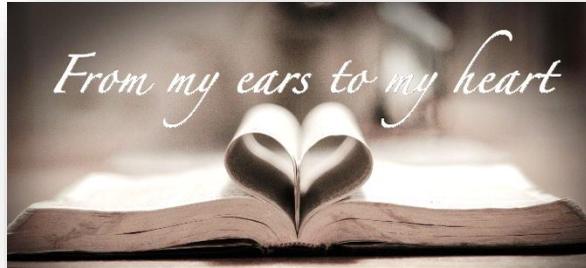


✠ ENTRANCE ✠

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



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude / Hymn "Only Trust Him" (vs 2 and 3) Choir

\*Opening prayer

\*Call to Worship (Responsively)

We are like seeds on the wind, set free by the SOWER.

The hand of GOD saves us from the rocky pathways and the thorny ground.

YOU are the SOWER, O GOD, we are the seed.

GOD's word is being sown in our lives this day with the promise of new growth.

In CHRIST, we find good soil.

The HOLY SPIRIT nourishes us as we grow.

Come! Let us worship GOD,

Let us worship GOD who plants us in the fields of life.

\*Hymn "Wonderful Words of Life" (vs 1 and 3) # 338 BH

Ricky Tipps

# 465 BH

Pastor

Pastor

✠ PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD ✠

Scripture Reading Matthew 13:1-9; Pastor

Concerns and Prayers/Lord's Prayer Pastor

Special Music "In HIS Name" David Cost

Sermon Matthew 13:18-23; Pastor

*"GOD'S Word and My Heart"*

✠ RESPONSE TO THE WORD ✠

Hymn "Be Thou My Vision" (vs 1 & 2) # 83 BH

\*Prayer of Confession Pastor

CARETAKER of our souls, we yearn to resist the allures of status and prestige, for we often pierce ourselves with wounds of our own making. We long to bloom where we are planted, that righteousness and peace might flower in our lives. Free us from the fear of appearing foolish before others, as we seek new growth in your Spirit. Nurture us with your grace and mercy, that we might blossom and bloom as followers of Christ. Amen.

\*Words of Assurance & Encouragement Pastor

Those who abide in the SPIRIT are set free. Those who reside in CHRIST find no condemnation. Rejoice that we have been found by God's love and mercy. **Thanks be to God!**

\*Affirmation of Faith Pastor

The Celebration of the Holy Communion Pastor

✠ SENDING FORTH ✠

\*Closing Hymn "Alleluia" # 276 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

**May God's word take root in our lives and be a lamp to our feet.  
CHRIST'S teachings are a light to our path. May Christ's love nourish  
us like a spring rain. Go in peace.  
Amen.**

Offering "Your offering can be put in an offering plate before leaving sanctuary"

Postlude Phyllis Turner

## *In the Life of our STONEGATE Community*

Hello, Church Family.

The unprecedented pandemic of COVID-19 kept us home and I started publishing my daily devotional and weekly messages at our website at [www.stonegatecpc.org](http://www.stonegatecpc.org), but now we are back in our sanctuary.

The current situation is not normal even it is wrong to say "new normal". We are children of God, and easily we are recognizing what is normal and what is un-normal. Nevertheless, we will practice social distancing and no hugs.

July 19, 2020 – 10:45 a.m. Sunday Service

I assure you that you are in my prayers.

**Be Strong, Never Give Up..., Good Days Will Return,  
And We Will Meet Again**

### ✠ 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.



Some prayers, litanies, and other worship resources or their parts used in bulletin, except as noted, come: "From The Abingdon Worship Annual 2020 Edition, edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. Copyright © 2019 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission." and others come from unrecognized, unnamed resources, or are our own ideas.

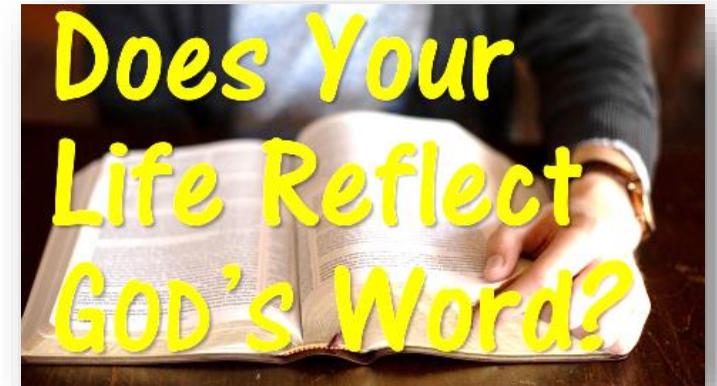
### ✠ WORSHIP LEADERS ✠

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

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### THEME IDEAS

GOD is the Sower - we are the seed. Matthew's parable of the Sower mirrors the reality of our world. The word of GOD simply does not seem to take root in some people; or if it does, it quickly burns out. And despite GOD's life-giving precepts and teachings, some people choose to follow their ignoble - immoral instincts, which Paul calls living "according to the flesh" (Romans 8:5 NRSV). In the church, we believe that the soil of our lives can change. Today's Scriptures reflect these issues, even as they offer a lamp to our feet and a light for our journey.



**STONEGATE CHURCH**  
CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN

*Sunday Worship Service at 10:45 am*  
*Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, JULY 12, 2020*



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