

# CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

Fifth Sunday of Lent

17 March 2024

# Pastoral Notes

Grace, mercy, and peace to you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you're a visitor with us today, we want to thank you for taking time to worship with us. We sincerely hope you are warmly welcomed by those around you, and that your time in worship today will be a great blessing.

If this is your first time with us, you might notice it's pretty tight in here. We want you to know we *see that*. As a partial answer to the good problem of growth at Cornerstone, we're in the process of finishing a complete renovation of the bottom floor of our educational space. Once that space is finished, we'll have a brand-new fellowship space and a greatly expanded overflow. We trust this expansion will give us a bit more elbow room in the Chapel.

By the way, renovation is moving along. Sheetrock is hung and painted. Sinks and toilets are in the bathrooms. It's getting close! I'm not a prophet or a son of a prophet, but IF the renovation stays on schedule, we'll be in the new space by April. Exciting!

But let's not get ahead of ourselves. The latter half of March will be chock full of opportunities to worship, reflect, and celebrate together. As hard as it is to believe, we're one week away from Palm Sunday and the start of Holy Week. In order to help you be fully engaged with Cornerstone during Holy Week, I want to take a few moments to talk about upcoming services.

The Maundy Thursday communion service will be at 6:30 p.m. this year. The word "maundy" is an abbreviated form of the word mandate. It refers to the powerful display of Christ's love as he washes his disciples feet and charges them, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another" (John 13:35). This beautiful communion service lays important historical and theological foundations for all that will follow on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Speaking of Good Friday, we will gather for *two services* this year—at 5:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. This service is a powerful reflection on the Passion of Jesus Christ. Complete with choir and chamber orchestra, this service leads the worshiper into Christ's darkest hour as together we survey the wondrous cross. Given the significant turnout for this service the last few years, we are asking you to register for either the 5:00 or the 7:00 service. Once we reach critical mass in a service, registration for that service will close. Please don't delay!

Then, on Easter morn, we'll gather three times—7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 10:45 a.m.—and rejoice in Christ's victory over the grave. With three services, we will have plenty of space for family, friends, and neighbors to join us. If you haven't done so yet, please take time this week to consider who you might invite to join us for Easter. I am already looking forward to preaching about our victorious Christ!



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.

Worship Notes—In this familiar passage from Isaiah 52 & 53 for our sermon text, we hear of the Servant of the Lord who was despised, rejected, oppressed, afflicted, and "stricken for the transgression" of the people. The Call to Worship from latter part of Psalm 22 enjoins us to praise the Lord "in the midst of the congregation" for the Lord "has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted. The opening hymn, Come, Christians Join to Sing," reminds us that Christ's love shall never end for "To us He'll condescend." The New Testament Reading from I Peter 2:19-25 tells us that is "is a gracious thing in the sight of God" to endure "sorrows while suffering unjustly" for Christ has left us an example "so that we might follow in his steps." The Confession of Sin from Psalm 6 speaks of great trouble, weariness, and moaning, but "the Lord has heard the sound of my weeping." As we sing "Here is Love," we sing through the doctrine of the atonement in which the "Prince of Life" became our ransom by shedding His precious blood. Our second communion hymn is "Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed" for "Christ, the mighty Maker died for man the creature's sin." "There is a Fountain Filled with Blood" finishes out our service in worship with yet another poignant reminder of the work of Christ in securing our redemption and washing away our sins and the stains of guilt.

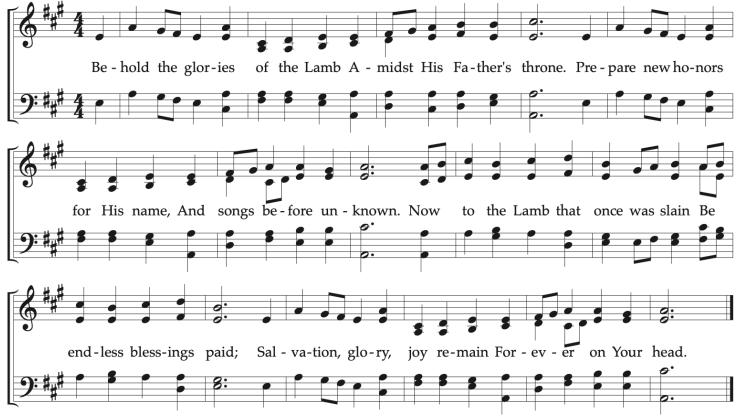
—Greg Wilbur

# Prelude, Announcements, and Preparation

#### GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE AND REVEALS HIMSELF

God calls His people to worship and come before Him. The Creator of all things reveals Himself through His Word and calls us into His presence.





