

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

29 January 2017

During Epiphany we celebrate the coming of the Magi to Bethlehem and the recognition that Jesus fulfills the Old Testament prophecies of being a light to the nations and his coming is for all peoples.

If you are reading this in worship, I want you to know something—you *are an answer to prayer*. Each Sunday before worship, I ask God to bring into our midst exactly who He desires would be there. Since you are with us today, I believe God has a blessing in store for you. I am prayerful as we worship together today, that blessing will be received and enjoyed.

To that end, this service of worship has been designed that we might know God and the glory of the gospel of Jesus Christ. From the summons to worship at the beginning to the sending out into the world at the benediction, that you might know God, the truth and joy of salvation, and be equipped to answer the call to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Following the service, feel free to approach one of our elders (the men who help serve the Lord's Supper) with any prayer needs or questions you may have. I believe you will find them to be warm, inviting, and eager to serve. Please know I would personally enjoy getting to meet you this morning following the service, so please stop by and see me at the front door of the chapel.

It is my sincere prayer that your experience today at Cornerstone Presbyterian Church is one that blesses you spiritually and strengthens your faith in the Lord.

Grace & Peace,
Rev. Nate Shurden

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.

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.

Prelude, Announcements & Preparation

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

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a C4 quarter note, followed by a half note G4, and then a series of eighth notes: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The bass staff begins with a G2 half note, followed by a half note D3, and then a series of eighth notes: C3, B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C2. The second system also has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a C4 quarter note, followed by a half note G4, and then a series of eighth notes: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The bass staff begins with a G2 half note, followed by a half note D3, and then a series of eighth notes: C3, B2, A2, G2, F2, E2, D2, C2. The lyrics are written below the notes.

O Splendor of God's glo - ry bright, O thou that bring - est light from light, O

Light of light, light's liv - ing spring, O Day, all day's il - lum - in - ing.

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

Call to Worship—from Psalm 27:I, 4, 8, 11, 14

Pastor: The LORD is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

All: The LORD is the stronghold of our lives; of whom shall we be afraid?

Pastor: One thing we ask of the LORD and that we will seek after:

that we may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of our lives,

All: That we may gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in His temple.

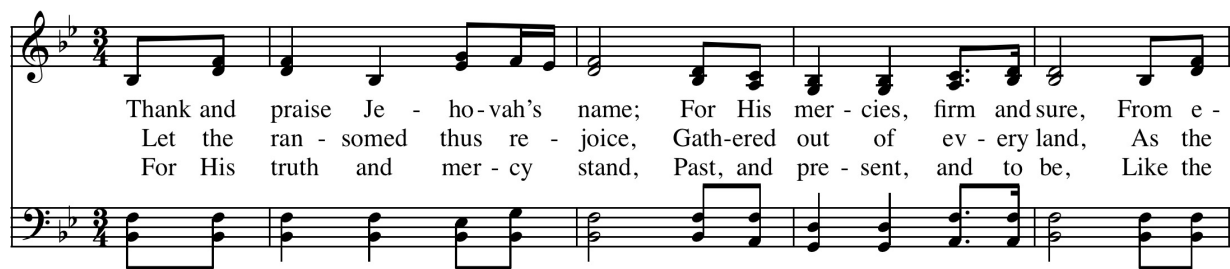
Pastor: You have said, "Seek my face."

All: Our hearts say to you, "Your face, LORD, do we seek."

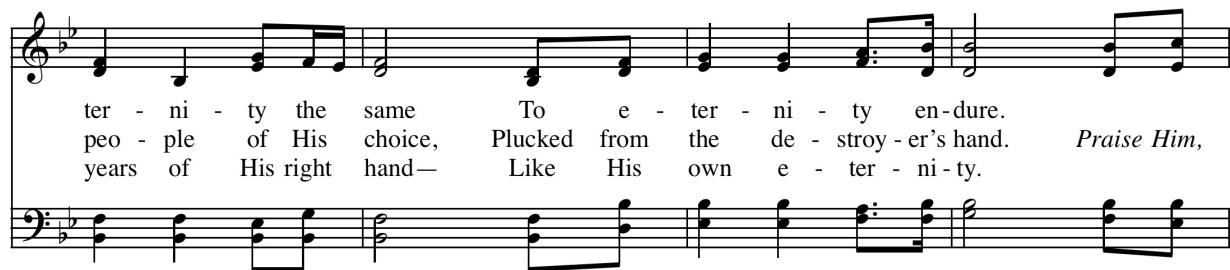
Pastor: Teach us Your way, O LORD, and lead us on a level path.

