

Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

Third Sunday of Advent—Joy

17 December 2017

### Welcome to Worship

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

#### 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

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.

# Choral Prelude—Shepherds, Rejoice!

Shepherds, rejoice! Lift up your eyes And cast your fears away;
News from the regions of the skies, Salvation's born today.
Jesus, the Lord whom angels fear, Comes down to dwell with you;
Today he makes his entrance here, But not as monarchs do.
Shepherds, rejoice! Lift up your eyes, And cast your fears away.

No gold, nor purple swaddling bands, Nor royal shining things; A manger for his cradle stands, And holds the King of kings. Go, shepherds, where the infant lies And see his humble throne. With tears of joy in all your eyes, Come worship God's own Son. Shepherds, rejoice! Lift up your eyes, And cast your fears away.

Thus Gabriel sang, and straight around The heavenly armies throng; They tune their harps to lofty sound And thus conclude the song: Glory to God that reigns above! Let peace surround the earth! Mortals shall know their Master's love At their Redeemer's birth. Shepherds, rejoice! Lift up your eyes, And cast your fears away.

Then, shall the angels have their songs And we no tunes to raise?

O may we lose our useless tongues When they forget to praise.

Glory to God that reigns above, That pitied us forlorn;

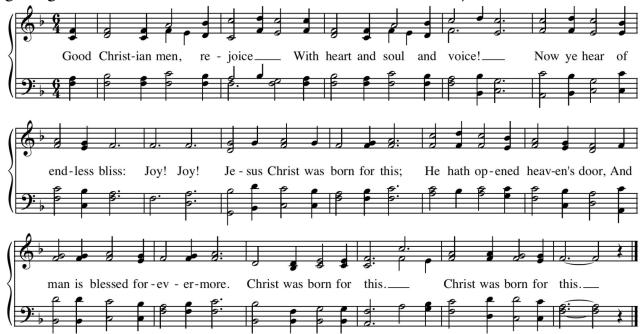
We join to sing our Maker's love, For us a Saviour's born!

Shepherds, rejoice! Lift up your eyes, And cast your fears away.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Music: Crawford R. Thoburn, 1999.

## Announcements & Preparation

Lighting of the Advent Wreath—Good Christian Men, Rejoice, Vs 2



Text: Medieval Latin Carol, Tr by John Mason Neale, 1853; Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German Melody, 14<sup>th</sup> c.

## Call to Worship—from Psalm 98:I-4

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

All: His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.

Reader 1: The LORD has made known His salvation;

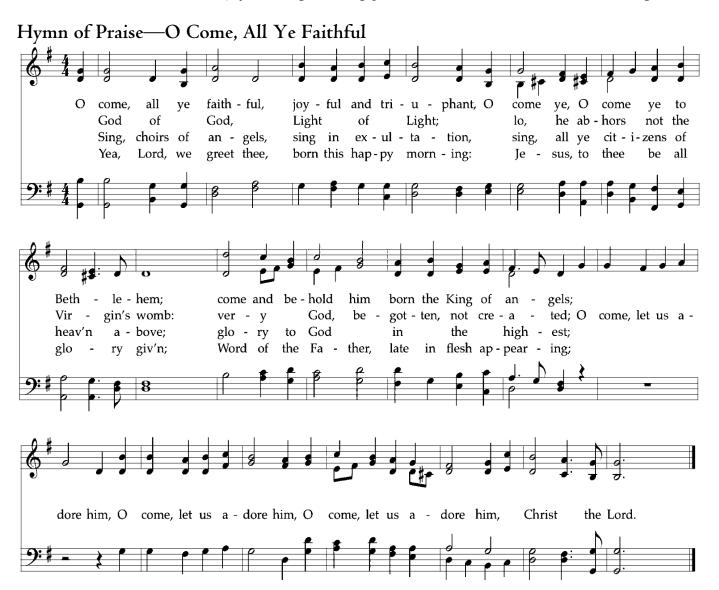
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Reader 2: He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

Pastor: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

All: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

Pastor: Break forth into joyous song and sing praises! For He has done marvelous things!



Text: Latin Hymn, Tr. By Frederick Oakeley, 1841; Music: Cantus Diversi, 1751.

# Hymn of Praise—All My Heart This Night Rejoices



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76, Tr by Catherine Winkworth, 1829+78; Music: BONN (FROLICH SOLL), Johann Georg Ebeling, 1637

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

## Old Testament Reading—Jeremiah 31:7-14

7 For thus says the LORD:

"Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'O LORD, save your people, the remnant of Israel.'

8 Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,

among them the blind and the lame, the pregnant woman and she who is in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

9 With weeping they shall come, and with pleas for mercy I will lead them back,

I will make them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble, for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

10 "Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away;

say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him,

and will keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.'

11 For the LORD has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

12 They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,

over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall be like a watered garden, and they shall languish no more.

13 Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

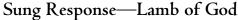
14 I will feast the soul of the priests with abundance, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, declares the LORD."

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.





Text: John I:29; Music: Franklin Agnus Dei, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

### Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 51:1-4, 6-10, 11-12

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love.