Text: Isaac Watts, 1668; Music: ELLACOMBE, Later form (1868) of a melody in Wüttemberger Gesangbuch (1784).

# Call to Worship—Psalm 22:22-28

Pastor: I will tell of your name to my brothers;

All: in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

Pastor: You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,

All: and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

Pastor: For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted,

and he has not hidden his face from him.

All: but has heard, when he cried to him.

Pastor: From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

my vows I will perform before those who fear him.

The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD!

All: May your hearts live forever!

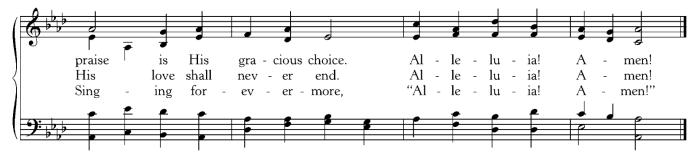
Pastor: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,

and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

All: For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

# Hymn of Praise—Come, Christians, Join to Sing





Text: Christian H. Bateman, 1843; Music: MADRID, Traditional Spanish Melody, Arr David Evans, 1927.

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

# New Testament Reading—I Peter 2:19-25

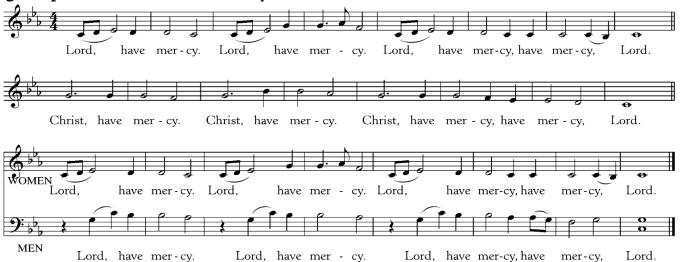
For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. <sup>21</sup> For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup> He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup> When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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 Confession of Sin—from Psalm 6

Leader: Father God, we come before you in prayer and confessions.

All: O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath.

Leader: Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing;

heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled.

All: My soul also is greatly troubled.

Leader: But you, O Lord—how long?

All: Turn, O Lord, deliver my life; save me for the sake of your steadfast love.

Leader: For in death there is no remembrance of you; in Sheol who will give you praise?

All: I am weary with my moaning; every night I flood my bed with tears;

Leader: I drench my couch with my weeping.

All: My eye wastes away because of grief;

Leader: for the Lord has heard the sound of my weeping.

All: The Lord has heard my plea; the Lord accepts my prayer.

# Silent Prayers of Confession

# Assurance of Pardon—from I Peter 2:24-25

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

By his wounds you have been healed.

For you were straying like sheep,

but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

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

# Hymn of Praise—Here is Love



Text: William Rees, st I-2, 1855; tr by William Edwards, 1915; st 3-4 attr William Williams, 1744; Music: Cymraeg, Robert Lowery, 1876

# The Reading of the Word—Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Behold, my servant shall act wisely;

he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.

<sup>14</sup> As many were astonished at you—

his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

15 so shall he sprinkle many nations.

Kings shall shut their mouths because of him,

for that which has not been told them they see,

and that which they have not heard they understand.

<sup>1</sup> Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

<sup>2</sup>For he grew up before him like a young plant,

and like a root out of dry ground;

he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.

<sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup> But 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.

<sup>6</sup> All 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.

<sup>7</sup>He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,

and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

<sup>8</sup> By oppression and judgment he was taken away;

and as for his generation, who considered

that he was cut off out of the land of the living,

stricken for the transgression of my people?

<sup>9</sup> And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death,

although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

<sup>10</sup> Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief;

when his soul makes an offering for guilt,

he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;

the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

<sup>11</sup>Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;

by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

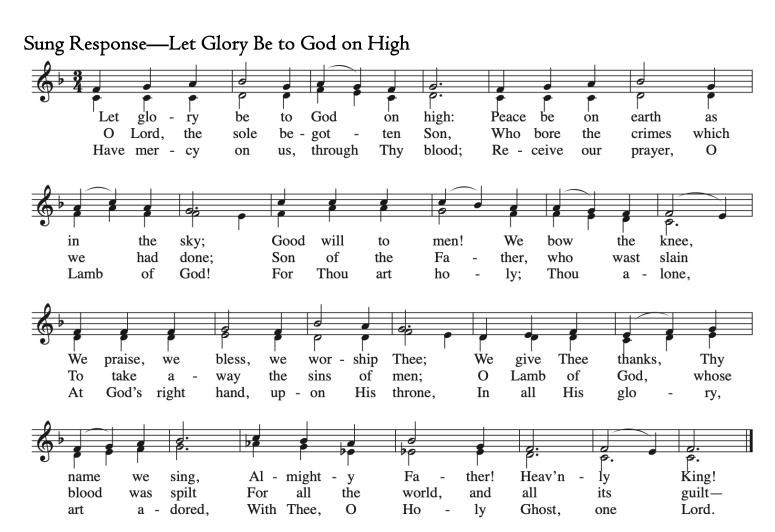
Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

#### Sermon—The Servant Songs of Isaiah, Pt 5

The Servant of the Lord: Our Substitute

—Tony Giles, *Pastor* 



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

#### Profession of Faith—The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth,

and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of the Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

Very God of Very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary,

and was made man,

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered, died, and was buried.

