

GOD BEAUTIFIES US FOR HIMSELF

God's Call Through Scripture | Matthew 4:1-11

Our Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Prayer

*New Songs 23 | Be Still, My Soul Be Still

God's Call Through Preaching

Scripture Reading | James 1:13-18

Pastor: This is the word of the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Proclamation | Holding Fast to God's Sovereign Goodness

Prayer of Application

*Hymn 605 | All the Way My Savior Leads Me

GOD BLESSES US WITH HIMSELF

*God's Benediction

*Hymn 735 | Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*Please stand, if you are able

VISITING WITH US?

WELCOME



We are so glad you have come to worship with us this evening! Please fill out a connect card in the church foyer or scan the QR code so we can learn how best to serve you. Learn more about us at cornerstone-opc.org.

NURSERY

We welcome and encourage children of all ages to participate in public worship. For families with young children there is a nursery available next door, though it is not staffed during the evening service. Please ask the usher for more information.

CONNECT WITH US

www.cornerstone-opc.org

HOLDING FAST TO GOD'S SOVEREIGN GOODNESS

James 1:13-18

We must resist the temptation to deny God's sovereign goodness in the midst of our exilic trials.

I. God is *not* the *devious* author of *sin* (vv. 13-15).

II. God is the *generous* author of *salvation* (vv. 16-18).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What is the problem of evil? Is it a problem?
2. Can you give specific examples of ways we can blame God, either directly or indirectly, for our sin? Why is it always wrong to do this?
3. What is the difference between testing and tempting? How are they related? And where does each come from?
4. What does James teach us about desires? How do the metaphors of fishing (v. 14) and giving birth (v. 15) help us understand the nature of sinful desires?
5. What does it mean for God to be "the Father of lights"? Why would James draw our attention to this here?
6. Is it our own will that leads us to be born again? If not, whose will does?
7. How does God's work of speaking the original creation into existence give us a picture of how He works new creation in us? What does this teach us about the role of the Bible in our salvation?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. How am I specifically tempted to directly or indirectly blame God for my sin?
2. How have trials in the recent past tempted me to doubt God's sovereign goodness? How does James' teaching here help me in the fight of faith?
3. How would I describe "the marrow of Calvinism"? Do I agree with Pastor Nick's assessment? If so, how does that change my approach to trials and temptations?



Cornerstone Presbyterian Church is a community of believers devoted to glorifying our Triune God through God-centered theology, God-ordered worship, God-delighting piety, God-exalting leadership, and God-dependent mission.

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

August 17, 2025 PM

Welcome, Announcements, & Corporate Prayer

GOD BECKONS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

*God's Call to Worship | Psalm 103

Pastor: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

People: The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Pastor: He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

People: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

*Hymn 53 | Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (vv. 1, 3, 5)