All: Wait for the Lord, be strong and let your hearts take courage; wait for the LORD!

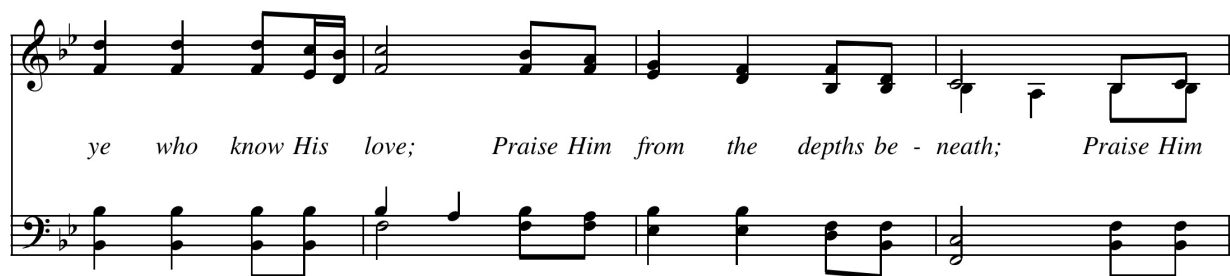
Hymn of Praise—Thank and Praise Jehovah's Name



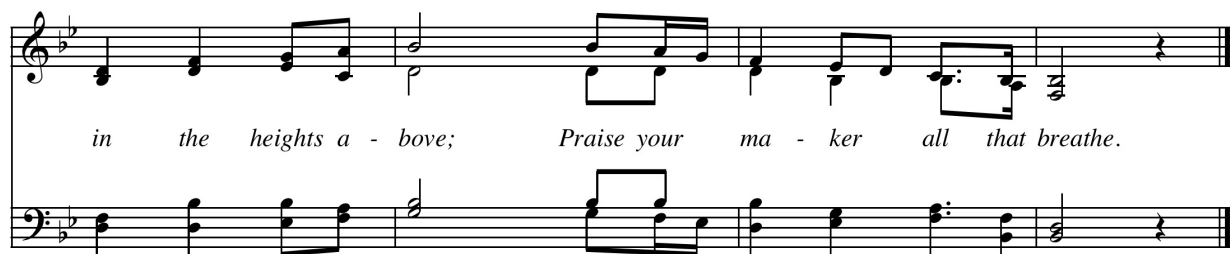
Thank and praise Je - ho - vah's name; For His mer - cies, firm and sure, From e -
Let the ran - somed thus re - joice, Gath-ered out of ev - ery land, As the
For His truth and mer - cy stand, Past, and pre - sent, and to be, Like the



ter - ni - ty the same To e - ter - ni - ty en-dure.
peo - ple of His choice, Plucked from the de - stroy - er's hand. Praise Him,
years of His right hand— Like His own e - ter - ni - ty.



ye who know His love; Praise Him from the depths be - neath; Praise Him



in the heights a - bove; Praise your ma - ker all that breathe.

Text: James Montgomery, 1822; Music: Gregory Wilbur, Greyfriars Press, 2016. Used by permission.

Hymn of Praise—Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Won - der - ful, mer - ci - ful Sav - ior, Pre - cious Re - deem - er and
 Coun - se - lor, Com - fort - er, Keep - er, Spir - it we long to em -
 Al - might - y, in - fi - nite Fa - ther, Faith - ful - ly lov - ing Your

Friend;
 brace;
 own;
 Who would have thought that a Lamb could Res - cue the
 You of - fer hope when our hearts have Hope - less - ly
 Here in our weak - ness You find us Fall - ing be -

souls of men? Oh, You res - cue the souls of men.
 lost the way; Oh, we hope - less - ly lost the way.
 fore Your throne; Oh, we're fall - ing be - fore Your throne.

You are the One that we praise, You are the One we a -

dore, You give the heal - ing and grace Our hearts al - ways hun - ger

for; Oh, our hearts al - ways hun - ger for.

