



Accompaniment Play List and Sermon available on YouTube at
<http://bit.ly/OUMC04-21-2024>

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

John 14:1 - 6aWEB

¹“Don’t let your heart be troubled. Believe in God. Believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house are many homes. If it weren’t so, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you. ³ If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and will receive you to myself;

that where I am, you may be there also. ⁴ You know where I go, and you know the way.”
⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going. How can we know the way?”
⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life.

INTROIT

“My Hope Is Built” (UMH #368- Refrain)

<https://youtu.be/2UtheC8XoT4>

On Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;

all other ground is sinking sand.

OPENING PRAYER

We gather this day, O Lord, as people who seek your guiding love. Open our hearts and make us ready to stand firm in the faith that leads to loving service. Create a new people in this place so that your love may surround all who enter here. For we ask these things in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.

AFFIRMATION of FAITH “A Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church” UMH # 884

We believe in the one God, creator and sustainer of all things, Father of all nations, the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, our teacher, example, and Redeemer, the Savior of the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength.

We believe in the forgiveness of sins, in the life of love and prayer, and in grace equal to every need.

We believe in the Word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments as the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice.

We believe in the church, those who are united in the living Lord for the purpose of worship and service.

We believe in the reign of God as the divine will realized in human society, and in the family of God, where we are all brothers and sisters.

We believe in the final triumph of righteousness and in the life everlasting.
Amen.

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.

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.

3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.

4. He breaks the power of canceled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.

5. He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

7. In Christ, your head, you then shall know,
shall feel your sins forgiven;
anticipate your heaven below,
and own that love is heaven.

ANTHEM (Suggested)**"Cornerstone"**<https://youtu.be/izrk-erhDdk>

Hillsong Worship

SCRIPTURE LESSON**Acts 7: 55-60 WEB**

⁵⁵ But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, looked up steadfastly into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, ⁵⁶ and said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

⁵⁷ But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears, then rushed at him with one

accord. ⁵⁸ They threw him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses placed their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ They stoned Stephen as he called out, saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" ⁶⁰ He knelt down, and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, don't hold this sin against them!" When he had said this, he fell asleep.

JOYS & CONCERNS and MORNING PRAYER

O Lord, our Rock,
we stand upon you alone,
and upon no other.
Build our faith into a house
made of living stones.
Teach us anew
that the foundation of life
is love for you and for neighbor.
We pray for the community
in which we live and work and learn.
Offer us, O God,

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 trespasses, as

at least one clear opportunity
to be of service to someone in need.
Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with us, today.
Hear our prayers for those who are struggling in
all aspects of life.
We offer these prayers of compassion
for those that are upon our hearts.
In Christ the solid rock we pray ...
the prayer he taught us ...

we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

1. O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

2. O let me feel thee near me!
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.

3. O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be.
And Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend

SCRIPTURE LESSON**1 Peter 2: 2 - 10 WEB**

² as newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the Word, that with it you may grow, ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious: ⁴ coming to him, a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God, precious. ⁵ You also, as living stones, are built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ Because it is contained in Scripture, "Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen and precious: He who believes in him will not be disappointed." Isaiah 28:16

⁷ For you who believe therefore is the honor, but for those who are disobedient, "The stone which

the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone," [Psalm 118:22]

⁸ and, "a stumbling stone and a rock of offense." [Isaiah 8:14]

For they stumble at the word, being disobedient, to which also they were appointed. ⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ In the past, you were not a people, but now are God's people, who had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

MESSAGE**"Living Stones"****Rev Jim Canody**<https://bit.ly/Sermon04-21-2024>

A frog goes into a bank and approaches the teller. He can see from her nameplate that her name is Patricia Whack.

"Miss Whack, I'd like to get a \$10000 loan to take a holiday."

Patty looks at the frog in disbelief and asks his name. The frog says his name is Kermit Jagger, his dad is Mick Jagger, and that it's OK, he

knows the bank manager. Patty explains that he will need to secure the loan with some collateral.

The frog says, "Sure. I have this," and produces a tiny porcelain elephant, about half an inch tall - bright pink and perfectly formed.

Very confused, Patty explains that she'll have to consult with the bank manager and disappears into a back office. She finds the manager and says, "There's a frog called Kermit

Jagger out there who claims to know you and wants to borrow \$10000, and he wants to use this as collateral."

She holds up the tiny pink elephant.

"I mean, what in the world is this?"

The bank manager looks back at her and says, "It's a knick-knack, Patty Whack, give the frog a loan. His old man's a Rolling Stone."