All: According to Your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.

Pastor: Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us of our sins, for we know only too well our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.

All: Against You, You only, have we sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that you may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.

Pastor: Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being, and You teach wisdom in the secret of our hearts.

All: Purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.

Let us hear joy and gladness; let the bones that You have broken rejoice. Hide Your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities.

Pastor: Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

All: Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit.

## Silent Prayers of Confession

#### Assurance of Pardon—Colossians I:II-I4

11 May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. 13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

## Hymn of Praise—Once in Royal David's City



Text: C.F. Alexander, 1848; Music: IRBY, H.J. Gauntlett, 1849.

## Sacrament of Baptism

## Cody Jennings Smith, Son of Eric & Lauren Smith

"For to you is the promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him. Therefore, believe on the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved, you and your house." (Acts 2:39; Acts 16:31). For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. (Romans 8:14-16)

#### Parental Vows:

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

#### Congregational Vow:

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

### GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

## The Reading of the Word—Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." <sup>8</sup> The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. <sup>9</sup> Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup> The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

the salvation of our God.

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

### Sermon—The Lord is in Your Midst, Pt 3

Come and See the Salvation of the Lord

—Tony Giles, Assistant Pastor

### Sung Response—Gloria



CCLI #11121087 Text: Luke 2:14; Music: Franklin Gloria, Gregory D Wilbur, 2012 ©2012 Greyfriars Press.

# Profession of Faith—from Philippians 2:5-II

We confess, that though Christ Jesus was in the form of God, He did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

And being found in human form,

He humbled Himself

by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

#### 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.

### 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.

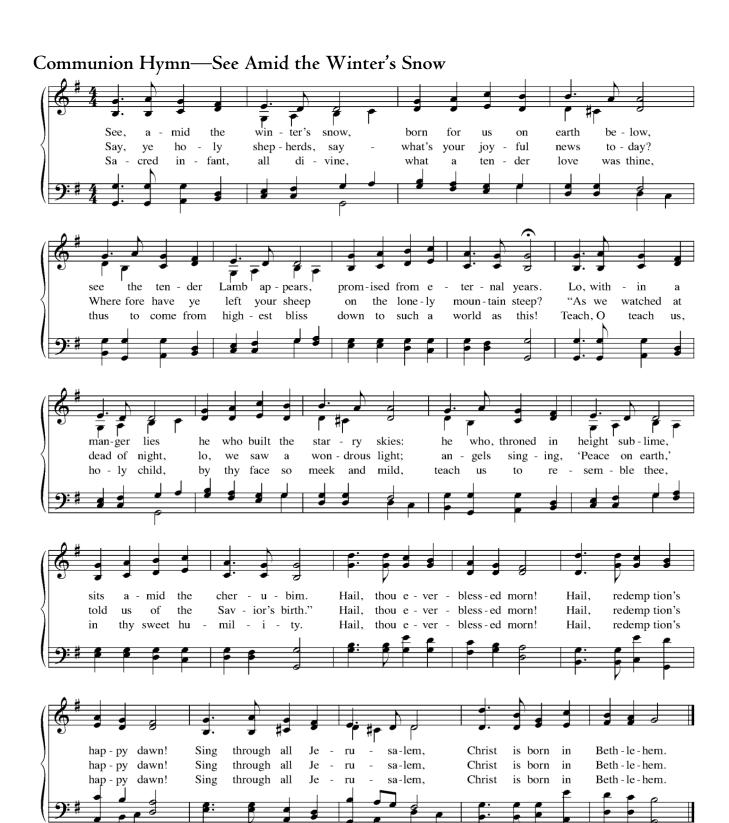
Prayer of Commitment. Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

## Choral Hymn of Communion—Advent Alleluia

Salvation is created. O Lord God, Lord God almighty We offer praise to Thee above, O Lord, holy Lord, God.

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand. Alleluia.

Text: "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence," from the *Liturgy of St. James*, trans Gerard Moultrie, 1864. Music: 17th century French carol. Arr. Keith Christopher



Text: Edward Caswall, 1851; Music: SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW, John Goss, 1870.

## 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.





Text: Charles Wesley, 1739, 1753; Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1840, Arr. William H. Cummings, 1856.

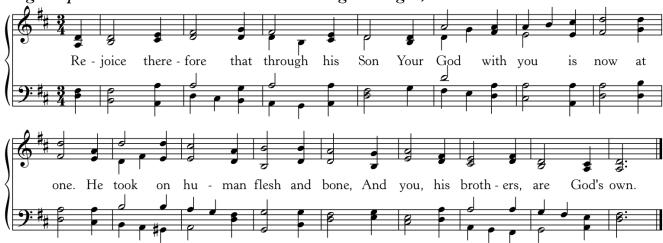
### GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

### Benediction—from Jude 1:24-25

24 Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, 25 to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

### Sung Response—From Heaven Came the Angels Bright, Vs 3



Text: Martin Luther; Music: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, Arr Michael Praetorius, 1609.

