



# CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL  
*The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time*  
23 September 2018

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—Glory Be to the Father, Vs I

Glo-ry be to God the Fa - ther, Glo-ry be to God the Son, Glo-ry be to God the Spir-it, Great Je-ho-vah, Three in One! Glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, While e - ter-nal ag - es run!

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1868; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2011. ©2011 Greyfriars Press

#### Call to Worship—from Psalm 33:I-3, 5, 13-15, 20-22

Pastor: Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.  
Give thanks to the LORD and sing to him.

All: He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

Pastor: The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man;  
from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth,

All: He fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

Pastor: Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.

All: Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

Pastor: Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

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

Come, Chris - tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

let all, with heart and voice, be - fore His throne re - joice;  
 He is our Guide and Friend; To us He'll con - de - scend;  
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore, His good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is His gra - cious choice. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 His love shall nev - er end. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

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

### Hymn of Praise—O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Vast, un - mea - sured, bound - less, free;  
 O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Spread his praise from shore to shore;  
 O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Love of ev - 'ry love the best;

roll - ing as a might - y o - cean in its full - ness o - ver me.  
 how he lov - eth, ev - er lov - eth, changeth nev - er, nev - er - more;  
 'tis an o - cean vast of bless - ing, 'tis a ha - ven sweet of rest.

Un - der - neath me, all a - round me, is the cur - rent of thy love;  
 how he watch - es o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own;  
 O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;

lead - ing on - ward, lead - ing home - ward, to thy glo - rious rest a - bove.  
 how for them he in - ter - ced - eth, watch - eth o'er them from the throne.  
 and it lifts me up to glo - ry, for it lifts me up to thee.

Text: Samuel Trevor Francis, 1834-1925; Music: EBENEZER, Thomas John Williams, 1890.

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

## Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 42:5-9

<sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup> “I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you;  
I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,

<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup> I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

<sup>9</sup> Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth I tell you of 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—Search Me, O God

Search me, O God, and know my heart to - day;  
Lord, take my life, and make it whol - ly thine;

try me, O Sav - ior, know my thoughts, I pray.  
fill my poor heart with thy great love di - vine.

See if there be some wick - ed way in me;  
Take all my will, my pas - sion, self, and pride;

cleanse me from eve - ry sin and set me free.  
I now sur - ren - der, Lord. In me a - bide.

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

## Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 78:32-43

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing.

In spite of You revealing Yourself and despite Your wonders,

All: We still sin and we do not believe.

Pastor: You make our time and years vanish like a breath. You allow terrors and adversity.

All: It is then that we repent and see You earnestly.

Pastor: We remember that You, the Most High God, are our rock and our redeemer.

All: But still, we flatter You with our mouths and lie to You with our tongues.

Our hearts are not steadfast toward You and we are not faithful to Your covenant.

Pastor: Yet You, being compassionate, atoned for our iniquity;

You restrained Your anger and did not destroy us.

All: You remembered that we are but flesh. Keep us from rebelling against You,  
grieving You, testing and provoking You.

Pastor: For You have revealed Yourself in power, performing signs and marvels and redeeming us.

