



CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Follow Me!



The Gospel of Mark

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL
The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time
25 July 2021

Pastoral Notes

In this week's Pastoral Notes, I asked Pastor Ben Griffith to give us an update on the youth group's recent trip.

Dear Cornerstone family,

Last week, our senior high students had the privilege of attending the RYM (Reformed Youth Ministries) Summer Conference in Panama City, Florida. You could probably tell who attended by noticing who was sunburned and peeling last Sunday! Our 14 students and three leaders enjoyed a week with youth groups from all over the Southeast, the majority of them coming from PCA churches. Rev. John Stone was our main speaker. Many of you may know John from his years as the RUF campus minister at UT Knoxville. He spoke on the topic of unity in a divided world (a timely subject), and how the message of the Gospel equips and empowers God's people to be agents of reconciliation and peace in the fractured world into which God calls us. Our students spent every morning in different elective seminar classes taught by various PCA pastors, and we spent the afternoons playing volleyball, getting stung by jellyfish, and apparently not applying enough sunscreen.

Here are some reflections on the week from a few of our students:

"RYM taught me that we should be the ones pursuing peace and spreading the word in such a divided and difficult world. It was such a fun week, and I feel like I really connected and made relationships throughout the trip." -Eva Brooks

"I would recommend going to RYM because you don't only grow spiritually but also socially. I learned how to be more outgoing due to the activities and games we did. RYM was a unique and fun experience where I got to learn how to deal with problems going on in the world and back them up with Scripture." -Katie Shurden

"RYM was a life-changing week for me, and I grew in every way. At RYM, not only did I get closer to God, but I also made friends and memories." - Natalie Bordulis

We would like to express our deep gratitude to everyone who helped us get to RYM! So many of you gave online during our fundraising week in June and gave above and beyond at the women's Bible studies on Tuesday nights. Thank you for your generosity! You eased the financial burden on families and provided scholarships allowing students to attend who might not have otherwise. We're deeply grateful.



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—O For a Thousand Tongues, Vs I & 2

O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,

the glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of His grace.
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of Thy name.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739; Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829, Arr. By Lowell Mason, 1839.

Call to Worship—based on Psalm 118

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
Let Israel and those who fear the LORD say,

All: His steadfast love endures forever.

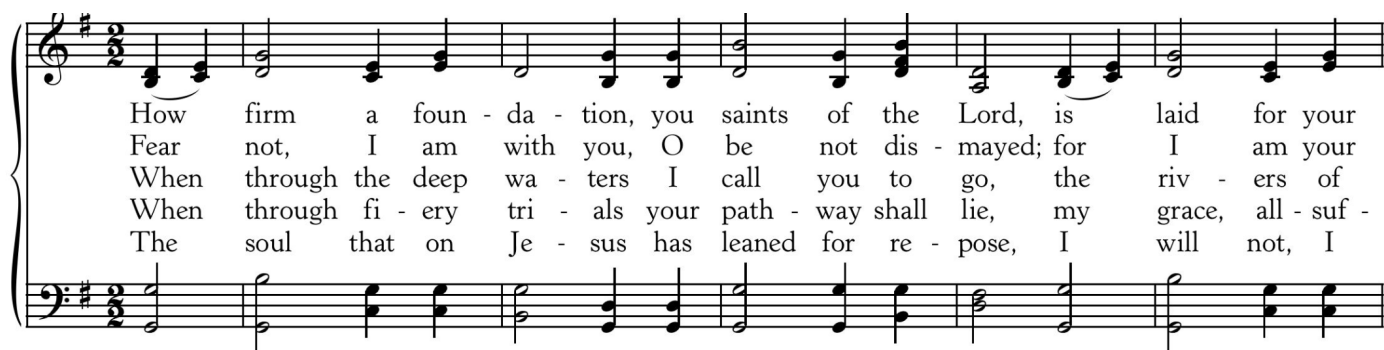
Pastor: The LORD is my strength and my song;
he has become my salvation.

