

CORNERSTONE Presbyterian Church

Follow Ne! The Gospel of Mark

Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time 29 August 2021

Pastoral Notes

I asked Martha Brooks, our Women's Ministry Director, to talk about the past year of ministry and to give us a look ahead as to what is planned for the coming year. In anticipation of these opportunities for fellowship and time in the Word, here is what Martha had to say:

What a year we've had in Women's Ministry! We began with a dinner last August, fellowshipping and feasting after quarantine. We held our first "Seasons of Life" in October with women sharing from the heart around a table heavy with desserts and coffee. Christmas saw Covid cases rise, and we weren't able to gather again until February, when we heard from three more ladies in our own congregation, encouraging us to love well in all circumstances. April saw us in the Chapel, laughing and crying along with several of our own dear sisters about the unexpected seasons the Lord brings. The advent of summer brought the much-anticipated return of our large group Bible study, with two fellowship suppers thrown in there just to give us a chance to catch up. And while all that was going on, small group Bible studies took place in person throughout the year.

Whew.

This ministry year promises to be full as well. And I have a confession to make: sometimes I look at our family calendar and all the different colored dots and all the maneuvering it takes to get five people everywhere they need to be and think, "I just want to sit on my couch! Don't other people want to sit on their couches? Are their couches not comfortable? I really like my couch! Do I have to put 'sit on couch' on the calendar just to make sure I can sit on my couch?"

If you feel like that, too, please know we are not scheduling things for the women of the church just to fill our calendars. When we are making plans as a Women's Ministry Team, we ask ourselves this: **How can we serve**? Our goal is not to get every woman to participate in Women's Ministry, but for the Women's Ministry to serve and encourage every woman in the church (taken from *Women's Ministry in the Local Church*, Ligon Duncan and Susan Hunt).

In 2021-22, the Cornerstone Women's Ministry is aiming to serve through small group Bible studies that see women studying the Word together, (Romans 15:4), the relaunch of a Young Mom's Encouragement Group, where some of our more seasoned mothers will train the newer ones (Titus 2:3-5), quarterly fellowships that facilitate a time to deepen our friendships (I Samuel 18:1), a retreat (Hebrews 10:24-25), and all the way back around to large group summer Bible study for part two of our study of Revelation (Psalm 119:11-12).

These plans are purposeful, and we believe all these things help us fulfill our vision, which simply states:

Cornerstone's vision for Women's Ministry is grounded in God's Word where women grow in the context of God's people, always aiming for the glory of Christ.

I would love to chat with you and answer any questions you have, so don't hesitate to reach out. My door is always open. (Well, I don't have a door, but I can meet you in my "office" at Merridee's. ⁽¹⁾) Please watch for upcoming dates, jump in where your calendar allows (while keeping a little couch time!) and let the Women's Ministry serve you in Christ Jesus for His glory.

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



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

Call to Worship—Psalm 147:1-7

Pastor: Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God.

All: For it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

Pastor: The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel.

All: He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Pastor: He determines the number of the stars; He gives to all of them their names.

All: Great is our LORD, and abundant in power; His understanding is beyond measure.

Pastor: The LORD lifts up the humble; He casts the wicked to the ground.

All: Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving!

Hymn of Praise—Rejoice, the Lord Is King



Text: Charles Wesley, 1746; Music: DARWALL, John Darwall, 1770.

Old Testament Reading—Hosea 6:1-6

"Come, let us return to the LORD; for he has torn us, that he may heal us;

he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.

²After two days he will revive us;

on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him.

³Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; his going out is sure as the dawn;

he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth."

⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah?

Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away.

⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;

I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light.

⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,

the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

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—Search Me, O God



Text: J. Edwin Orr, 1936; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2018. © 2018 Greyfriars Press, Used by Permission.

Congregational Prayer of Confession—based on James 4:1-10

Pastor:	Lord, we come confessing that our passions are at war within us
	causing quarrels and fights.
All:	We desire and do not have, so we push people aside.

We covet and cannot obtain, so we fight and quarrel.

Pastor: We do not have, because we do not ask.

- All: We ask and do not receive, because we ask wrongly to spend it on our own passions.
- Pastor: We are an unfaithful people because we desire to be a friend of the world and we wind up making ourselves enemies of You.
- All: You oppose the proud, but give grace to the humble.

Pastor: Give us the grace and humility to submit ourselves to You and to draw near to You.

- All: Give us grace to cleanse our sinful hands and to purify our hearts, to be wretched and mourn and weep.
- Pastor: Exalt us, O Lord, even as we humble ourselves before You.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—Romans 8:1,12, 14-15

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Thus, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. You did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

Hymn of Praise—Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah



Text: Psalm 146, The Psalter, 1912; Music: RIPLEY, Gregorian Chant, Arr. By Lowell Mason, 1839.