On the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven,

and now sits on the right hand of the Father.

And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead,

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and Giver of Life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And we believe in one holy and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.

And we look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### 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 79:8-13: Remember Not, O God



CCLI #11121087 Text: Psalm 79 The 1912 Psalter; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2016; Bridge: Kirk Sauers & Paul Ranheim, 2023.

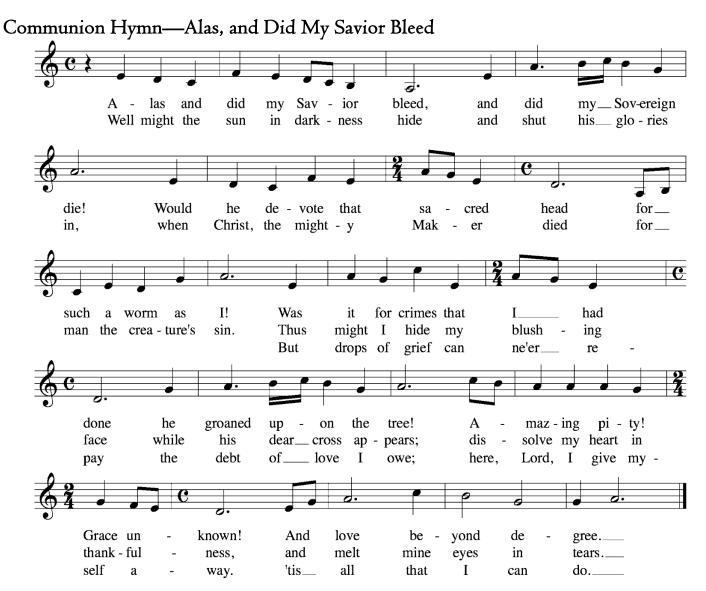
#### Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper

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



Text: Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: © 2006 Greyfriars Press. Used by Permission.

# 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



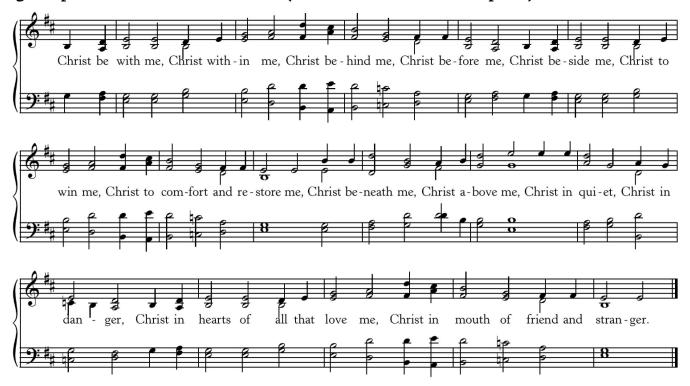
#### GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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—Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

# Sung Response—Christ Be with Me (from St. Patrick's Breastplate)



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

**Missions Prayer**— In addition to his part-time role as our Assistant Pastor, Tony Giles serves as Program Director for Serge's Church Leader Development and Leadership Lab. Serge's *Church Leader Development* seeks to create a pathway designed to help church leaders integrate transformation gospel principles into every area of ministry resulting in healthy, gospel-centered organizations that are missionally engaged.

#### Please Pray:

- For God's grace to take deeper root in the hearts and lives of each leader served
- For wisdom and discernment in coaching of individual church leaders
- For facilitating of four cohorts with 28 participants from as far away as India, China, Northern Ireland, Senegal, New York, South Carolina, Colorado, Illinois, and Virginia
- For writing: curriculum revisions and tools for use in the curriculum
- For *funding:* Tony raises the funds to offer this ministry to church leaders
- For *team building:* Two partners assist a few hours each month; the hope is to add a third later this year as the ministry grows and demands increase.

