

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF BARRINGTON

The First Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2021



What Lessons These Stones?

A Cairn of Living Stones

ORDER OF SERVICE

February 21, 2021

PRELUDE

Wonderful Grace of Jesus (Fred Bock) / He Giveth More Grace (Mark Hayes)
In Christ Alone (Mark Hayes)

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alayne McNulty

One Voice: We are a chosen people, each one essential to God's plan.
Many Voices: We are a royal priesthood, heirs and ambassadors of the Kingdom.
One Voice: God has called us out of darkness into a marvelous light.
Many Voices: We are a holy nation, set apart to open the way for God's hope and love.
One Voice: We are being built into a spiritual house, a strong force for good.
Many Voices: We are God's people, given mercy and grace. Come, let us worship our God. Amen!

OPENING HYMN

We Are God's People

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord.
Born of His Spirit, established by His word;
Our cornerstone is Christ alone,
And strong in Him we stand:
O let us live transparently
And walk heart to heart and hand to hand.

SCRIPTURE:

Alayne McNulty

I Peter 2:2-10

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him — you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.”

Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

One Voice: The word of God, for the people of God.
Many Voices: Thanks be to God

GLORIA PATRI

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Glory to the Father, glory to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be, world without end. Amen

CHILDREN'S MOMENT and LORD'S PRAYER

Alayne McNulty

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

GATHERING the JOYS and CONCERNS of the CHURCH

CALL to PRAYER

SPIRIT SONG

*Oh let the Son of God enfold you, with His Spirit and His love.
Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
Oh let Him have the things that hold you, and His spirit like a dove,
Will descend upon your life and make you whole.
Jesus, O Jesus, come into my life. Jesus, Oh Jesus, come into my life.*

SILENT PETITIONS and PASTORAL PRAYER

ANTHEM

Grace Alone

The words and music for today's anthem are by Scott Wesley Brown and Jeff Nelson

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith;
Every difference we can make is only by His grace.
Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine;
Every blessing left behind is only by His grace.

Refrain: Grace alone which God supplies; strength unknown He will provide,
Christ in us, our Cornerstone, we will go forth in grace alone.

Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach;
Everywhere we share His peace is only by His grace.
Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away;
Every sorrow turned to praise is only by His grace. (to refrain)

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

One Voice: May the words of my mouth,

All Voices: **And the meditations of our hearts, be acceptable in Thy sight,
O Lord, our Strength and our Redeemer. Amen. (Psalm 19)**

SERMON

A Cairn of Living Stones

Rev. Zina Jacque

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed William Barnett

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHEN WILL CCB REOPEN?

We are so glad you asked. Pastor Zina and the Church Council are hard at work, reviewing the weekly Illinois Department of Public Health, looking for trends and seeking advice. We believe the numbers will fall to a tolerable level in the next several weeks. We are hoping, once we can sustain a low positivity rate in the Northwest Suburbs, we can return to public, face to face (masked and socially distanced) worship. We promise to keep you and informed and we ask you to join us in prayer as we seek to make the best possible decision for our faith community.

PRODUCE SUNDAY.

Next Sunday is produce Sunday. If you would like to bring produce to church on the 23rd or by the office on Tuesday, February 23rd, we will take your offering to the Barrington food pantry. Thank you for your generous hearts and your willingness to bear one another's burdens as God's word calls us to do.

COUNCIL PACKET & NEWSLETTER.

The Church Council is still meeting virtually and we will do so on Tuesday, February 23rd. Council packets are available by email. If you wish a Council packet, please contact the church office (847 381 1294 or ccbfour@sbcglobal.net).

LENTEN MEDITATIONS.

Thank you to Bonnie Stevens, Carol Marsh, Ted Newman, Peer Lykke and Alayne McNulty for joining me in preparing the daily Lenten meditations. They have been, and will, appear in your email each morning and on the Church's (and my) Facebook page. And, want to keep up with the Pastoral search committee, learn about how we are thinking about reopening, hear an update on CE and learn that the month of March used to be the first month of the year? Of course you do, because you are a curious soul. Well, all of this will be offered in the upcoming March Newsletter. It should arrive, electronically, on Thursday, February 25th and be placed in the mail that same day. Enjoy!!!

THURSDAY EVENING LENTEN STUDY

A new video series has been launched and season one is completed. The eight episodes of The Chosen are a view into the life of a Jesus you may not have ever met. Pastor Zina is inviting you to watch the episodes at your leisure (be careful, they are binge worthy) and we will meet, every Thursday, at 6 pm, for an hour discussion. To view the episodes (without cost, though they will ask you for a donation) please go to <https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen/player>. The full schedule will be noted in upcoming flashes. We will begin on Thursday, February 25th.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SURVEY.

Families with youth and children, please be aware, recently we emailed a brief, brief survey. It will take you less than 5 minutes to respond. Your input is so very important. Thank you for taking the time to offer your wisdom and to guide our actions. Your new, interim, CE Team is our fabulous CE Co Chairs, Lynn Minuskin and Sharon Hornig and, Pastor Zina has joined them in this exciting new chapter of our church life.

AN AMAZING CONVERSATION.

Friends, I do not highlight the sessions of Courageous Conversations often, but something extraordinary occurred Wednesday, February 10th. Courageous Conversations interviewed Valerie Kaur, Sikh activist, film maker and woman of wisdom and hope (one of my favorite words). She is the founder of Revolutionary Love and her book, See No Stranger are forces for good in our world. The interview is up on the Courageous Conversations website and I invite you to spend about 45 minutes listening and taking in her point of view. It was transformative for me. To hear the session, please click here,

<http://www.urbanconsulate.com/courageousconversations>. Valerie begins at about minute 5.