All: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

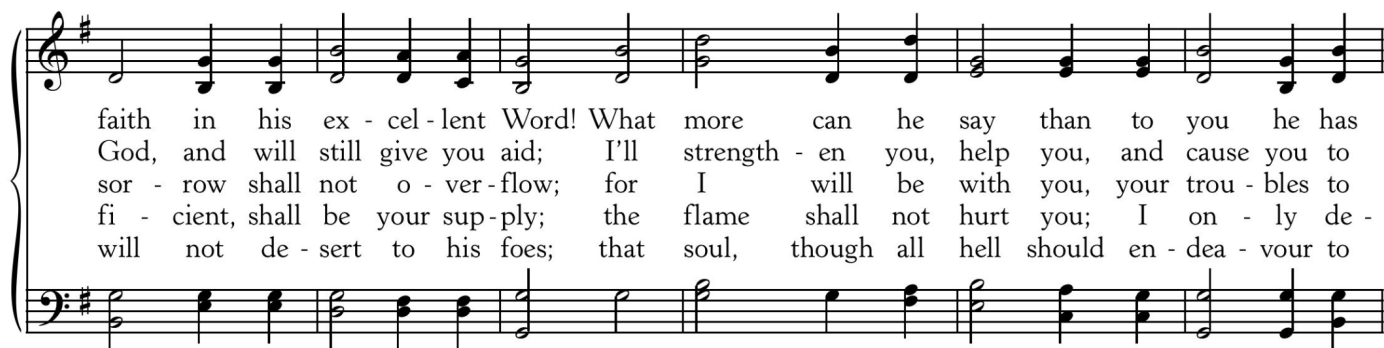
Pastor: You are our God, and we will give thanks to you;
you are our God; we will extol you

All: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

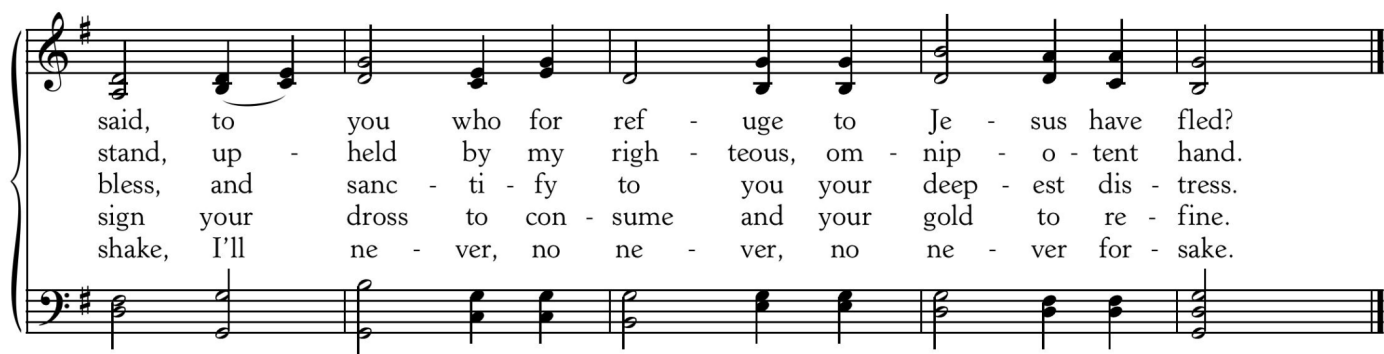
Hymn of Praise—How Firm a Foundation



How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your
Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed; for I am your
When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go, the riv - ers of
When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie, my grace, all - suf -
The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose, I will not, I



faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What more can he say than to you he has
God, and will still give you aid; I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to
sor - row shall not o - ver - flow; for I will be with you, your trou - bles to
fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply; the flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de -
will not de - sert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should en - dea - vour to



said, to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
stand, up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
bless, and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
sign your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
shake, I'll ne - ver, no ne - ver, no ne - ver for - sake.

Text: Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787; Music: FOUNDATION, Traditional American Melody

New Testament Reading—I Peter 2:1-10

So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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—Lord, Have Mercy



Text: Luke 18:13; Music: FRANKLIN KYRIE, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

Congregational Prayer of Confession—based on Isaiah 48:1-5, 9-11, 17-18

Pastor: Lord, we come to You confessing.

You speak to Your people who are called by Your name.

All: We confess you as God, but not in truth or right.

Pastor: We call ourselves after Your name and declare that we are stayed on You.

O Lord, You have declared and announced what You would do and You did it.

All: But You knew we are obstinate, slow to submit, hard of heart.

Pastor: You declared what You would do

so that we could not claim we made things happen in our own strength
or by human means.

All: For the sake of Your name, You defer Your anger.

For the sake of Your praise, You restrain Your anger
that we may not be cut off.