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



# Focus on Church Ministry

#### Good Friday Service Registration

To ensure that we can accommodate everyone inside the Chapel and avoid using overflow space, we are altering our Good Friday service schedule to offer two services at 5:00



and 7:00 p.m. We ask that you register online to let us know which service you plan to attend. Scan this QR code or visit the website or app to register now. Contact: dan@cstonepres.org

#### Literature Discussion: Tomorrow

Monday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m.: A Lenten Pilgrimage through Poetry as Prayer

Join Carolyn Weber as she leads a presentation of poems by Donne, Herbert, Rossetti, Hopkins, and more in association with Lent and Holy Week. There is no reading required before this particular event. Hosted in the Chapel. Contact: greg@cstonepres.org

*Upcoming*: Monday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m.: *Jayber Crow* by Wendell Berry

#### Cornerstone Youth—Nerf War

This Friday, March 22, from 6:00-9:00 p.m., the Cornerstone Youth are having a Nerf War! We'll roam the church, have team battles of all sorts, eat snacks, and have fun together. Nerf darts will be provided, but bring your own Nerf gun. Contact: drew@cstonepres.org

April 26-28: Spring Retreat at Deer Run. Register online by March 30.

#### Golf Tournament Fundraiser: May 13

Make plans to join us for a Golf Tournament at the Franklin Bridge Golf Club on Monday, May 13, to support our youth mission team heading to Belize. For more information or to sponsor a hole, play in the tournament, or simply donate, visit the Cornerstone website and click on the Golf Tournament image. Thank you for helping our youth get to Belize!

#### Holy Week

Good Friday: March 29, 5:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday: March 31, 7:30, 9:00, & 10:45 a.m. We will also enjoy a time of fellowship outside in the churchyard from 8:45-10:45 a.m. (no Sunday School on

will also enjoy a time of fellowship outside in the churchyard from 8:45-10:45 a.m. (no Sunday School on Easter). Please bring a breakfast item to share. We have much to celebrate!

#### Christianity Explored at Cornerstone

Maundy Thursday: March 28, 6:30 p.m.

Christianity Explored (CE) Training is coming to Cornerstone this April! CE is an "off the shelf" evangelistic resource to help further equip our church to share the gospel. We will meet on Wednesday nights in April at Cornerstone (6:00-8:00 p.m.). Our hope is to have some trained members and a place to point our neighbors to when we invite them to church. Everyone is welcome to join us—starting April 3. Contact Liz Taylor with any questions: etaylor78@icloud.com or 615-424-5946. Visit CE's site to learn more: christiantyexlpored.us.

#### Midweek at Cornerstone

This Wednesday, March 20, will be our last Midweek gathering of the season. Join us starting at 5:15 p.m. for dinner and stay for Youth Group, Kid's Club, Choir, and Vespers, where we'll hear the last in our series on the "One Another Commands."

#### Giving

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

#### Young Adults: Save the Dates

April 13: The young adults are invited to the Thompson home (133 Parker Dr, Antioch) for brunch on April 13 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

April 27: Join us for a Nashville SC game! We have a reserved section with a limited number of tickets for Saturday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person. Email youngadults@cstonepres.org to reserve a spot.

# Taking the Message Home

Today's message, "The Servant of the Lord: Our Substitute," is taken from Isaiah 52:13–54:12. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group (HFG).

- What is your experience of people's reactions to Jesus? How does Isaiah 52:13–53:12 help you understand those reactions?
- What do you personally find most moving about this passage? What response does that prompt in you?
- Reflect on your own actions and life in the light of this passage. Do you take sin seriously enough? How might you become quicker to repent in light of this passage?
- Consider this from John Oswalt: "God's power is at its greatest not in his destruction of the wicked but in his taking
  all the wickedness of the earth into himself and giving back love." How does reflecting on the cross challenge and
  help you personally?
- Read Hebrews 12:1-2. How would "the joy set before him" have enabled Jesus to endure the cross?
- What is one thing that you heard today that brought conviction? What about comfort?

# CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#### Presbyterian Church in America

Pastor: Nate Shurden (615-618-4707 Office) or nate@cstonepres.org
Assistant Pastor: Tony Giles (615-430-8801) or tony@cstonepres.org
Worship and Chief Musician: Greg Wilbur (615-512-4156) or greg@cstonepres.org
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Men's Ministry: men@cstonepres.org

Young Adult Ministry: Taylor Thompson (717-371-0848) or youngadults@cstonepres.org
Director of Youth and Families: Drew Abercrombie (407-489-1724) or drew@cstonepres.org
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Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org

Administrative Assistant for Discipleship: Kelley Shell (662-231-9814) or kelley@cstonepres.org

Home Fellowship Information: HFG@cstonepres.org

Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

Ruling Elders

Randy Allen (615-260-1884) Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (615-943-8443) Ron Moffat (629-215-5135)

Preston Brooks (615-838-0359) Joe Haworth (615-289-7543) Jim Payne (615-497-0613)

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

