



June 6, 2021



*At Kernstown, we make Disciples as we:
Know God
Grow in God
Sow God into the World*

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**Pastor Aaron Fitch 540-532-9493
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bold print = all respond

* = please stand if able

2nd Sunday after Pentecost
10:20 a.m. Worship Service
June 6, 2021

Ringling of the Bell Sam Henshaw

Greeting /Announcements Pastor Aaron Fitch

Prelude David Landrum

Lighting of Altar Candles Sam Henshaw

Call to Worship Pastor Aaron

Leader: People of God, enter this place with thanksgiving and praise,

People: for the Lord is good.

Come and rejoice, sing glory to God,

for the Lord is good.

Remember, the steadfast love of God endures forever,

for the Lord is good.

*Hymn *Living for Jesus* **TFWS 2149**

Prayer of Confession Susan Hill

Gracious God, we often forget that You are the ruler of our lives. Instead, we turn our attention elsewhere. We want what others have. We allow the concerns of the world to weigh us down. We become distracted by the activities around us. We forget to keep our focus on You. Forgive us. Strengthen our faith, that we may see Your presence in our lives. Remind us again that You are the Lord of our lives – the One Who loves us completely, the One Who offers us abundant forgiveness, the One Who never leaves our side. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance Pastor Aaron

Brothers and sisters, the hand of God stretches far and wide to forgive us, bringing us newness of life. In the name of God,

Whose love endures forever, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Special Music

David Landrum

Prayer for Illumination

Susan Hill

Holy One, open our hearts to Your loving Spirit. Incline our ears to the truth of Your scriptures. Renew our lives in thanksgiving and praise. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Mark 3:20-35 (New Testament)

Sermon

"Submit"

Pastor Aaron

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

Celebration of Holy Communion

(see insert)

Please social distance at the altar rail while receiving the Elements.

*Apostles' Creed

UMH 881

*Hymn

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

UMH 452

*The Benediction

Pastor Aaron

Brothers and sisters, as you go from this place: extend grace to all, be faithful to Christ, and do not lose hope. Go in peace. Amen.

Postlude

David Landrum

CCLI # 11408803



Be faithful in prayer - Romans 12:12 NIV

WINCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER:

CARE FACILITIES:

Consulate Health Care: Connie Mitchell (PA)

Spring Arbor: Marietta Lipscomb (#239), Lloyd Henry (#210), Jean Snider (#144)

Mount Vernon Nursing Center: Virginia Ebbs

Search Group Home: Steven Dobbin

Sunrise at Bon Air: Irene Gates (#205)

Orchard Woods: Phyllis Baker

Lynn Care: Rosalie Wehn (Mimi's grandmother) & Marilyn Stelzl

UPCOMING SURGERIES: Bob Wilson – heart cath on 6/21

SYMPATHY: Perry/Martin family; Bill Tharpe & family; Barbara Baltimore & family

MILITARY: CPO Tiffany McMahan; MMN3 Seth Anton; LTC Tom Crowley; Jared Castro, ROTC; CDR Robert Littman

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS: Pastor Aaron, Cooper, & Elise; Pastor Clay Knick – lymphoma; the Gordons; the Burchards; Marshall Carper; Judy Allen; Jeanne Newlin & Janie Slater; Peggy Gillich; Polly Look; Shirley Dick; Ruth Bennington

Missionaries: Gregg & Jayne Yarian; Pastor Michael & Lupe Geiss

Local Missions: VAN (Valley Assistance Network), The Winchester Rescue Mission, Lord Fairfax Food Bank, C-CAP

At Home: Bryan Hartley, Pat Price, Mary Kathryn Clark, Tina Weagley, Florence Roman



Weekly Prayer Requests

May 30

Marshall Carper; Bob Wilson; Frank Moore, Hayley Moore & Evelyn Jennings; Peggy Gillich – had her first radiation treatments this week; Anne Dunlap

May 23

Marilyn Stelzl; Simone Poulin (Danny Aube's aunt); Phyllis Baker; Pastor Gayle; Rich & Cathy Lichvar on the loss of their pup, Angel; Lee & Bonnie Milas; for Gideons and missionaries all over the world who are contracting COVID and dying

May 16

Lawton MacDonald (Peggy Gillich's great-grandson); Monte Keiter; Jean Snider; Betty Lou Langager; John Wyatt (Madonna Sponaugle and Gussie Lee's brother-in-law); Steve & Leslie Lobell; Katie Teets; Polly Look – second eye cataracts surgery; Laurel Look; Lawrence, who is homeless; Russell & Debbie Parrish, Marietta Lipscomb (Debbie's mom), and Mark & Pam Lipscomb; Lee Lichvar