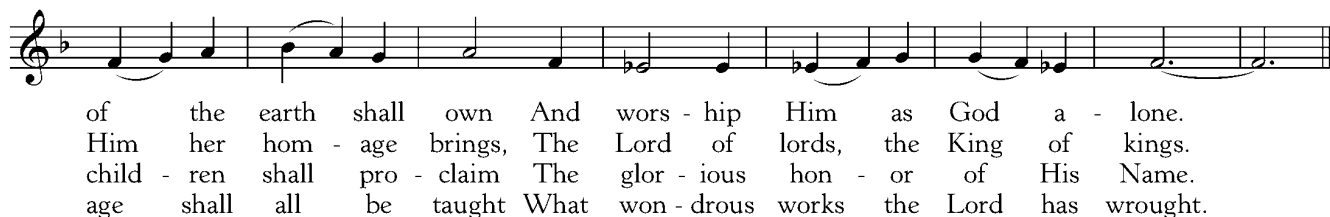
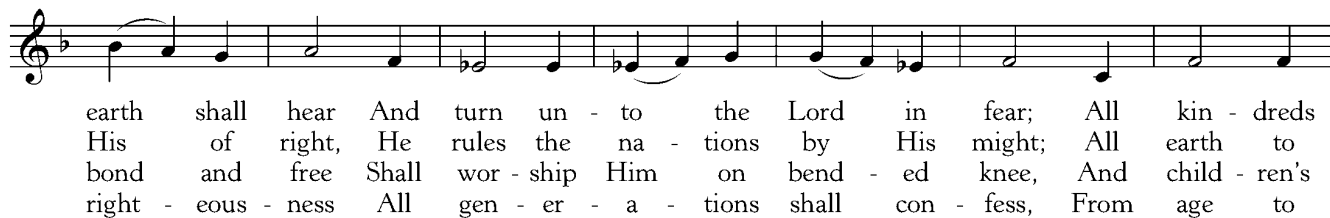
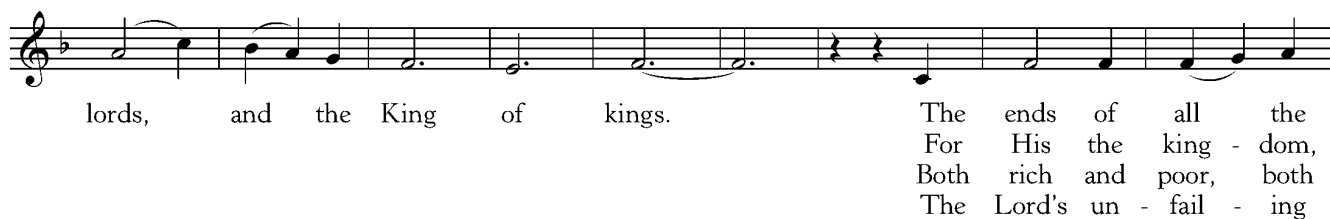
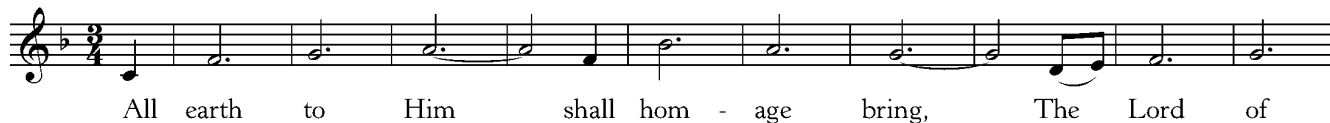
## Silent Prayers of Confession

### Assurance of Pardon—from Psalm 149:4, Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9

For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation. He leads the humble in what is right and instructs sinners in the way. Make us to know Your ways, O LORD, teach us Your paths for You are the God of our salvation.

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

### Hymn of Praise—Psalm 22:27-31 All Earth to Him



CCLI #2844402 Text: *The Psalter*, 1912; Music: HOMAGE, Gregory Wilbur, 2010.

## The Reading of the Word—Genesis 17:1-27

**17** When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, <sup>2</sup>that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, <sup>4</sup>“Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. <sup>8</sup>And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.”

<sup>9</sup>And God said to Abraham, “As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. <sup>10</sup>This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. <sup>11</sup>You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. <sup>12</sup>He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, <sup>13</sup>both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. <sup>14</sup>Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.”

<sup>15</sup>And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.” <sup>17</sup>Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, “Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?” <sup>18</sup>And Abraham said to God, “Oh that Ishmael might live before you!” <sup>19</sup>God said, “No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. <sup>20</sup>As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation. <sup>21</sup>But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year.”

