

CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time

19 June 2022

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

In Presbyterian government, there are historically three ruling bodies, or courts. First, there is the Session which is the name given for the ruling body of a local church (e.g. the eldership of Cornerstone Pres). Second, there is the presbytery, which is the name given for the ruling body of a particular region. The presbytery is made up of all the teaching elders (pastors) and commissioned ruling elders from each member church in that region (e.g. Nashville Presbytery) Lastly, there is the General Assembly. This is the name given for the ruling body of the entire denomination. It's made up of all commissioned teaching elders and the prescribed number of ruling elders from every church in the denomination.

Once a year the General Assembly (GA) of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) meets together. Pastors, ruling elders, delegates from fraternal denominations, and guests from around the globe will gather to worship, fellowship, and conduct the business of the church. This year's annual meeting is next week, June 20-24 in Birmingham, AL. Rev. Tony Giles, Rev. Ben Griffith, and yours truly, along with two of our ruling elders, Mr. Randy Allen and Mr. Jim Payne, will be attending as commissioners this year.

Before I attended my first General Assembly (GA) in 2005 as a seminary student, I wondered, "What happens at GA?" For simplicity's sake, let me identify four main purposes of the GA.

First, GA is where our denominational organizations and agencies such as Mission to the World, Mission to North America, Covenant College, Covenant Theological Seminary, Reformed University Fellowship, etc. meet yearly with pastor and elder representatives to submit budgets, make personnel changes, give reports on ministry health, and address other pertinent matters of business relating to their organization or agency.

Second, GA is a time for pastors and elders to receive ongoing education and training for the work of ministry. Every year there are dozens of seminars led by ministers, counselors, and scholars on a vast array of theological, historical, and practical subjects.

Third, GA is also a time for the whole denomination to come together for worship and fellowship. Each day's session of GA is closed with a worship service, and the breakfast, lunch, and dinner slots are reserved for organized and casual opportunities for pastors and elders to spend time together in fellowship.

Fourth, the leading purpose of the GA is to address mission critical denominational matters of business. This includes, but is not limited to, matters of theological, cultural, ecclesiastical, and administrative importance to the denomination and its churches. As always, there are a number of significant matters of business facing the GA this year.

I will pull together a summary of highpoints and key actions within a week or two of GA. In the meantime, if you have interest in learning more about the business of GA, please visit pcaga.org and click through the GA Overtures links.

We cherish your prayers. Please take time to lift up the commissioners of GA and the PCA specifically this week. May all that is done bring glory to God (Heb. 10:22; I Cor. 10:31)!

Your Servant

State

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.

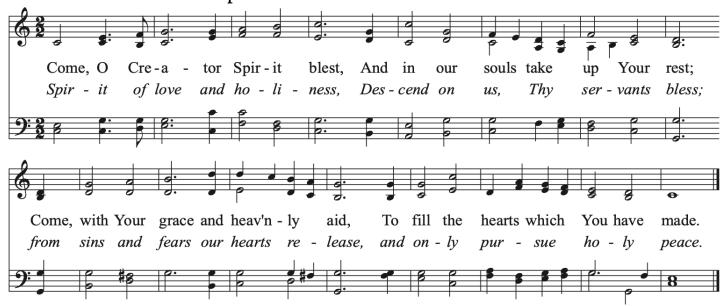
This is the pattern of his love in redeeming and saving his people.

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—Come, O Creator Spirit Blest, Vs I&4



Text: Rhabanus Maurus, circa 800, Trans by Edward Caswall, 1849; Music: TRURO, Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 66:-1-7

Pastor: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

All: sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!

Pastor: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

All: All the earth worships you and sings praises to you;

they sing praises to your name."

Pastor: Come and see what God has done: He is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

All: He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.

There did we rejoice in him, who rules by his might forever,

Pastor: whose eyes keep watch on the nations—

All: let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

Hymn of Praise—Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah



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

Old Testament Reading—Psalm 66:8-20

Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

- ⁹ who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.
- ¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.
- ^{II} You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs;
- ¹² you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.
- ¹³ I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to you,
- ¹⁴ that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.
- ¹⁵I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats.
- ¹⁶Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul.
- ¹⁷I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue.
- ¹⁸ If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.
- ¹⁹ But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- ²⁰ Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!

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 Preparation—Come, O Redeemer, Come



Fa - ther en-throned on high, Ho - ly, Ho - ly: An - cient e - ter - nal light, hear our prayer. Look now up - on our need, Lord be, with us; heal us and make us free, from our sin.



Come, O Re-deem-er, come, grant us mer-cy. Come, O Re-deem-er, come, grant us peace.

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

Congregational Prayer of Confession of Sin—based on Matthew 6:25-34

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing that we are anxious about our lives, about what we eat and drink,

about clothes and provisions.

All: We forget that life is more than food and the body is more than the clothes we wear.

Pastor: You feed the birds of the air who neither sow nor reap.