Peter, in his first letter, tells us that we are to be living stones: "Come to [Christ], a living stone, tho rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God thru Jesus Christ." Living stones, what in the world does that mean?

I don't think we as a people who live in a fertile land with fields and trees and grass and water (water everywhere) can truly understand this passage, until we understand the land from which Peter writes.

Jerusalem is a city built on a hill, with valleys on every side. As you look out to the Mount of Olives from the Temple Mount, you can see patches of grass, but you mostly see rocks and stones. You walk in sandals and the dirt gets under your feet and between your toes and you constantly have to watch your footing.

The city itself is stone. All of the houses, churches, and even the city walls are made out of limestone. There is really no color to the city architecture; it just looks like stones piled on top of each other to create the city.

In fact, in the early 1950s and 1960s, construction was all done with cinderblock because it was cheaper than using stone. But unfortunately the cinderblock ruined the look of the city; now there is a law that every building being constructed must look like limestone on the outside. Today in modern Israel, they are creating "fake" stone structures so that everything will continue to look like stone.

Peter, in writing this letter, looks around and sees all these stones. Imagine Peter sitting at a desk, looking out of a small window, and writing to encourage new Christians and followers of Jesus. Peter looks out that window and all he sees are the stones. Peter then looks down at his parchment and begins to encourage the Christians. "Come to Christ, a living stone." Peter looks out, sees all these stones and knows that if they were alive in Christ, they would prove an amazing witness. They would rise up in power and strength and build wonderful things for the Lord, because they were the foundations of a building alive for Christ.

The term living stones in 1 Peter 2:5 is used as a metaphor to illustrate the secure and intimate relationship believers have with Jesus, who is described in the previous verse as "the living Stone" (1 Peter 2:4). Together, these two verses picture how Christ and His followers are joined by God Himself: "As you come to him, THE living Stone – rejected by men 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" (1 Peter 2:4-5).

The foundation of God's building is His Son, Jesus Christ, "the living Stone." The "living stones," in turn, are believers who come to Jesus and place their lives upon this foundation. The living Stone is "precious" to those who believe (1 Peter 2:7), but some men reject the living Stone in order to build their lives their own way, not God's way (see Psalm 118:22 and Luke 6:46-49). Unbelievers cast this living Stone aside, not caring that Jesus is the only true foundation upon which they can build securely (1 Corinthians 3:11).

A cornerstone (or foundation stone or setting stone) is the first stone set in the construction of a masonry foundation. All other stones will be set in reference to this stone, thus determining the position of the entire structure.

A cornerstone marks the geographical location by orienting a building in a specific direction.

The cornerstone, throughout history, was the first stone set during the building process. Careful measurements were taken to ensure the cornerstone was square to ensure the proper alignment of the remainder of the building.

In a metaphor much like that of the living Stone, Jesus is described as the chief cornerstone in Ephesians 2:19–22. Peter references Jesus as the cornerstone in Acts 4:11–12, stating that “salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” No other foundation will be sufficient for the living stones to be “built into a spiritual house”

God is just like all builders – He has a foundation upon which all workers must build (Matthew 7:24–27).

Believers, then, are the “living stones” of the church that Jesus promised to build (Matthew 16:18). As living stones, we have new life in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). As integral parts of the building of God, we have security in Christ (John 6:37). As the Master Builder, God places His living stones just where He wants us to be (1 Corinthians 12:18). As living stones, we are connected to one another in the body of Christ (Romans 12:5). Our Lord, the foundation Stone, is alive forevermore and will never crumble. He will support us eternally.

No doubt, Peter was especially attuned to the imagery of stones and construction because of the name Jesus gave him, which means “stone,” and our Lord’s teaching that He would build His church on solid rock (Matt. 16:13–20; John 1:42). Yet, when Peter uses the metaphor of stones and a building for the church, he does not tell us that Christ is building His church on **him** as the rock. Instead, he tells us that we are coming to Jesus, who is the cornerstone of the house of God – the people of God as His church (1 Peter 2:4–8). Peter and the other Apostles are part of the foundation of the church, particularly their teaching (Eph. 2:20), but the building block upon which the whole edifice rests is Jesus Himself.

As the cornerstone, Jesus is the crucial support of the church’s foundation. The whole building is held up by Him, and if you were to take Him out of the building, the whole thing would collapse. We are called to come to Him and to rest our faith on Him alone. And yet, when we come to Him, we are joined to one another as living stones and built up into God’s holy temple (vv. 4–5). Those who reject Christ the cornerstone in order to build their lives their own way will encounter him as a “stumbling block” ... “a rock of offense”, but those who trust in Him alone for salvation are united to Him and to one another ... cemented together spiritually to become God’s spiritual house ... the Church.