<sup>22</sup>When he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham took Ishmael his son and all those born in his house or bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham’s house, and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very day, as God had said to him. <sup>24</sup>Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. <sup>25</sup>And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. <sup>26</sup>That very day Abraham and his son Ishmael were circumcised. <sup>27</sup>And all the men of his house, those born in the house and those bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

## Sermon—New Beginnings: A Study of Genesis, part 24

*The Covenant Sign*

—Tony Giles, *Assistant Pastor*

## Sung Response—Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low; praise  
 him a-bove ye heav'n-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

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

## Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth,  
 And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
 He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into Heaven  
 and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,  
 from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church,  
 The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
 The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

## Sung Response—Let Glory Be to God on High

Let glo-ry be to God on high: Peace be on earth as  
 O Lord, the sole be-got-ten Son, Who bore the crimes which  
 Have mer-cy on us, through Thy blood; Re-ceive our prayer, O  
 in the sky; Good will to men! We bow the knee,  
 we had done; Son of the Fa-ther, who wast slain  
 Lamb of God! For Thou art ho-ly; Thou a-lone,  
 We praise, we bless, we wor-ship Thee; We give Thee thanks, Thy  
 To take a-way the sins of men; O Lamb of God, whose  
 At God's right hand, up-on His throne, In all His glo-ry,  
 name we sing, Al-might-y Fa-ther! Heav'n-ly King!  
 blood was spilt For all the world, and all its guilt—  
 art a-dored, With Thee, O Ho-ly Ghost, one Lord.

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

## 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. Take the bread at the first table & then proceed to either side for the wine/grape juice.*

### Hymn of Communion—Lord Jesus, Think on Me

Lord Je-sus, think on me, And purge a - way my sin; From  
Lord Je-sus, think on me, with care and woe op - prest; Let  
Lord Je-sus, think on me, A - mid the bat - tle's strife; In  
Lord Je-sus, think on me, Nor let me go a - stray; Through  
Lord Je-sus, think on me, That, when the flood is past, I  
Lord Je-sus, think on me, That I may sing a - bove To

earth-born pas - sions set me free, And make me pure with - in.  
me thy lov - ing serv - ant be, And taste thy prom - ised rest.  
all my pain and mis - er - y Be thou my health and life.  
dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty Point thou the heav'n - ly way.  
may th'e - ter - nal bright - ness see, And share thy joy at last.  
Fa - ther, Spir - it, and to thee, The strains of praise and love.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, c. 375-430, Tr Allen William Charfield, 1808-96; Music: SOUTHWELL, Damon's *Psalmes*, 1579.  
Adapted 1997. © 1997 Greyfriars Press. Used by permission.



## Hymn of Communion—Psalm 50:1-6: The Mighty God the Lord



The might - y God, the Lord, hath spo - ken un - to all;— from  
Our God shall sure - ly come, and si - lence shall not keep;— be -  
"To - geth - er let my saints un - to me gath - ered be, — those



ris - ing to the set - ting sun, he un - to earth doth call. From  
fore him fire shall waste, and storms tem - pes - tuous round him sweep. He  
that by sac - ri - fice have made a cov - e - nant with me." Then



Zi - on, his own hill, where per - fect beau - ty dwells, Je -  
to the heav'ns a - bove shall then send forth — his call, and  
shall the heav'ns de - clare his righ - teous - ness — a - broad; be -



ho - vah hath his glo - ry shown, in bright - ness that ex - cels.  
like - wise to the earth, that he may judge his peo - ple all:  
cause the Lord him - self is judge, yea, none is judge, but God.

Text: *The Scottish Psalter*, 1650; Music: 17<sup>th</sup> c. Scottish Melody, Adapted 1998.

### 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

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### 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, I My Cross Have Taken



Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en, All to leave and fol - low Thee;  
Let the world de - spise and leave me, they have left my Sav - ior too;  
Man may trou - ble and dis - tress me, 'Twill but drive me to Thy breast;  
Hast - en on from grace to glo - ry, Armed by faith and winged by prayer;



Des - ti - tute, des - pised, for - sak - en, Thou from hence my all shalt be:  
Hu - man hearts and looks de - ceive me; Thou art not, like man, un - true.  
Life with tri - als hard may press me, Heav'n will bring me sweet - er rest.  
Heav'n's e - ter - nal days be - fore me, God's own hand shall guide me there.



