

CORNERSTONE Presbyterian Church

obow Ne The Gospel of Mark

Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time 17 October 2021

Pastoral Notes

As ministries are getting back to "normal," I've asked Greg Wilbur to write about the re-start, but also re-imagining, of opportunities to engage with stories, books, films, and music for the purpose of growing in grace and in the Great Narrative of redemption.

Since the earliest days of Cornerstone, we have hosted regular conversations around various topics. To help facilitate that, we've planned evenings to watch films, to discuss books (both literary and theological), to invite speakers to talk about art, and authors and musicians to talk about their work. We've also planned outings to various musical events. Sometimes these activities were primarily for fun (Summer Family Movies) and sometimes more theological (the Men's film and the Lenten literature discussion this past spring).

Because our culture likes to divide things and place things in categories, it's easy to think of these as opportunities for bookish people or film buffs or artists to be "enriched" or connect with like-minded people in the congregation. However, our goal and purpose are much grander and more integrated than that. As with all ministries of the church, we seek to make Christ known and for God to shine into our hearts the "light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (2 Cor 4:6).

Our model is displayed in the ministry of Paul in Acts 17 in which he interacts with Jews and Greeks to share the Gospel. Paul reasoned from the Scriptures to explain the necessity of Christ's suffering and resurrection in Thessalonica. In Berea, he encouraged the examining of the Scriptures to affirm and strengthen their belief. At the Areopagus in Athens, Paul engaged the pagan philosophers (the cultural leaders) on their turf, by using the words of their poets, to show them the truth of the Scriptures. We desire to use these planned ministry opportunities to examine the Word, teach the Gospel, and utilize the areas of film, music, and books (fruits of culture) to show the Truth that is made plain even to unbelievers (Rom I). The following is our stated purpose as well as some upcoming events:

The Goal: Our desire is to provide events to help show the beauty of Christ more clearly in the things that are made and the things we make as sub-creators and to engage the broader community with the significant questions that the arts raise, but that can only be answered in Christ.

The Means

- Regular Community Book Discussions, Film Discussions, and Music Discussions
- Participatory activities such as hymn sings, jam sessions, hosted concerts, etc.
- Periodic outings to concerts or galleries, guest speakers, etc.

Monday, October 25 at 7:00pm—Focus: Integration of Story and Faith (Arts)

Live podcast recording of *The Habit* with author Jonathan Rogers interviewing Carolyn Weber *(Surprised by Oxford, Holy is the Day)* about writing, faith, teaching, and integration of art and life.

Monday, November I at 7:00pm—Focus: Seeing the Gospel in Stories (Literature)

Using the Grimm's Fairy Tales "Snow White" and "Hansel and Gretel," we will talk about how to read for symbols in a story, how that helps us to understand Scripture, and how these stories intentionally tell the story of the Gospel and redemption. Look for a PDF to read ahead of time.

Sunday, November 7 at 5:00pm—Focus: Community through Harmony and Using/Developing Gifts (Music)

Jam Session for players, singers, musicians, interested bystanders! Bring your instrument, and we will have an evening of playing and singing hymns, worship songs, new songs, old songs, etc. All levels of expertise welcome. If you have some suggested songs, contact greg@cstonepres.org ahead of time.

Monday, December 6 at 7:00pm—Focus: Seeing the Gospel in Stories (Literature)

This Literature Discussion of Dicken's *A Christmas Carol* will explore the connection with allegory and fairy tales to understand and develop the ability to see how this classic story of redemption mirrors the Gospel and critiques the secular distractions of the good, true, and beautiful.

Narrative, Story, and music are powerful ways to incarnate truth. With these fall events and with upcoming films, books, and concerts in the Spring, we look forward to developing our ability to read and comprehend for the purpose of examining the Word, teaching the Gospel, and engaging our community and culture.