CCLI #11121087 © 1989 Word Music. Text: Dawn Rodgers & Eric Wyse; Music: VINE RIDGE, Dawn Rodgers, 1989.

+++Latecomers Please Wait to be Seated+++

The Old Testament Reading—Ecclesiastes 8:16-17, 9:11-12

16 When I applied my heart to know wisdom, and to see the business that is done on earth, how neither day nor night do one's eyes see sleep, 17 then I saw all the work of God, that man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. However much man may toil in seeking, he will not find it out. Even though a wise man claims to know, he cannot find it out.

11 Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all. 12 For man does not know his time. Like fish that are taken in an evil net, and like birds that are caught in a snare, so the children of man are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them.

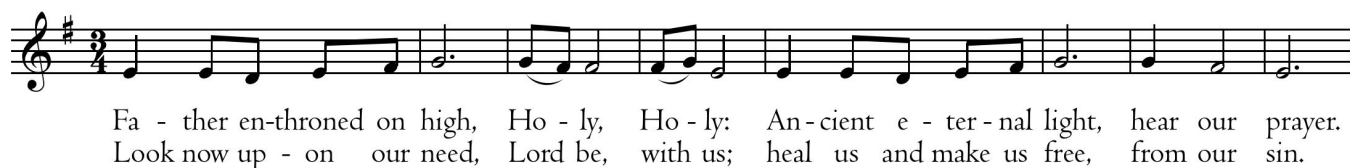
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

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—Come, O Redeemer, Come



CCLI #11121087 ©1996 Metro One, Inc. Text and Music: Fernando Ortega, 1996.

Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 103:8-14, 17-18

Pastor: O Lord, we come to you confessing. You are merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

You will not always chide, nor will You keep Your anger forever.

All: Do not repay us according to our sins, nor repay according to our iniquities.

Pastor: As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is Your steadfast love to those who fear You.

All: Remove our transgressions from us as far as the east is from the west.

Pastor: As a father shows compassion to his children,
O Lord, show Your compassion to those who fear You.

Pastor: But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear him,
and his righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.

Assurance of Pardon—Jeremiah 31:33-34

+++Latecomers are Welcome to be Seated+++

The first staff of music is written on a five-line staff with a treble clef. It contains a sequence of notes: a dotted quarter note on G4, an eighth note on F4, a quarter note on E4, a quarter note on D4, a dotted half note on C4, a quarter note on B3, a dotted quarter note on A3, a quarter note on G3, a quarter note on F3, and a dotted half note on E2. The staff ends with a double bar line.

CCLI #11121087 Text: Psalm 73, The Psalter, 1912; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2012.

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—Habakkuk I:I-I7

1 The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

Habakkuk's Complaint

2 O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not hear?

Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?

3 Why do you make me see iniquity,
and why do you idly look at wrong?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

4 So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth.
For the wicked surround the righteous; so justice goes forth perverted.

The Lord's Answer

5 "Look among the nations, and see;
wonder and be astounded.

For I am doing a work in your days
that you would not believe if told.

6 For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans,
that bitter and hasty nation,
who march through the breadth of the earth,
to seize dwellings not their own.

7 They are dreaded and fearsome;
their justice and dignity go forth from themselves.

8 Their horses are swifter than leopards,
more fierce than the evening wolves;
their horsemen press proudly on.

Their horsemen come from afar;
they fly like an eagle swift to devour.

9 They all come for violence,
all their faces forward.
They gather captives like sand.

10 At kings they scoff,
and at rulers they laugh.
They laugh at every fortress,
for they pile up earth and take it.

11 Then they sweep by like the wind and go on,
guilty men, whose own might is their god!"

Habakkuk's Second Complaint

12 Are you not from everlasting,
O LORD my God, my Holy One?
We shall not die.

O LORD, you have ordained them as a judgment,
and you, O Rock, have established them for reproof.

13 You who are of purer eyes than to see evil
and cannot look at wrong,
why do you idly look at traitors
and remain silent when the wicked swallows up
the man more righteous than he?

14 You make mankind like the fish of the sea,
like crawling things that have no ruler.

15 He brings all of them up with a hook;
he drags them out with his net;
he gathers them in his dragnet;
so he rejoices and is glad.