You clothe the lilies of the field who neither toil nor spin.

All: We are of more value than they, yet we are anxious about earthly things.

Pastor: Our lack of faith causes us to question Your provision, O Father.

All: The unbeliever seeks after providing food and drink and clothes,

yet it is You, our heavenly Father who knows that we need them.

Pastor: Give us the grace to seek after Your kingdom and Your righteousness,

and to rest in the assurance

that You provide for our needs.

All: Help us not to be anxious about tomorrow.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—from Colossians I:I3-I4

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—Isaiah 43



Text: Isaiah 43, Anonymous; Music: ANONYMOUS.

The Reading of the Word—Exodus 14:1-31

Then the LORD said to Moses, ² "Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp in front of Pihahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baal-zephon; you shall encamp facing it, by the sea. ³ For Pharaoh will say of the people of Israel, 'They are wandering in the land; the wilderness has shut them in.' ⁴ And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD." And they did so.

⁵When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the mind of Pharaoh and his servants was changed toward the people, and they said, "What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?" ⁶So he made ready his chariot and took his army with him, ⁷ and took six hundred chosen chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them. ⁸And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the people of Israel while the people of Israel were going out defiantly. ⁹The Egyptians pursued them, all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and his horsemen and his army, and overtook them encamped at the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.

¹⁰ When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. ¹¹ They said to Moses, "Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." ¹³ And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

¹⁵ The LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. ¹⁶ Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷ And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. ¹⁸ And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."

¹⁹ Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, ²⁰ coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ²⁴ And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵ clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians

fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—Delivered: A Study in Exodus, part 18

The LORD Will Make a Way

—Nate Shurden, Pastor

Sung Response—Let Glory Be to God on High



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

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

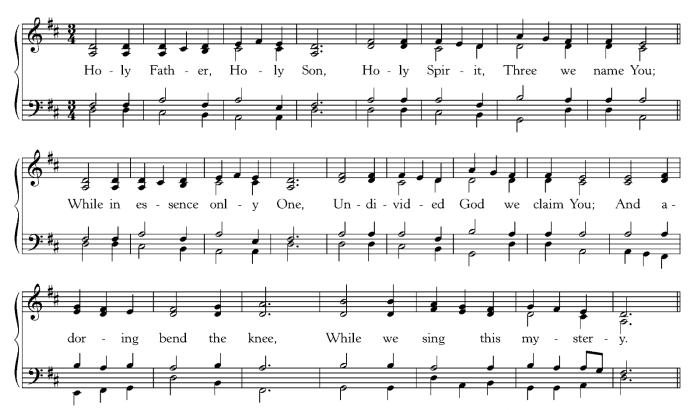
and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

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

^{* &}quot;Catholic" refers to the universal church of God's people throughout all time and from all places

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.

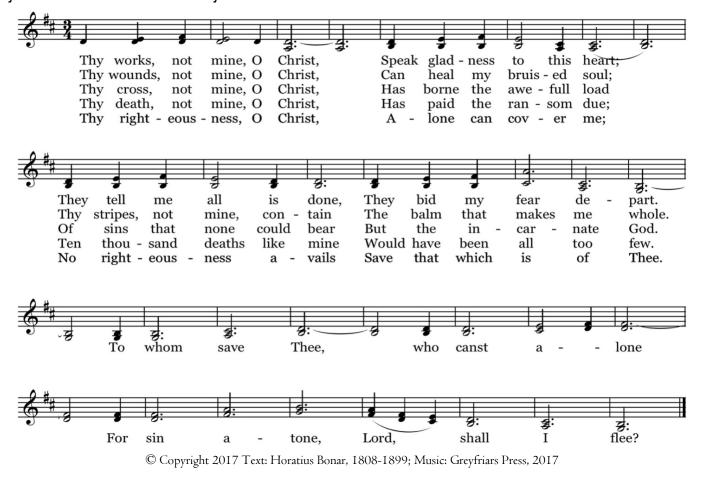
At Cornerstone, we come forward to receive communion. Proceed to the first table for the bread, and then on the second for wine/juice.

Psalm of the Month—Psalm 13: How Long Will You Forget Me, Lord?



CCLI #11121087 Words: The Scottish Psalter, 1650. Alt; Music: Josh Sparkman, 2020

Hymn of Communion—Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ



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—Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer



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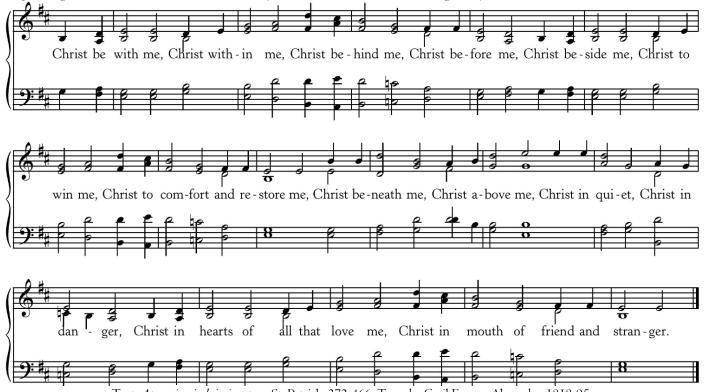
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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—based on Luke 2:29-32

Lord, may your servants depart in peace according to your word; for our eyes have seen your salvation that you prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light of revelation for the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel. *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 Focus—James Jardin is the Reformed University Fellowship campus minister at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Ky. RUF's mission is to reach students with the Gospel and to equip them to serve God and their neighbors within the local church and beyond.