May 9

Family of Annalue Wyatt (Madonna Sponaugle and Gussie Lee's sister); Maria Castro; Margo Young; Lisa Dawson; Gussie Lee; Zack Harner; Doug Langager and family on the loss of his brother; Pastor Aaron - unspoken

***If you would like for us to lift up a prayer request, please call the office at 540-667-7298 or email csteele@kernstownumc.org. You can also place prayer request slips in the offering box in the sanctuary. These names will remain on this list for four weeks.*



Announcements

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – The Scholarship Committee will meet today in the fellowship hall, after the in-person worship service.

PRG MEETING – The new Post-COVID Re-entry Group (PRG) will meet this evening at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM.

REGARDING MASKS – Good news! Individuals who are fully vaccinated are no longer required to wear a mask in church! This will be an honor system, and no one should question another person.

TITHES & OFFERINGS – There is a wooden offering box at the back of the sanctuary where you may place your tithes and offerings this morning. You can also mail your check to the church, or we have online giving available on our website! Thank you for your faithful and generous giving!

GIVING STATEMENTS – They have been emailed or mailed to you. If you have not yet seen your statement in either format, please contact the church office. Any questions or issues about the statements should be directed to Roy Walker, Finance Chair (540-662-6015).

PEOPLE IN MINISTRY – Each Sunday for the in-person worship service, we need **greeters**, a **seating usher**, and a **lay person/reader**. Once a month on the first Sunday, we will need **communion stewards**. We'd love to have you help out! If interested, you can *sign up on the white board in the narthex* or simply call/email the church office.

UMW MEETING – The United Methodist Women will meet on Tuesday, June 8, at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. All are welcome!

SPPRC MEETING – SPPRC will meet on Thursday, June 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE PRESENTATIONS – Next Sunday, June 13, at the in-person worship service, we will present the remaining children's Bibles! Please join us for this special event.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – Church Council will meet on Thursday, June 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

JUBILEE SOUP KITCHEN – If you would like to volunteer to help serve the take-out meals on Saturday, June 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Winchester, please visit the sign-up sheet that was emailed out, or call/email the church office.

FAREWELL TO PASTOR AARON - Pastor Aaron's last Sunday in the pulpit will be Sunday, June 27. His plans are to say his final goodbyes after the service as you exit the sanctuary. For those of you who will be attending, there will be a basket provided for farewell cards. For those unable to attend, you are invited to send your card to the church prior to June 27. This is our opportunity to show our love and appreciation to Pastor Aaron for serving as our Pastor over the last seven years at Kernstown.

THANK YOU, DONNA! – Donna Funk-Smith, Kernstown's Communications/Technology Coordinator for the past three years, has resigned effective May 31. We extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation to Donna for all the beautiful work she has done and wish her all the best!



Our new OCC Project Leader for the
KUMC congregation is...
LISA DAWSON!



CANS & KITS FOR CONFERENCE – Since Annual Conference will be virtual again this year, each District will be doing a "Community Collection" to support their local missions. Winchester District is collecting **canned food** and **non-perishable/dry food items** that will go to local food pantries. Also, continue to make **UMCOR School & Hygiene Kits** or donate items for these kits (list of items was included in the June newsletter.) Bring all donations to the church **by Sunday, June 13!** There is a box in the mission room in which to place your donations. Thanks to our UMW for coordinating this project!



OCC YEAR-ROUND COLLECTION ITEMS

The collection item for June is "toys." Bring your donations to the church – there is a collection box by the choir loft in the sanctuary.



CALENDAR OF OPPORTUNITIES

June 6 through June 13

Sunday, June 6

- 10:20 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary / Live Stream)
- 11:15-ish Scholarship Committee meeting (FH)
- 2:00 p.m. Annual Conference Orientation (ZOOM)
- 6:00 p.m. Banner Youth (Macedonia UMC)
- 6:30 p.m. PRG meeting (ZOOM)

Tuesday, June 8

- 10:00 a.m. UMW meeting (FH)

Wednesday, June 9

- 11:30 a.m. Re-scheduled Staff lunch meeting

Thursday, June 10

- 7:00 p.m. SPPRC meeting (FH)

Sunday, June 13 – **Children's Bibles Presentation**

- 10:20 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary / Live Stream)
- 6:00 p.m. Banner Youth (Macedonia UMC)



SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF June 6th:
1 Samuel 8:4-20; Psalm 138; 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
and Mark 3:20-35

Celebration of Holy Communion

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to His table all who love Him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done Your will, we have broken Your law, we have rebelled against Your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (all pray in silence)

Hear the Good News: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the Name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the Name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in Your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, Your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through the prophets.