Pastor: You have refined us in the furnace of affliction

so that Your name would not be profaned. Your glory You will not give to another.

All: By nature, we desire to steal glory for ourselves.

Pastor: For You are our Redeemer and the Holy One of Israel, and You declare,

“I am the Lord your God who teaches you to profit,
who leads you in the way you should go.”

All: O that we would pay attention to Your commandments!

Then our peace would be like a river,
and our righteousness like the waves of the sea.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—John 3:16-17

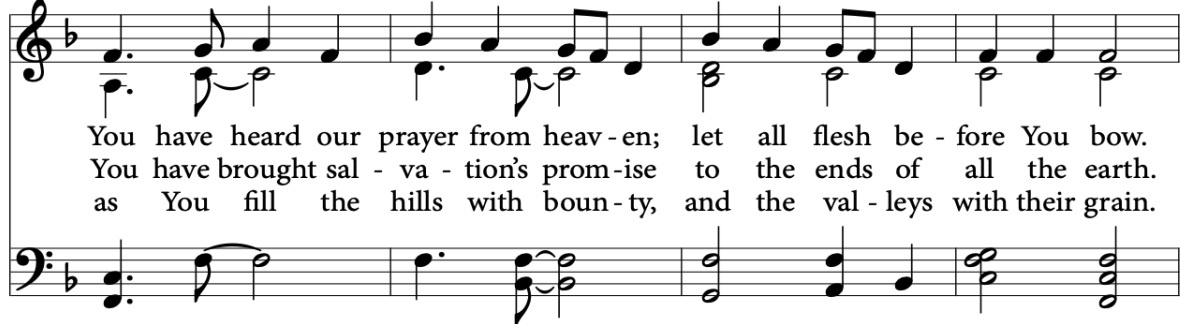
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Psalm of the Praise—Psalm 65: Praise Awaits You, Lord, in Zion

Unison



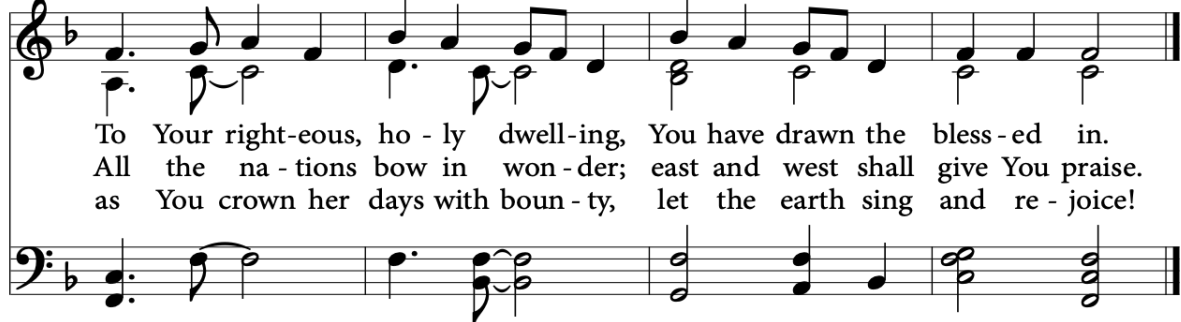
1. Praise a-waits You, Lord, in Zi-on, and to You we bring our vow.
2. You de-clare to us Your good-ness by Your awe-some, might-y works.
3. Lord, You give the earth its wa-ter, and You bless the soil with rain,



You have heard our prayer from heav-en; let all flesh be-fore You bow.
You have brought sal-va-tion's prom-ise to the ends of all the earth.
as You fill the hills with boun-ty, and the val-leys with their grain.



How trans-gres-sions rise a-gainst me! You a-tone for all our sin.
By Your pow'r, You set the moun-tains, si-lence o-ceans' roar-ing waves.
With Your good-ness o-ver-flow-ing, all the mead-ows lift their voice;



To Your right-eous, ho-ly dwell-ing, You have drawn the bless-ed in.
All the na-tions bow in won-der; east and west shall give You praise.
as You crown her days with boun-ty, let the earth sing and re-joice!

CCLI #11121087 ©2020 David P. Reiger & Dan Kreider; Text: David P. Reiger; Music: Dan Kreider, 2020.