The Reading of the Word—Mark 12:38-44

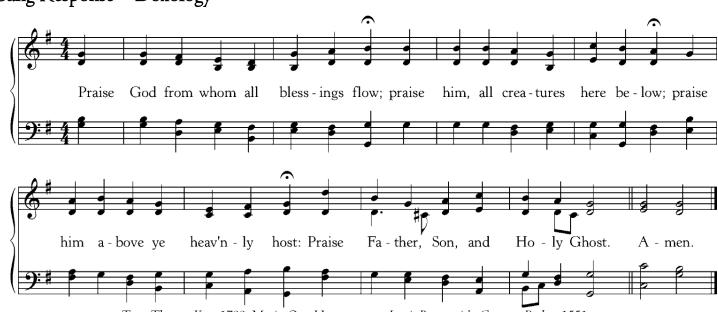
³⁸ And in his teaching he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the marketplaces ³⁹ and have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, ⁴⁰ who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

⁴¹ And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. ⁴³ And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. ⁴⁴ For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

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 45 Give Everything to the Lord

—Nate Shurden, Pastor



Sung Response—Doxology

Text: Thomas Ken, 1709; Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois's Genevan Psalter, 1551.

Profession of Faith-The Apostles' Creed

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

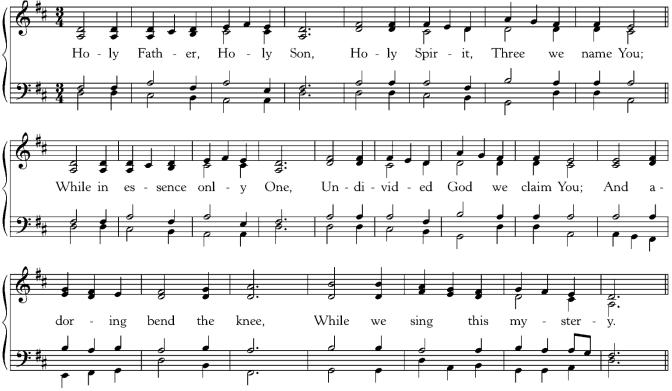
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into Heaven
and now sits at the right hand 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.

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

Sung Response—Holy God We Praise Your Name, Vs 4



Text: Based on Te Deum, 4th c., Attr Ignace Franz, 1774; Music: GROSER GOTT, Katholisches Gesangbuch, 177

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

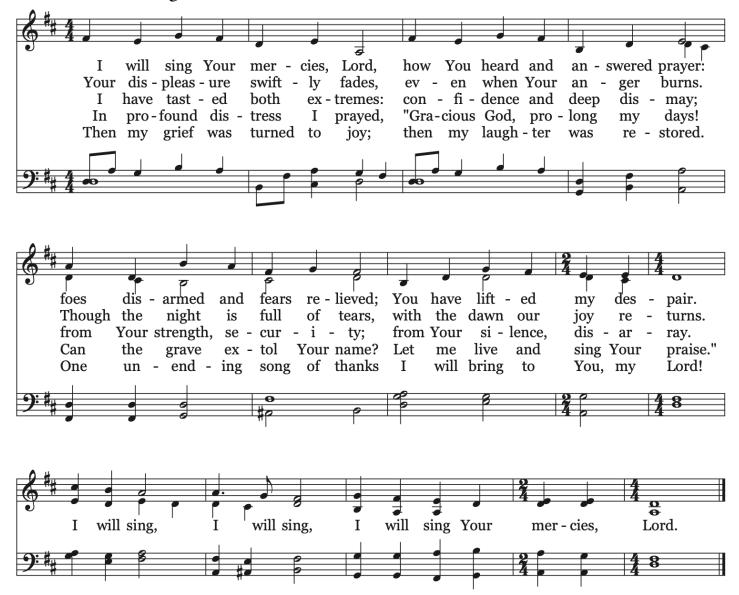
Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

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 to the second for wine/juice.

Psalm 30: I Will Sing Your Mercies Lord



CCLI #11121087 Text: Psalm 30, Martin Leckebusch, ©Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Music: Dan Kreider, 2020.

Hymn of Communion—Take My Life



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1874; Music: HENDON, Henri A. C. Malan, 1827; Harm. Lowell Mason, 1841.

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*

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—Come Ye Souls, By Sin Afflicted



Text: Joseph Swain, 1792; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2005. © 2005 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—Jude I:24-25

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Women May you be strong in His pow er, And find joy in His ser-vice. May you lead lives Men May you be strong in His pow find joy May you lead -And lives er. wor-thy of our God and King. And find joy in His May you be strong in His pow er, wor-thy of our God and King. May you be strong in His pow er. ser - vice. May you al ways give thanks to Him. Give thanks to Him. Give And find joy May you al ways give thanks to Him. thanks to Him. © Copyright 2013 Allen House Productions (ASCAP) www.songsforthechurchyear.com and Greyfriars Press.