16 Therefore he sacrifices to his net
and makes offerings to his dragnet;
for by them he lives in luxury,
and his food is rich.

17 Is he then to keep on emptying his net
and mercilessly killing nations forever?

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—Faith Amidst the Questions, Pt I

Honest Questions, Honest Answers

—Nate Shurden, *Pastor*

Sung Response—One Thing Have I Desired

One thing have I de - sired of the Lord, One thing will I seek af - ter;
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, To be - hold the
beau-ty of the Lord, to in - quire in his tem - ple. To in - quire in his tem - ple.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first line of the song, the second staff contains the second line, and the third staff contains the third line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

CCLI #11121087 Text: Psalm 27:4; Music: INQUIRE, 2017.

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

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. You may take the bread at the first table and then proceed to either side for the wine/grape juice.

Hymn of Communion—Give Me Jesus

1. In the morn - ing when I rise, in the morn - ing when I rise, in the morn -
- ing when I rise give me Je - - - sus.

Chorus
Give me Je - - - sus, give me Je - - - sus. You can
have all this world, but give me Je - - - sus.

2. And when I am a - lone, oh, and when I am a - lone, and
3. And when I come to die, oh, and when I come to die, and
when I am a - lone give me Je - - - sus.
when I come to die give me Je - - - sus.

Text and Music: African-American Spiritual.

Hymn of Communion—My Jesus I Love Thee



My Je - sus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine; For Thee all the
 I love Thee be - cause Thou has first lov - ed me, And pur - chased my
 I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death, And praise Thee as
 In man - sions of glo - - ry and end - less de - light, I'll ev - er a -

fol - - - lies of sin I re - sign. My gra - cious Re - deem - er, my
 par - - - don on Cal - va - ry's tree. I love Thee for wear - ing the
 long as Thou lend - est me breath; And say when the death dew lies
 dore Thee in heav - en so bright; I'll sing with the glit - ter - ing

Sav - ior art Thou; If ev - er I loved Thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
 thorns on Thy brow; If ev - er I loved Thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
 cold on my brow, If ev - er I loved Thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
 crown on my brow; If ev - er I loved Thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.

Text: William R. Featherston; Music: GORDON, Adoniram J. Gordon, 1876.

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper

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

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

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

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

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

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

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

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.

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

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

Hymn of Praise—Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Je - sus, thou Joy of Lov - ing hearts, Thou Fount of
Thy truth un - changed hath ev - er stood; Thou sav - est
We taste thee, O thou liv - ing Bread, And long to
Our rest - less spir - its yearn for thee, Where - 'er our
O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay; Make all our

life, thou Light of men, From the best bliss
those that on thee call; To them that seek
feast up - on thee still; We drink of thee,
change - ful lot is cast; Glad, when thy grac -
mo - ments calm and bright; Chase the dark night

that earth im - parts We turn un - filled to thee a - gain.
thee thou art good, to them that find thee, all in all.
the Foun - tain - head, And thirst our souls from thee to fill.
ious smile we see, Blest, when our faith can hold thee fast.
of sin a - way, Shed o'er the world thy ho - ly light

Text: St. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153, Tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-87; Music: Folk Melody

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—I Thessalonians 5:23-24

23 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. *Amen.*

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

Christ be with me, Christ with-in me, Christ be-hind me, Christ be-fore me, Christ be-side me, Christ to

win me, Christ to com-fort and re-store me, Christ be-neath me, Christ a-bove me, Christ in qui-et, Christ in

dan-ger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stran-ger.

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

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

God built within His people an innate desire to celebrate, to mark seasons and events, to set up “stones of remembrance” so that we do not forget His goodness and promises. One method that the Church has used over time is dividing each year according to the events in the life of Christ—a reminder of redemptive history. Although the Church Calendar is not prescribed by Scripture, it can be a useful framework or tool to help walk our hearts through the Gospel every year.