The Reading of the Word—Mark 12:1-12

And he [Jesus] began to speak to them in parables. “A man planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a pit for the winepress and built a tower, and leased it to tenants and went into another country. ²When the season came, he sent a servant to the tenants to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. ³And they took him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴Again he sent to them another servant, and they struck him on the head and treated him shamefully. ⁵And he sent another, and him they killed. And so with many others: some they beat, and some they killed. ⁶He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ⁷But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ ⁸And they took him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁹What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰Have you not read this Scripture:

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
¹¹ this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes?”

¹² And they were seeking to arrest him but feared the people, for they perceived that he had told the parable against them. So they left him and went away.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—Follow Me: The Gospel of Mark, pt 40

The Truth about God, Man, and the World in Twelve Verses —Nate Shurden, *Pastor*

Sung Response—Teach Me, O Lord, Thy Way of Truth, Vs I

Teach me, O Lord, Thy way of truth, And from it I will not de - part; That

I may stead - fast - ly o - bey, Give me an un - der - stand - ing heart.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The second system also has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Teach me, O Lord, Thy way of truth, And from it I will not de - part; That I may stead - fast - ly o - bey, Give me an un - der - stand - ing heart.'

Text: Joseph P. Holbrook, ca. 1878; Music: TALLIS' CANON, Thomas Tallis, ca. 1567.

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—Let Glory Be to God



Let glo - ry be to God on high: Peace be on earth as
O Lord, the sole be - got - ten Son, Who bore the crimes which
Have mer - cy on us, through Thy blood; Re - ceive our prayer, O
in the sky; Good will to men! We bow the knee,
we had done; Son of the Fa - ther, who wast slain
Lamb of God! For Thou art ho - - ly; Thou a - lone,
We praise, we bless, we wor - ship Thee; We give Thee thanks, Thy
To take a - way the sins of men; O Lamb of God, whose
At God's right hand, up - on His throne, In all His glo - ry,
name we sing, Al - might - y Fa - ther! Heav'n - ly King!
blood was spilt For all the world, and all its guilt—
art a - dored, With Thee, O Ho - ly Ghost, one Lord.

CCLI #11121087 Text: From the Liturgy of St. James & an 8th Century manuscript (*Gloria in excelsis Deo*); Music: Greyfriars Press, 2018.

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. Proceed to the first table for the bread, and then on the second for wine/juice.

Psalm of the Month for July—Psalm 132: Arise, O Lord



A - rise, O Lord, our God, a - rise And en - ter
Thy gra - cious cov' - nant, Lord, ful - fill, Turn not a -
Thy Zi - on Thou hast chos - en, Lord, And Thou hast
I will a - bun - dant - ly pro - vide For Zi - on's
Sal - va - tion shall a - dorn her priests, Her saints shall



now in - to Thy rest; O let this house be Thine a -
way from us Thy face; Est - ab - lish Thou Mes - si - ah's
said, I love her well, This is My con - stant rest - ing
good, the Lord hath said; I will sup - ply her dai - ly
shout with joy di - vine, Mes - si - ah's power shall be re -



bode, For - ev - er with Thy pre - sence blest.
throne And let Him reign with - in this place.
place, And here will I de - light to dwell.
need And sat - is - fy her poor with bread.
vealed, His glo - ry in His Church shall shine.

Text: *The Psalter*, 1912; Music: Greyfriars Press, 2012. Used by Permission.

Hymn of Communion—Christ is Our Cornerstone

Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build; With
O then with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring; Our
Here may we gain from Heav'n, The grace which we im - plore; And

His true saints a - lone The courts of Heav'n are filled; On His great love
voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing; And thus pro - claim
may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more; Un - til that day

our hopes we place Of pre - sent grace and joys a - bove.
in joy - ful song Both loud and long, that glor - ious name.
when all the blest To end - less rest are called a - way.

Text: Unknown author, 6th or 7th Century (*Angularis fundamentum lapis*); translated from Latin to English by John Chandler, 1837.
Music: Gregory D Wilbur, 2011 ©2011 Greyfriars Press, Used by Permission

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—My Hope is Built



My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus'
When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on
His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me
When he shalt come with trum - pet sound, O may I



blood and righ - teous - ness: I dare not trust the
his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and
in the whelm - ing flood; when all a - round my
then in him be found; dressed in his righ - teous -



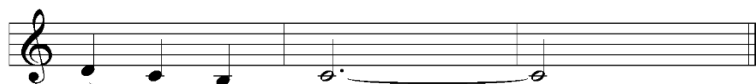
sweet - est frame, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale, my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore the throne.