**Prayer Focus**—Joshua Kines (Emily) is the church planter and senior pastor of Parish Church (PC) in Lafayette, Louisiana, a church plant of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). The greater Lafayette area has over 250,000 people and no PCA churches prior to PC being planted in 2016. Joshua was a church planter in Peru and Columbia prior to being called to Lafayette and he and Emily have been blessed by the Lord with six children.

- Praise for the recent increase in visitors and newly committed core group members as well as continued prayer for growth.
- Pray for our upcoming new members class in early 2018. Pray for the vision of the church and the clarity of the Gospel in the lives of those in attendance.
- Pray for Josh and his recent opportunities to connect with pastors and ministries across socioeconomic and racial lines.
- Pray for the members and core group as they carry the weight of set-up/tear down each week and continued outreach into the community.
- Pray for our women's conference in early 2018 with Valerie Shepherd. Pray that it is a means of growth and encouragement for our ladies as well as a tool to bring new people to the church.
- Pray for our bible study and small group ministries and their ability to effectively nurture growth and maturity in our people.
- Pray for Josh as he preaches the Word that the Holy Spirit would transform the hearts of the community.
- Pray for Emily as she continues to navigate some challenging health issues. Pray for relief and/or the patience to endure well.
- Pray for the nourishment and emotional/spiritual health of the Kines family as a whole.



#### CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONALS

Continue with the readings in the Christmas Devotional that has Scripture for each day as well as other readings, songs, discussion questions, and prayer. The Read Through the Bible schedule is also included.

These booklets are available at each entrance. Consider taking enough copies for your household to follow along responsively. It is not too late to start.

## Home Fellowship Groups

River Landing—Jim & Gwen Smith Second and Fourth Sundays, 6:00pm, Smith's house, Book discussion

West Nashville—Andy & Katie Patton Every other Sunday, 5:00pm, Patton's house, Sermon discussion

**Upper Room**—Bob & Cindi Wolk First and Third Sundays after Second service at Cornerstone, Sermon discussion

Liberty Pike—Dan Fiedler & Carl Ware Second and Fourth Sundays, 4:30-6:30pm, Ware's house, Sermon discussion

Grassland—Steve Green & John Marquardt First and Third Tuesdays, 6:30pm, Green's house, sermon discussion and studying Colossians

South Franklin—John & Allison Millard
Every other Sunday, 5:00pm, Millard's House, Sermon discussion

Every other Sunday, 5:00pm, Millard's House, Sermon discussion East Franklin—Mark & Lindsey Elliott

First, Second, and Third Sundays after the Second Service, Elliott's house, Sermon discussion

Fieldstone/Cottonwood—Greg & Sophia Wilbur Second, Third, and Fourth Sundays, 5:00pm, Wilbur's house, Sermon discussion

**Downtown**—Joe & Josephine Haworth First and Third Mondays, 6:30-8:30pm, Cornerstone Third Floor, Sermon discussion Today's message, "Come and See the Salvation of the LORD" is taken from Isaiah 52:7-10. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends or Home Fellowship Group.

- I. Isaiah 51:3 is a parallel passage to our text. What does 51:3 add to the picture we find in Isaiah 52:7-10?
- 2. Compare Isaiah 53:2 and Isaiah 33:17. What do you find beautiful about our Redeemer King?
- 3. Read Luke 2:25-32. How does Simeon's song point to the fulfillment and the hope of Isaiah 52:10?
- 4. Watch this 2.5 minute video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9865b-K9s2w">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9865b-K9s2w</a>. What do you suppose the unsuspecting mall shoppers thought or said at the conclusion of the song as they continued shopping? What keeps you from such "heralding" of the good news of happiness" (Isa 52:7)?
- 5. Ask God to do in you what this passage is trying to do: relentlessly hold the beauty of your Redeemer before your eyes and into your heart until it kindles your joy the joy of which we sing and the joy you want to feel.

# 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
Office Administrator: Susan Bumpus (618-4707) or office@cstonepres.org
Home Fellowship Coordinator: Bob Wolk or HFG@cstonepres.org
Women's Ministry: Marijean Green and Mary Lynn Giles at women@cstonepres.org
Men's Ministry: Terry Cheney (579-7089) or men@cstonepres.org
Youth Director: Christian Brewer (887-9576) or youth@cstonepres.org
Children's Director: Martha Brooks (591-1683) or elementary@cstonepres.org
Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org
Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

#### Ruling Elders

Randy Allen (260-1884) Steve Green (504-8733) Brian Phillips (429-8125)
Terry Cheney (579-7089) Joe Haworth (289-7543) Jim Smith (347-4188)
Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (643-8443) Jim Payne (497-0613) Greg Wilbur (512-4156)\*

#### Deacons

 Jim Robinson (587-0442)
 David Steffens (557-5316)\*

 Todd Russell (319-4803)
 Larry Thompson (901-734-1520)

 Marty Smith (767-2240)
 Bob Vermilye (599-9577)

Clint Branch (516-9855) Gene King (806-3726) Kevin McClung (243-9228) \*On Sabbatical

Post Office Box 407 Franklin, Tennessee 37065 www.cornerstonepresfranklin.org (615) 618-4707

All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

