

## ❖ ENTRANCE ❖

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.  
(Matthew 18:20; NRSV)



## Welcome and Announcements

### \*Opening prayer

### \*Call to Worship

When JESUS was baptized in the Jordan River, HE emerged from the waters.

**And the heavens splitting open and the SPIRIT ascend down like a dove.**

When JESUS was baptized in the Jordan River, HE stood up from the waters and heard:

**"You are my SON, the BELOVED; with You, I AM well pleased."**

When JESUS was baptized in the Jordan River, HE emerged from the waters.

**Let us walk a new path and call the world to join HIM.**

Here comes GOD's Kingdom. Teach us YOUR path, LORD JESUS. Now is the time!

Ricky Tipps

Pastor

## ❖ PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD ❖

### Scripture Reading

Mark 1:9-15;

Pastor

### Concerns and Prayers/Lord's Prayer

Pastor

### Special Music

David Cost

### Sermon

Genesis 9:8-17;

Pastor

**"I Am Establishing My Covenant with You  
and Your Descendants after You."**

## ❖ RESPONSE TO THE WORD ❖

### Hymn

"I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

# 434 BH

### \*Prayer of Confession

Pastor

GOD of faithful love and powerful purpose, there are moments when we are open to YOUR leading; When we walk the path of Jesus with courage and hope, times are fearful when we are doing so. At other times, we close ourselves off, hoping that YOU won't tear open the skies and disrupt our lives completely. YOUR compassion and faithful love claim us forever, as they claimed JESUS when HE entered the Jordan and made a bold decision to follow YOU on a new and uncertain path. Amen.

### \*Words of Assurance & Encouragement

Yes, GOD's compassion and love are forever! What GOD said of Jesus at HIS baptism, GOD speaks to us today: You are my dearly loved children, whom I love deeply. GOD forgives us and loves us dearly. Now and forevermore. You are forgiven. **We are forgiven.**

### \*Affirmation of Faith

Pastor

### \*Doxology

"Glory Be to the Father"

### The Celebration of the Holy Communion

Pastor

## ❖ SENDING FORTH ❖

### \*Closing Hymn

"Oh, How He Loves You and Me"

# 170 BH

*If you would like to make a profession of faith, join the church, or simply pray at the altar,  
you may come during the closing hymn. We welcome you to our fellowship!*

### \*Charge & Benediction

Pastor

GOD continues..., "You are my beloved children, whom I love deeply." May GOD changes our hearts and lives, and the SPIRIT pushes us in new directions. We are Jesus people. We are Kingdom people. Now is the time to enter GOD'S Covenant! Amen.

### Postlude

Phyllis Turner

## *In the Life of our STONEGATE Community*

Hello, Church Family.

I am grateful to God for all of you. At this time, we have to acknowledge that time passes very quickly. With obedience to the Lord, we are continuing our worship services. Our faith is in the Lord, and we walk in faith. Faith can be measured by obedience. Obedience is the visible expression of the invisible faith. These two factors build a relationship with God. May our God of mercy continue with His blessings in abundance. We are remaining with patience and humility in overcoming temporary restrictions.

My daily devotional and weekly messages are published on our website at  
[www.stonegatecpc.org](http://www.stonegatecpc.org)

I assure you that you are in my prayers.

February 28, 2021 – Sunday Service at 10:45 a.m.

### THEME IDEAS

Although GOD's presence shines brightly in today's mystical Scriptures, the brightness of GOD's presence and message shines most clearly in our hearts and minds. The visible brightness of GOD is perhaps too much to take in, and so GOD speaks more gently through our hearts, our memories, and through the shadowy moments of life. Only after Elijah has disappeared can Elisha proclaim what he has seen; only after the clouds overshadow the disciples are they able to hear GOD's message. Paul reminds us that light shines out of the darkness and that our most profound knowledge comes from the light shining through our hearts. This is the transformative power of GOD's presence - not just surrounding us but abiding within us.

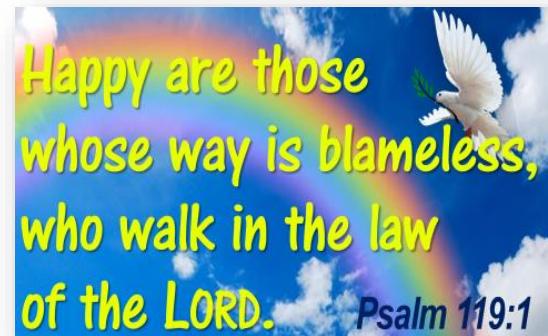


### ❖ For Our Guests ❖

We are so thrilled to have you worship with us today. We truly hope you are encouraged and inspired to grow closer to GOD as we worship the true and living GOD together.

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## *STONEGATE CHURCH* *CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN*

*Sunday Worship Service at 10:45 am*

*The First Sunday in LENT, FEBRUARY 21, 2021*



### ❖ WORSHIP LEADERS ❖

Rev. Dr. Mark Marian Sontowski, Pastor  
Phyllis Turner, Pianist  
David Piatt & Pam Brown, Worship Leaders  
David Cost, Special Music  
Ricky Tipps, Welcome and Announcements

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**Experience the Love of CHRIST in Community!**