On Christ the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er



ground is sink - ing sand, All oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1834; Music: SOLID ROCK, 1992. © 1992 Greyfriars Press. Used by Permission.

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 Psalm 67:I-2

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that his way may be known on earth, and his saving power among all nations. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Christ is Made the Sure Foundation, Vs I

Christ is made the sure found-a - tion, Christ the head and cor - ner-stone;
Chos-en of the Lord, and pre - cious, Bind-ing all the Church in one,
Ho - ly Zi - on's help for-ev - er, And her con - fi - dence a - lone.

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

Text: Unknown Author, 7th century, Trans by John M. Neale, 1851; Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry Smart, 1867.

Welcome to Cornerstone! If you are visiting with us today, we are glad you're here and would love the opportunity to welcome you personally. We invite you to fill out the visitor card available in the pew in front of you. Please drop it in the offering boxes at either chapel entrance as you leave.

Focus on Church Ministry

Women's Fall Bible Studies

Cornerstone Women will study Ruth and Esther together this Fall beginning the week of August 30 and ending before Thanksgiving. Register and find more details about times and locations, books, and childcare on the website and app!

Come Share Jesus with the Next Generation!

We need some folks who are willing to jump into a class when regular SS teachers need to miss. If you are willing to participate in this important work, let Meredith Suits know by clicking the link in the weekly email or emailing her. elementary@cstonepres.org

Elementary Sunday School Registration

Please visit the church website or app to register your children, ages three years through 6th grade, for the 2021-22 Sunday School year.

Coffee with Calvin

The men of Cornerstone are studying *The Golden Booklet of the Christian Life*, by John Calvin. Our next gathering is Thursday, July 29 at 7:00 a.m. at the Franklin Mercantile. No RSVP needed. Contact men@cstonepres.org for more information.

Exploring Cornerstone Class—Weekend Edition!

If you're interested in learning more about Cornerstone or uniting in membership, please join Pastor Nate for an upcoming Exploring Cornerstone Class. In this class, you will learn about the history, beliefs, vision, and ministries of Cornerstone as well as meet key ministry leaders. The class will be held at the chapel on Friday evening, August 20 and Saturday morning, August 21. Space is limited, so sign up today by filling out the registration form through the church website or app.

Giving

There are boxes for tithes and alms available at both entrances to the Chapel. You can also give safely and securely online through the church website and app.

New College Franklin

New College Franklin is seeking housing for one NCF student for this Fall. If you are interested in housing an NCF student beginning in the second week of August, please contact Tammy McCoy. office@newcollegefranklin.org

Servant Group International

SGI is looking for volunteers to serve Nashville's refugee population by providing childcare during English classes on Mondays and/or Wednesdays and coordinating transportation for those attending. Contact Colleen McGarry for more information. (colleen@servantgroup.org) SGI is also looking for volunteers to assist with the refugee sewing program, Sew for Hope. They are in need of someone to sort donations and a teaching assistant. Contact Bonnie Snyder for more information about Sew for Hope. bonnie@servantgroup.org

Men's Theology Study

Only one meeting left! This study will conclude Friday, July 30.

Cornerstone Youth: Let's go out to the ballgame!

Join us for a night of fellowship and Nashville Sounds baseball, Friday, July 30. We will meet at Cornerstone at 6:00 p.m. to carpool, or you can plan to meet us in front of the main gate before the game. Either way, reserve your spot by emailing youth@cstonepres.org to let us know how many tickets you need! (\$10 each) Parents and families are welcome to come as well!

Taking the Message Home

Today's message, "The Truth about God, Man, and the World in Twelve Verses" is taken from Mark 12:1-12. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group.

- Take a few minutes to walk back through the passage. Identify the lead characters—the vineyard, landlord, tenants, servants, and son. Explain in your own words the unfolding of the text. How does this passage explain the truth of the world's story?
- What do you find astonishing about the patience, longsuffering, and profound love of God revealed in this parable?
- As patient and loving as God is, a day of reckoning is coming. Historically, that day came for Israel, and it will come one day for all of human history. How would the priorities and patterns of your life change if you lived with this awareness? Be specific.
- As a church, how can we do a better job of keeping *both* the hard and hopeful truths of this text before our hearts? Be as practical as you can.

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Acting Youth Director: Taylor Thompson (717-371-0848) or youth@cstonepres.org

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