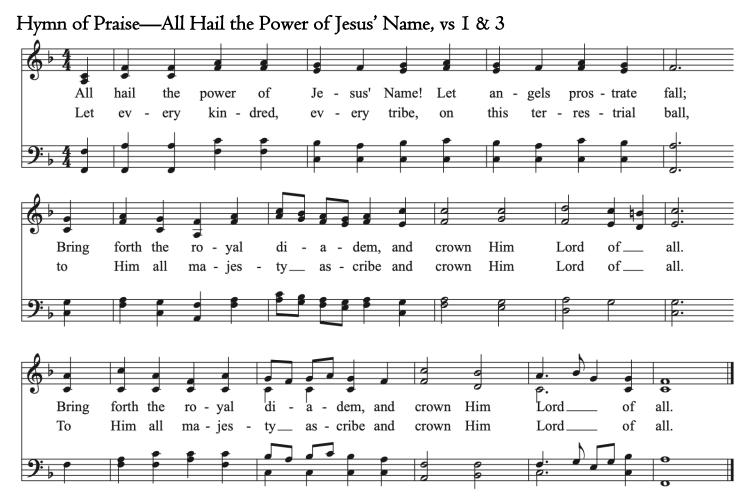
Worship is a response to the love of God that brings us out of darkness into his light. The rhythm and flow of the service reflects this present reality as God calls his people and reveals himself, forgives their sins, teaches them from his Word, the Bible, feeds them, and then sends them out to live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



Text: Edward Perronet, 1779; alt. St. 4 John Rippon, 1787; Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1793.

Call to Worship—Psalm 30:1-3, 10-12

Pastor: I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

All: O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

Pastor: O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

All: Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me! O LORD, be my helper!"

Pastor: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,

All: that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

Hymn of Praise—Come, Thou Fount



Text: Robert Robinson, 1758; Music: NETTLETON, Asahel Nettleton, 1825.

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 53:3-6

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. This is the Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God. Elder:

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.

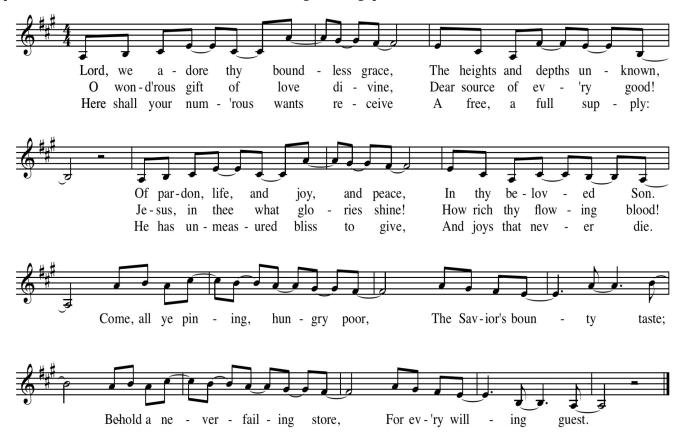
Congrega	ational Prayer of Confession—based on Galatians 5:16-25			
Pastor:	Lord, we come confessing. You call us to walk by the Spirit and not to gratify the desires of the flesh.			
All:	For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other to keep us from sin.			
Pastor:	If we are led by Your Spirit, then we are not under the law. For the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, and sorcery.			
All:	The works of the flesh are: enmity, strife, jealously, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, and envy.			
Pastor:	The works of the flesh are: drunkenness, orgies, and things like these.			
All:	Those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.			
Pastor:	But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.			
A11:	We desire to belong to Christ Jesus and to crucify the flesh with its passions and desires.			
Pastor:				

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon-from Colossians I:13-14

I, the Lord, have delivered you from the domain of darkness and transferred you to the kingdom of my beloved Son, in whom you have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Hymn of Promise—Come, All Ye Pining, Hungry Poor



CCLI #11121087 ©Red Mountain Hymns Text: Anne Steel, 1716-1778; Music: Brian T. Murphy.

Sacrament of Baptism

-Hadley Taggart, Daughter of Casey & Rachel Taggart

"For to you is the promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him. 'And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your seed after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto you and to your seed after you.' Therefore, believe on the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved, you and your house." (Acts 2:39; Gen. 17:7; Acts 16:31)

Parental Vows:

- I. Do you acknowledge your own, as well as your child's, need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
- 2. Do you claim God's covenant promises for her, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus—and only to the Lord Jesus—for her salvation, just as you do for your own?
- 3. Do you now consecrate your child to God; will you in humble reliance upon His sovereign grace set before her a godly example—praying with and for her, teaching her the good hope of the Gospel, opening to her the truth of the Scriptures, and striving by every means of grace God provides, to bring her up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Congregational Vow:

Will you as a covenant community joyously commit to assisting these parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

The Reading of the Word—Mark 15:1-20

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. ² And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." ³ And the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you."⁵ But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

⁶Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. ⁷And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. ⁸And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. ⁹And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. ¹²And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³And they cried out again, "Crucify him." ¹⁴And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." ¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

¹⁶ And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. ¹⁷ And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. ¹⁸ And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹ And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. ²⁰ And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

