drew Abercrombie (407-489-1724) or drew@cstonepres.org
Children's Director: Meredith Suits (865-250-3579) or elementary@cstonepres.org

Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org
Administrative Assistant for Discipleship: Kelley Shell (662-231-9814) or kelley@cstonepres.org

Home Fellowship Information: HFG@cstonepres.org
Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

Ruling Elders

Randy Allen (615-260-1884) Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (615-943-8443) Ron Moffat (629-215-5135)
Preston Brooks (615-838-0359) Joe Haworth (615-289-7543) Jim Payne (615-497-0613)
Terry Cheney (615-579-7089) Will Kesler (423-313-7493) Jim Smith (615-347-4188)
John Millard (423-443-8852)

Deacons

 Mark Elliott (615-477-1041)
 Mike Payne (615-579-6453)
 Matt Suits (706-218-2823)

 Matt Faulk (714-801-7596)
 Wes Pittman (615-406-6209)
 Casey Taggart (662-813-3563)

 Dan Fiedler (615-812-4032)
 Brent Roberts (615-394-0662)
 Larry Thompson (901-734-1520)

 Mark Mitchell (630-835-7754)
 Jim Robinson (615-587-0442)
 Bob Vermilye (615-943-8139)

 *Todd Russell (615-319-4803)

*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