- Please pray:
- for our students, many of whom return to communities where they have very little fellowship with believers when classes are out
- for me as I seek to build relationships with supporters of the work of RUF at WKU over the summer
- for conversions as a result of new students coming into contact with RUF and the local church
- for God to bless our leader retreat in August.

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

The Cornerstone School of Discipleship

Sundays, 9:45 - 10: 35 a.m.

Core Class: (3rd floor) Truths We Confess: An Introduction to Major Creeds, Confessions, and Catechisms

In this six-week course, you'll gain a basic introduction to the key statements of faith throughout history. Rooted in history and an eye to application, this class will help you appreciate the critical role confessions, creeds, and catechisms play in bringing identity, clarity, and unity to the church.

Elective Class: (The Chapel) Mighty in Word and Deed

Word and deed ministries are equally necessary, interdependent, and inseparable. Join us for this sixweek series as we consider what it looks like here and now when we walk in his ways.

Women's Fellowship Suppers

Women's Bible study will continue on Tuesday nights at 6:30 through July 19 (skipping the week of June 28). Please join us! Also plan to come early at 5:00 p.m. for dinner and fellowship with your Cornerstone sisters on June 21 and July 19. No registration is needed to attend the study, but please register for dinner through the website and app. Registration for supper on June 21 will close tonight!

Livestream Team

The Livestream Ministry exists to bring the Worship Ministry of Cornerstone beyond the walls of our church. We are looking for two more folks to serve on this team. The only requirements are a teachable spirit and a servant's heart. For more information or questions, contact Jay Palm. jlpalm2@att.net

Moms of Young Children - Pool Days!

Grab your towels and your young kids and come swim with friends. We will be at the home of Allison Millard, June 23, anytime from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Bring a lunch! 220 Wynbrook Court, Franklin

Hospitality Ministry

Dan Fiedler, our Hospitality Coordinator, will be speaking next week in the elective class (The Chapel) about the hospitality ministry and why it is an important piece of who we are. Then there will be a Hospitality Ministry interest potluck dinner on July 17 on the third floor to fellowship and learn about ways to serve on the Hospitality team. We'd love for you to join us! Sign-up for dinner through the website and app.

Cornerstone Men: Standing Firm in the Faith

Brothers, block off Thursday nights in July. The men of Cornerstone are going to enjoy some food, fellowship, and man-to-man talks from guest preachers from around middle Tennessee. More information is forthcoming. In the meantime, go ahead and reserve the evenings of July 7, 14, 21, and 28 on your summer calendar, and let us know you're coming by registering through the app or website.

Parents' Night Out

Drop your babies-rising 6th graders off at Cornerstone next Friday, June 24, from 6-9 p.m., and let them hang with the Senior High Youth. The high school students, along with plenty of adult volunteers, are planning a fun, safe evening for your kids in exchange for a donation towards their RYM trip coming up in July. You must register your children through the website or app by Thursday, June 23.

Reformed Youth Ministries

Many of our senior high students are headed to RYM camp in Panama City, Florida in mid-July. You have the opportunity to help them get there! You can donate online, by scanning the QR code, or look for students outside over the next several weeks. Ask them about their upcoming trip!



Taking the Message Home

Today's message, "The LORD Will Make a Way," is taken from Exodus 14:1-31. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group (HFG).

- God leads Israel on a detour that puts them in a vulnerable position (vs. 1-4), but how does God show that his ways are higher than our ways (Isaiah 55:8-9)?
- Why is Israel's faithlessness both surprising and typical (see vs. 10-12)? How is *your* faithlessness both surprising and typical?
- How do Moses's words regarding Israel's salvation in vs. 13-14 mirror the instruction we're given regarding our salvation?
- Personally, which of the three imperatives—fear not, stand firm, and be silent (vs. 13-14)—do you find most difficult?
- Paul refers to Israel's passing through the Red Sea as a baptism in I Corinthians 10:2. What does this mean?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Young Adult Ministry: Nathan Johnson (423) 285-9099 or youngadults@cstonepres.org Acting Youth Director: Taylor Thompson (717-371-0848) or youth@cstonepres.org Children's Director: Meredith Suits (865-250-3579) or elementary@cstonepres.org **Nursery Coordinator:** Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org

Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

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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)

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*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version