Sung Response—May You Be Strong (Colossians I:10-11)

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Missions Prayer Focus—Lee Leadbetter is the Campus Minister for RUF International at The University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Lee leads his staff and ministry team in welcoming the nations to UT, exploring Christ's life-changing Truth with them, and - in partnership with churches and local believers - equipping international Christian students to be servant-ambassadors for Christ's kingdom.

- Pray for 1st round of events
- Pray for wisdom to know which students to prioritize
- **Pray** our D&D small groups could expand beyond 5
- Pray for our family to find rest and renewal in Jesus
- **Pray** UT internationals will experience our RUF-I family as a safe place
- Pray for our RUF-I Fall Retreat with Clemson, UGA, GA Tech & UTC

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

Men's Book Study

Brothers, join with other men from Cornerstone in reading and discussing Carl Trueman's *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*. Our first meeting will take place Tuesday, September 14, at 6:45 a.m. at Biscuit Love. Books are available on The Bookshelf. Please register through the website or app.

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.

"Seasons of Life" at The Merc

Sisters, make plans to join us on the evening of September 30 at the Franklin Mercantile for our next "Seasons of Life." Registration and a guest speaker announcement coming this week!

Cornerstone Youth

The Youth Group is taking a short break over the next few weeks. We will resume Sunday School on September 12, and Wednesday night activities will pick back up on September 15 with an evening of fun in Pinkerton Park from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Coffee with Calvin

Our final installment of this men's summer series has been rescheduled to Thursday, September 16 at 7:00 a.m. at the Franklin Mercantile.

Save the Dates: Vespers

Wednesday evening Vespers will begin October 6 and run through November 17. There will be discipleship programming for all ages. Make plans now to include these seven weeks on your fall calendar.

Adult Sunday School

The Lay of the Land: Reflecting on the PCA and the 2021 General Assembly

This upcoming Sunday School class will teach you about the foundations and story of our denomination in light of the key business of this year's General Assembly. Special attention will be given to the study committee on sexuality and the issue of same sex attraction. You will walk away from this class with a better biblical understanding of the issues and in context of the PCA's history and distinctives. All adults are encouraged to attend beginning September I2.

Overflow Rooms

Masks are required in the overflow rooms during the 10:45 a.m. service.

Lost and Found

We have accumulated quite a few cups, journals, umbrellas, sweaters and more. Go by and check out the lost and found items in the room behind the kitchen. Items remaining at the end of the month will be donated to Graceworks.

Giving

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

Prayer

The Prayer Team meets every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. We would be honored to pray with and for you and to have you join our team. Submit a prayer need or request a Zoom invitation: prayer@cstonepres.org. Today's message, "Give Everything to the Lord," is taken from Mark 12:38-44. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group.

- Why does Jesus say we should beware of the religious leaders? What danger does he see?
- Reflecting on the passage, how can giving large sums of money actually be giving very little, and how can giving little sums of money actually be giving a lot?
- By commending the widow's giving, is Jesus suggesting we should give everything we have to the Lord? Reflect on this and discuss with those around you.
- "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). How has this principle proved true in your life personally?
- Reflecting on the gospel, take inventory of your heart and practice in giving. What would change about your giving if the gospel took deeper root in your life?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Pastor: Nate Shurden (615-618-4707 Office) or nate@cstonepres.org Assistant Pastor: Ben Griffith (601-606-2687) at ben@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 Office: (615-618-4707) or office@cstonepres.org Administrative Assistant for Discipleship: Martha Brooks martha@cstonepres.org Home Fellowship Information: HFG@cstonepres.org Women's Ministry Director: Martha Brooks (615-591-1683) or women@cstonepres.org Men's Ministry: Ron Moffat or men@cstonepres.org Acting Youth Director: Taylor Thompson (717-371-0848) or youth@cstonepres.org Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

Ruling Elders

Randy Allen (615-260-1884) Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (615-943-8443) Joe Haworth (615-289-7543) Will Kesler (423-313-7493) John Millard (423-443-8852) Ron Moffat (629-215-5135)

*Jim Payne (615-497-0613) Jim Smith (615-347-4188)

Deacons

*Mark Elliott (615-477-1041) Matt Faulk (714-801-7596) Dan Fiedler (615-812-4032) Kevin McClung (615-243-9228) Mike Payne (615-579-6453)



Wes Pittman (615-393-0365) Brent Roberts (615-394-0662) *Jim Robinson (615-587-0442) Todd Russell (615-319-4803) David Steffens (615-557-5316)

Matt Suits (706-218-2823) Casey Taggart (662-813-3563) Larry Thompson (901-734-1520) Bob Vermilye (615-943-8139)

*On Sabbatical

Post Office Box 407 Franklin, Tennessee 37065 www.cornerstonepresfranklin.org (615) 618-4707

All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version