The major divisions of the liturgical year are:

- **Advent**—The four Sundays leading to Christmas; preparation for the coming of Christ and the need for a Savior
- **Christmas & Twelve Days**—Celebration of the Incarnation & the Gift of Christ, our Redeemer
- **Epiphany**—January 6; Coming of the Magi for Christ is the Light of the World; Hope for the Gentiles; Kingship of Christ
- **Lent**—from Ash Wednesday to Easter; repentance and reflection; recognition that our sinfulness leads to the cross; intentional time to exercise the disciplines of grace
- **Holy Week**—Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday; Jesus as King, Priest, Prophet; The remembrance that the shedding of blood was necessary for the forgiveness of sins
- **Easter**—Resurrection of the Living Lord; the conquering of death and sin
- **Ascension**—Christ in Power at the right hand of the Father; Christ interceding as the Mediator
- **Pentecost**—Coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church; God sends out His people as the Church
- **Ordinary Time**—The weeks between Pentecost and Advent; Living in light of the Gospel as the Church

HOME FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Bob and Cindi Wolk 686-3349 or cindi_wolk@yahoo.com

1st and 3rd Sundays after church at Cornerstone, *Sermon Discussion*

Greg Wilbur 512-4156 or greg@cstonepres.org

2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays at 5:00 p.m., Wilbur's house, *Sermon Discussion*

Jim Smith, 347-4188 or jims@svmic.com

2nd and 4th Sundays at 6:00 p.m., Smith's house

Randy Allen, 260-1884 or randmanrx@gmail.com

Sundays at 5:30 p.m., Allen's house

Andy Patton, 500-1492 or parachuteadamsI@gmail.com

1st and 3rd Sundays, 5:00 p.m. Patton's house

Matt Michaud, 803-319-2693 or michaudba@gmail.com

Sundays at 4-6 p.m., Michaud's house

Mike and Mel Payne, 615-618-3299 or meljpayne@gmail.com

Every other Sunday at 4:30-6:30 p.m., Carl & Eleanor Ware's house

Todd Russell, 319-4803 or toddrussell@firstprotective.com

Sundays, 5:00 p.m., Russell's house

Mark Elliott, 615-477-1041 or markrelliott@yahoo.com

Every Sunday (except the last Sunday of the month) after the 2nd Service, Elliott's house

Steve Green, 615-504-8733 or steveI63I@bellsouth.net

John Marquardt, 443-286-7265 or john.marq@me.com

First and Third Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Cornerstone.

Today we begin a five-week series in the book of Habakkuk called “Faith Amidst the Questions.” The message for today is called, “Honest Questions, Honest Answers” (Habakkuk 1:1-17) Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group.

- What is Habakkuk’s protest in verses 2-4? Have you ever had the same protest? If so, what prompted it?
- How does God answer Habakkuk’s initial protest in verses 5-11? Was God’s answer satisfying to Habakkuk (see verses 12-17)?
- A common objection to Christianity is this: “If God is all-powerful and absolutely good, why does God not stop evil from happening?” This objection mirrors, at least in part, Habakkuk’s concern. How would you answer this?
- Christianity teaches that God is not the creator of, nor culpable for, the evil that happens in the world, and yet nothing happens outside of his control (Psalm 115:3). If that is so, how then can we account for evil in the world?
- John Flavel writes, “Providence is like a curious piece of tapestry made of a thousand shreds, which, single, appear useless, but put together, they represent a beautiful history to the eye.” What point is Flavel driving home, and how does it relate to the teaching of Habakkuk 1?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Pastor: Nate Shurden (618-4707 Office) or nate@cstonepres.org
Assistant Pastor: Tony Giles (430-8801) or tony@cstonepres.org
Worship and Chief Musician: Greg Wilbur (512-4156) or greg@cstonepres.org
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Youth Director: Nathaniel Vroom (521-2895) or nathaniel@cstonepres.org
Elementary Director: Lauren Smith (944-0885) or elementary@cstonepres.org
Nursery Coordinator: Linda VanGorden (406-4431) or nursery@cstonepres.org

Ruling Elders

Randy Allen (260-1884)	Chuck Emerson: <i>Emeritus</i> (661-9273)	Jim Smith (347-4188)
Terry Cheney (579-7089)	Jim Payne (497-0613)	Greg Wilbur (512-4156)*

Deacons

Clint Branch (516-9855)	Kevin McClung (243-9228)	Larry Thompson (901-734-1520)
Joe Haworth (289-7543)	Jim Robinson (587-0442)	Bob Vermilye (599-9577)
	David Steffens (557-5316)	

*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version