And so, with Your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise Your Name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are You, and blessed is Your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed Him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when You would save Your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By baptism of His suffering, death, and resurrection, You gave birth to Your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which He gave Himself up for us, He took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread, gave it to His disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." When the supper was over, He took the cup, gave thanks to You, gave it to His disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out Your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by His blood.

*By Your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at His heavenly banquet. Through Your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in Your Holy Church, all honor and glory is Yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.***

KERNSTOWN UMC

June 6, 2021

Text: Mark 3:20-35

Title: "SUBMIT"

20 Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. 21 When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind." 22 And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons." 23 So Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: "How can Satan drive out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. 27 In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man's house. 28 Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, 29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin." 30 He said this because they were saying, "He has an impure spirit."

31 Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. 32 A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you." 33 "Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked. 34 Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! 35 Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

Introduction

[RAMP] What is your first thought when you hear the word "submit?" Is it a word that reminds you of peace, hope, and joy? Is it a word that conjures fear? **When we submit to God, we are allowing God to have God's way in our lives. The truth is, we don't submit to God willingly. We must be forced to do so, and this is a work of grace and mercy by God in our lives.**

[RELEVANCE] Key experiences during Jesus' ministry provide spiritual lessons for us to learn and incorporate in our lives.

[OUTCOME] In what area of your life is God calling you to submit to Him? Today we will see that Jesus was submitted to God the Father during His earthly ministry.

Body

Mark 1:14-6:29 provides us with Jesus' ministry to Galilee. It covers the first year and a half of Jesus' earthly ministry.

What is happening in our text for today? First, we see that such large crowds were following Him, and people were saying all sorts of things against Him. Jesus' own family tried to get Him under control, and they even said, "He is out of His mind."

Second, we see that the teachers of the law were saying terrible things about Him, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." What does Jesus do? Jesus responds by speaking the truth, "How can Satan cast out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. 26 And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come." Jesus takes the teachers of the law to seminary, and through simple logic shows the fallacy of their logic. But Jesus doesn't stop there, Jesus goes on to teach what is the unpardonable sin. Jesus says, "28 'Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; 29 but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin'— 30 for they had said, 'He has an unclean spirit.'" **"Blasphemy means to slander God or give credit to something else that belongs to Him. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is this: 'The malicious resistance against the Holy Spirit's converting power after one is shown that Jesus is the Christ.'"** It is like a line in the sand.

Jesus taught about the unpardonable sin, because the Pharisees, teachers of the law, and all the religious leaders knew what the Scriptures taught. Jesus was doing exactly what the Scriptures taught. "They know the truth and are still choosing against God and are slandering God in the process!"¹ The Religious Leaders were committing the unpardonable sin.

Third, we see that Jesus followed the leading of the Holy Spirit and did the will of God the Father first. Nothing came second to this. Nothing. Mark 3:31-35 says, "31 Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. 32 A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, 'Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you.' 33 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' he asked. 34 Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! 35 Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother.'" These verses reveal to Whom Jesus gave His ultimate submission. The Person is God the Father.

Where do we see submission happening in this text? **First, we see submission of evil to God.** Jesus is God and has the ability to overcome evil in all of its forms, especially in the subtle form of false teaching from the religious leaders. Jesus overcomes evil with truth. Jesus told Pontius Pilot, when Jesus was being questioned by him, that His kingdom was not of this world. We, as Believers, live in God's

Kingdom through our faith in Jesus Christ, and living as Jesus would by the leading of the Holy Spirit. In this way, we are ruled by God and live as God's subjects doing what God desires. Our home is not this world. The Kingdom of God is both now and not yet. It exists now and can be seen in the lives of Jesus' followers. However, the Kingdom of God is not yet in that it hasn't fully come to be in existence.