Per - ish ev - 'ry fond am - bi - tion, All I've sought or hoped or known;  
And while Thou shalt smile up - on me, God of wis - dom, love and might,  
O 'tis not in grief to harm me, While Thy love is left to me;  
Soon shall close my earth - ly mis - sion, Swift shall pass my pil - grim days,



Yet how rich is my con - di - tion, God and heav'n are still my own!  
Foes may hate and friends may shun me, show Thy face and all is bright.  
O 'twere not in joy to charm me, Were that joy un - mixed with Thee.  
Hope shall change to glad fru - i - tion, Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

CCLI #11121087 © 2005 ReformedPraise.org Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1833; Music: Jeff Bourque, 2005.

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

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*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 Peter 5:10-11

The God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. *Amen.*

## Sung Response—Barocha (Numbers 6:24)

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine up - on you,  
and give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace for - ev - er. The  
Lord be gra - cious to you. The Lord turn His face to - ward you,  
and give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace for - ev - er.  
And give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace for - ev - er.

CCLI #11121087 © 1989 Birdwing Music; Text and Music: Michael Card, 1989.

Prayer Focus—Lee Leadbetter (Jen) is the Reformed University Fellowship International (RUF) campus minister at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, TN. RUF is the campus ministry of the Presbyterian Church in America that focuses on international students. God is at work and has brought more foreign students to college campuses in the United States than to any other nation. RUF responds to God's work and obeys God's Word by welcoming students from all nations and equipping kingdom ambassadors for Christ's worldwide church. RUF seeks to reflect God's grace to an international audience by sharing hospitable deeds and gospel words in His Name with them. Lee has requested that Cornerstone pray in the following areas:

1) Pray for the Lord to open a door for a small group dialog or Bible study with Muslims. We have a number of individual relationships where we're able to love and serve and share our faith, but my heart longs to host a small group.

2) Pray for RUF's National Coordinator (Rev. Al LaCour) who retired in May after 40+ years of ministry, including 14 years with RUF International. We praise God for his visionary and servant-like leadership, and his absence will be greatly felt. Pray for the Lord to even now be raising up and revealing the right man to take the helm of our national ministry.

3) Pray for conversions from darkness unto light. We do much planting in this ministry, and do see the Spirit move in hearts on a regular basis, and occasionally get to rejoice over an international friend coming to faith in the Son. We long to see more! To be more bold in our witness, and yet have the wisdom to know how to sensitively proclaim Christ and his Truth to those of so many different religious backgrounds.

4) Pray for further growth in unity and love among our staff. We've been so encouraged to see the Lord further knit our hearts together this semester, and to enable us to communicate with greater clarity, patience, and honesty.

5) Pray for our staff to effectively mobilize and equip our leaders to love and serve internationals. We've made clear strides over the last decade, but I feel there's so much for me to learn in this area in order for the body to be built up to joyfully serve.



## Taking the Message Home

Today's message, "The Sign of the Covenant" is taken from Genesis 17:1-27. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family friend or Home Fellowship Group.

1. Why do you suppose God was careful to add a sign of the covenant to his gracious promise? What happens when we ignore signs?
2. How does the rite of circumcision (a) resemble and (b) differ from the sacrament of baptism? See Col 2:11-12.
3. How do we know that circumcision did not save? See verses 22-27 See also Deut. 10:12-17; 30:6.
4. How does God's faithfulness to his own promise enable you to put into practice his charge to "walk before me and be blameless" (whole-heartedly, not 'without sin')?
5. Read Galatians 3:27, thanking God for his faithfulness and his provision for our sin. And rest in the reality that, having put on Christ by faith, and sealed with a promise, you are clothed in his righteousness and the object of your heavenly Father's affection!

## CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### Presbyterian Church in America

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*All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version*