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 52 A Cruel Coronation

—Nate Shurden, Pastor



Sung Response—Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted, Vs 4

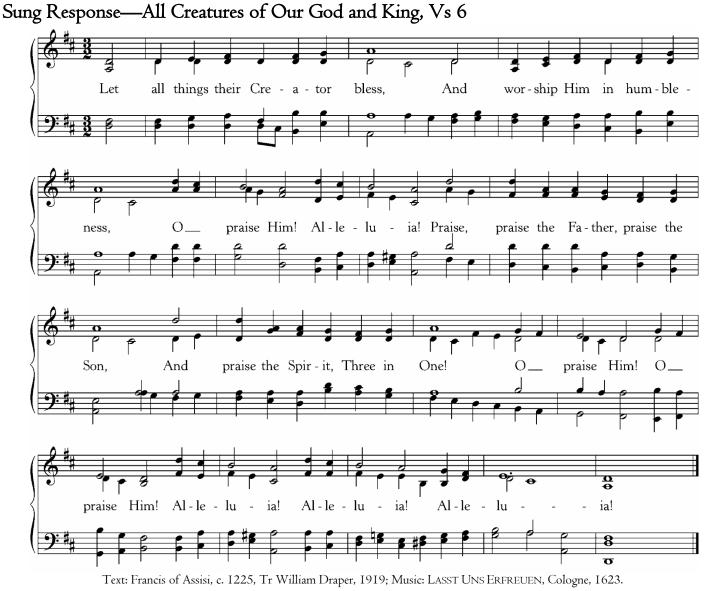
Text: Thomas Kelly, 1804; Music: O MEIN JESU, ICH MUSS STERBEN, Geistliche Volkslieder, Paderborn, 1850.

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



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-Psalm 102: Lord, Hear My Prayer



CCLI #11121087 ©2007 Greyfriars Press; Text: Paraphrase of Psalm 102; Music: Gregory WIlbur, 2007.

Hymn of Communion—Jesus, Blessed Lord and Savior

Je - sus, bless - èd From the high - est From the dark - ness Thus as - sured of	Lord and Sav - ion heights of glo - ry and the dis - tand Thine ac - cept - and	, To the cross ce, From the crush -	0	shame, sin,
Thus ac - com-plish - ing Bless-èd Sav - ior, Tho	re - demp - tion, J u hast freed us, B	orne to set Thy e - sus in His y Thy blood hast er - fect love hath	peo - ple pi - ty made us cast out	free; came; clean; fear;
Pre - cious Sav - ior, pr	e - cious Sav - ior, N Thy beau - ty, N	As we thus re We a - dore Thy Now Thy ran - somed We in Christ are	- mem - ber match-less ones are near and	Thee. name. seen. dear.

CCLI #11121087 Text: G. de Mattos; 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*

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—There is a Fountain Filled with Blood



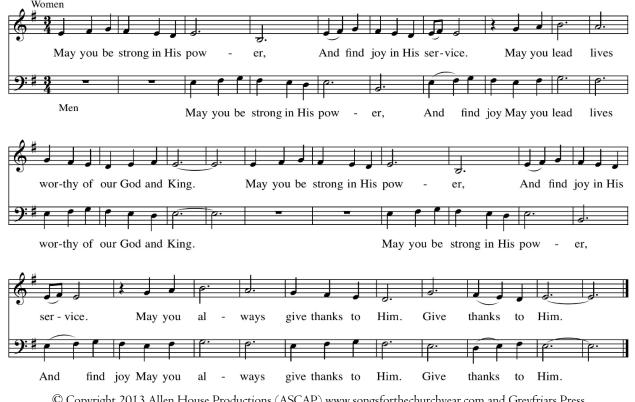
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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 II Thessalonians 1:11-12

May our God make us worthy of His calling and may He fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by His power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in us, and us in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Sung Response—May You Be Strong (Colossians 1:10-11)



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Missions Prayer Focus—Dillards Ministry Transition:

After 30 years of Muslim ministry, Dave has transitioned to a new career—building banjos. If you know Dave, you know how much he loves music and working with his hands. We count this opportunity as a real gift and blessing from God. Robin will continue doing mission work with *Servant Group*, leading women's outreach programs and serving as Administrator for the ministry. She is excited to continue doing this work! The heartbeat of SGI continues to be training Christians how to befriend Muslims and share the gospel in their journey — locally and overseas. Current estimates tell us there are 91 different people groups in a few mile radius of our Headquarters in Nashville. Our city is the classroom!