Second, we see submission of Jesus to God the Father's will. "Overcoming evil is an essential ingredient in the life of Jesus. Not only does he conquer evil in the midst of personal temptation, but he also constantly wrenches men and women free from malignant evil whenever it manifests itself in human suffering and pain. Not surprisingly, as we see in our reading, his opponents don't like this. They accuse him of being in league with the demon Beelzebul. **But Jesus responds differently to his opponents' tactics. He refuses to respond to evil with the weapons of evil. He simply points out that their accusations are not logical. If Satan is driving out Satan, then the Evil One is fighting against itself. Instead, Jesus overcomes evil and brings God's kingdom of freedom to all who are held captive by its dark powers.**"ⁱⁱ Jesus doesn't zap His opponents and get rid of them. Jesus continues to follow the plan of God the Father laid out for Jesus in the Old Testament concerning the Messiah. Jesus submits to God the Father's plan. Jesus is performing ministry the way in which God the Father wants. Jesus could have called twelve legions of angels to His defense, as if He needed angels to defend Him. But Jesus did not, because Jesus provides us with an example of following God the Father's plan through the power of the Holy Spirit. The plan for Jesus to follow was laid out throughout the Old Testament. For example, Jesus' teaching style changed after the religious leaders made their decision to kill Him. This was according to God the Father's plan laid out in Isaiah.

Bob Deffinbaugh explains, "We know that the disciples asked pointedly why Jesus had begun teaching publicly only by means of parables: "And as soon as He was alone, His followers, along with the twelve, began asking Him about the parables" (Mark 4:10). The answer to this question is hardly what we would have expected. While Jesus revealed truths pertaining to the 'mystery of the Kingdom' to His intimates, He deliberately concealed these truths from those who were 'outside' (verse 11) by the use of parables. This decisive change of course on the part of our Lord was not something new or unexpected. Indeed, it was consistent with the principle revealed in the book of Isaiah: "in order that while seeing, they may see and not perceive; and while hearing, they may hear and not understand lest they return again and be forgiven" (Isaiah 6:9; Mark 4:12).⁵⁵

Jesus had claimed to be God's Messiah and Israel's Savior, but, as we have seen from chapters two and three of Mark's gospel, this message was rejected by the leadership of the nation. They were

already plotting to kill Him. Finally, they went so far as to accuse Him of working as the servant of Satan. In the light of their committing ‘the unpardonable sin,’ Jesus now spoke in such a way as to conceal further revelation of His Kingdom from them. He would not cast His pearls before swine.

Jesus on the one hand was concealing the truth from some (Mark 4:10-12), while revealing it to others (4:32-34). The parables incited curiosity and deeper thought on the part of true seekers (cf. Proverbs 25:2; Mark 4:10,34). The parables enabled Jesus to teach publicly, and yet not give His opponents evidence to use against Him. While the scribes and Pharisees were able to understand that the parables were, at times, directed against them, they could not gain from them the hard evidence they needed to dispose of Jesus (Matthew 21:45,46).”ⁱⁱⁱ Here we see that Jesus followed God the Father’s plan in the way He taught about the Kingdom of God. Jesus was able to submit Himself to God the Father. We are to do the same.

How do we submit ourselves to God? **First, we continually ask God to do this work of grace in our lives,** so that we may submit to the Holy Spirit more and more. Submission isn’t usually a one and done work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit usually transforms us and allows us to submit to God little by little. **Second, we practice the Means of Grace and Works of Mercy to experience the Holy Spirit in a real relationship.** This allows us to get to know the Holy Spirit’s character and recognize how the Holy Spirit speaks to us. Doing these two actions over and over and over will allow us, little by little, to submit ourselves more fully to the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion

What is your first thought when you hear the word “submit?” Is it a word that reminds you of peace, hope, and joy? Is it a word that conjures fear?

When we submit to God, we are allowing God to have God’s way in our lives. The truth is, we don’t submit to God willingly. We must be forced to do so, and this is a work of grace and mercy by God in our lives.

Jesus had many who opposed Him during His earthly ministry. Jesus did not just zap them and get rid of them. Jesus submitted to God the Father’s plan and changed His teaching style by using parables. This teaching style allowed those who wanted to learn to do so but kept Jesus’ opponents from having definitive evidence that Jesus was speaking against and about them. We are to follow Jesus’ example by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

ⁱ Melanie Newton. <https://bible.org/seriespage/lesson-4-blasphemy-parables-and-stormy-night-mark-320-441>

ⁱⁱ Hudson, Trevor. Pauses for Lent: 40 Words for 40 Days (Kindle Locations 254-268). Upper Room Books. Kindle Edition.

ⁱⁱⁱ Bob Deffinbaugh. <https://bible.org/seriespage/26-crucial-change-course-mark-31-425>