Lord, thank you for the many years of ministry for Dave and Robin. Continue to show them your will and stretch them as they continue to reach outward in their areas of ministry. Bless the work of Dave's hands and Robin as she navigates ministry to Muslim women during Covid and beyond.

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

10 Year Anniversary Celebration

Be sure to be here throughout November as we celebrate ten years of God's faithfulness to Cornerstone. Our month of remembering will culminate on November 21 with a combined worship service at Liberty Hall in The Factory at 10:00 a.m., and dinner and a party in that same location in the evening beginning at 5:30 p.m. Registration will open on Wednesday, October 20. Make plans now to celebrate!

Midweek at Cornerstone

Find all the details about Midweek, including the schedule and dinner registration, on the church website and app. Registration for dinner is open until Monday at noon. Dinner for October 20 is Taziki's. \$5/person, \$20/family maximum. Please make plans to spend midweek with your Cornerstone family!

Choir for Fall and Advent—Wednesdays at 7:15pm

Following Vespers and Youth, come join with others as we prepare choral music for our annual Lessons and Carols service as well as other opportunities during the holiday season. Contact: Greg at greg@cstonepres.org

Conversation with Jonathan Rogers & Carolyn Weber

Monday, October 25, 7:00 p.m. at Cornerstone

You are invited to a live taping of *The Habit* podcast in which author Jonathan Rogers will interview Carolyn Weber. Dr. Weber is a noted professor, speaker, and author of the award-winning memoir *Surprised by Oxford*, which is also currently being made into a feature film. She now teaches rhetoric, logic, and writing at New College Franklin.

Young Moms' Encouragement Group

Come enjoy a night out with a purpose! This group will meet for the first time this Thursday, October 21, 6:45 – 8:30 p.m. at the home of Suzann Allen (2490 McLemore Circle). If you haven't signed up yet, there's still time! Contact Suzann: suzannallen@protonmail.com.

Men's Fall Fellowship

Brothers, cooler temps are here. Let's enjoy this weather together! Saturday, October 23, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m., we are going to gather around the fire pit at Randy Allen's house (2490 McLemore Circle) and enjoy some barbecue and brotherly fellowship. Make plans now to join us.

Seeing the Gospel in Stories

Monday, November I, 7:00 p.m.

Using the Grimm's Fairy Tales "Snow White" and "Hansel and Gretel," we will talk about how to read for symbols in a story, how that helps us to understand Scripture, and how these stories intentionally tell the story of the Gospel and redemption. There are free copies available on The Bookshelf, or look for the downloadable pdf in Life at Cornerstone.

The Bookshelf

The new "Blessings of the Faith" book series is finally in print! These brief primers aim at introducing and celebrating the richness of Reformed doctrine and practice. Only \$5 apiece!

- Persistent Prayer by Guy Richard
- Covenantal Baptism by Jason Helopoulos
- Expository Preaching by David Strain

Youth Group Bonfire and Hayride

All 7th-12th graders are invited to the Brookses' (1020 Lumsden Lane) for a bonfire and hayride on October 24, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Questions? youth@cstonepres.org

Sunday School

Adults: choose from The Cornerstone School of Discipleship offerings:

<u>Core Class</u>: The Mystery of the Holy Spirit led by Tony Giles (Room 303) <u>Elective Class</u>: Pursuing the Joy of a Clear Conscience led by various teachers (Chapel) Youth: Merridee's Babies/Toddlers: Room 102

3 years - Kindergarten: Room 103

Ist – 2nd grade: Room 104

 $3^{rd} - 4^{th}$ grade: Room 101

 $5^{th} - 6^{th}$ grade: Room 301

Thursday Morning Men's Study

The Thursday morning men's study is back in action! Beginning October 21, Mr. Steve Barnes will be leading a study through Sinclair Ferguson's *Union with Christ*. This study will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Franklin Mercantile. Books will be provided. For more information, contact Steve Barnes: gilchrist.steve@gmail.com Today's message, "A Cruel Coronation," is taken from Mark 15:1-20. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group.

- Though Jesus is accused and ultimately convicted of blasphemy, who really commits blasphemy in this passage? (There may be more than one answer!)
- How is the release of Barabbas and the condemnation of Jesus an irony? How is it an injustice? How is it a picture of the gospel?
- Take time to ponder this question, "Who is responsible for the death of Jesus?" (Again, more than one answer may be in view.)
- In John's account, we're told that Jesus says to Pilate, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would be fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews" (John 18:36). How does this help us understand Jesus's response in this moment? How does this statement help us understand our mission?
- What did you need to hear most from today's message?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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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)

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*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version