Peter goes on to describe the function of the living stones: to “declare the praises” of Him who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of life and glory (1 Peter 2:9). This is the “job description” of a living stone: a speaker of praise, a declarer of truth and love and light. The spiritual house God is building is designed for His glory, and we, the living stones, glorify the Lord in all we do (1 Corinthians 10:31).

God has a plan for us. First Peter goes on to tell us that we are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” Being living stones embraces the knowledge that we are all special in God’s sight.

But the passage isn’t done. The scripture tells us that we are chosen “in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” Being a living stone is proclaiming the mighty acts of Christ. It means getting involved in your faith. It’s not just sitting in a pew on a Sunday morning, but living out the faith because you are a living stone. Christians are to be hard and strong and alive through the power of Jesus Christ.

Peter says, "Let yourselves be built into a spiritual house." As we come together, each of us a living stone, we are built into something greater through the power of Jesus Christ. We are special and important and Christ is alive in us and waiting for us to actually be living stones. To take risks and live and breathe everything through the power of Jesus Christ.

There is a story set in medieval times that tells of a traveler who comes upon three stonemasons. He asks each in turn: 'What are you doing?' The first answers, without

hesitation, 'I am cutting this stone.' The second, who appears to be doing the identical job makes a gesture with his hand and says; 'I am completing the wall.' The third, again seems to be doing the same job slowly raises his eyes to the sky and says; 'I am building a cathedral.'

Peter, the disciple known as the Rock says, "Come to [Christ], the living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house."

May it be so! Amen! †

HYMN UMH #368

"My Hope is Built"

<https://youtu.be/Tf3u0TbVz2c>

1. My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

**On Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

2. When Darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil. (Refrain)

3. His oath, his covenant, his blood
supports me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay. (Refrain)

4. When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne! (Refrain)

BENEDICTION

Don't let your hearts be troubled.
Trust in God, and in God's son, Jesus Christ,
who is the way, the truth and the life,
and through whom we come to know the
Father.

And may the blessing of God,
the grace of Jesus Christ,
and the presence of the Holy Spirit
go with you as you from this day forward
and forevermore. Amen.

RESPONSE

"My Hope is Built" (UMH #368- Refrain)

<https://youtu.be/rf8lCoyk5dE>

On Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

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^{1,4,5} **My Hope Is Built**, UMH #368, Words: Edward Mote, Music: William B. Bradbury © in Public Domain

² **O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing**, UMH #57, Author: Charles Wesley, Tune: Azmon, Arranger: Lowell Mason, Composer: Carl G. Glaser © Words & Music Public Domain

³ **O Jesus, I Have Promised**, UMH #396, Author: John E. Bode, Tune: Angel's Story, Composer: Arthur H. Mann © Words & Music Public Domain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APRIL Birthdays

Dottie Milliner (April 9) * Don Bowling (April 22)
 Roger Weinheimer (April 13) Brooklyn Bradford (April 23)
 Bob Bell (April 18) Nelda LoFaso (April 29)
 Linda Ross (April 18)

APRIL Anniversaries

Bill & Dianne Nickel (April 14)
 Butch & Mary Paul Harmon (April 16)



Onley United Methodist Church
SPRING Sale


Casseroles


Chicken Salad


Baked Goods


& More!

Saturday, May 11
8:00 - 11:00 AM

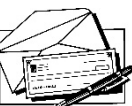
Baked goods, frozen casseroles, chicken salad, side salads, soups, and SO much more!
NO PREORDERS - FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED



Eastern Shore Youth Group
April Schedule

April 21 - Youth Gathering
 Epworth UMC 4p.m. - 6p.m.
 Jesus is the light darkness

April 28 - Youth Trip to Virginia Wesleyan Youth Gathering Meet at Epworth UMC at 2:30p.m. - Return between 7-8p.m.
 Cost \$ 2 for dinner
 (Please sign up by April 21-so we can plan transportation)



Don't Forget Your Tithe

Thank you for your dedication to the ministries of Onley UMC! We greatly appreciate your gifts, tithes, and prayers. Your contributions are important to the life and mission of OUMC. **Checks, made payable to OUMC** should be mailed to: Sandra Savage, P. O. Box 513, Exmore, VA 23350

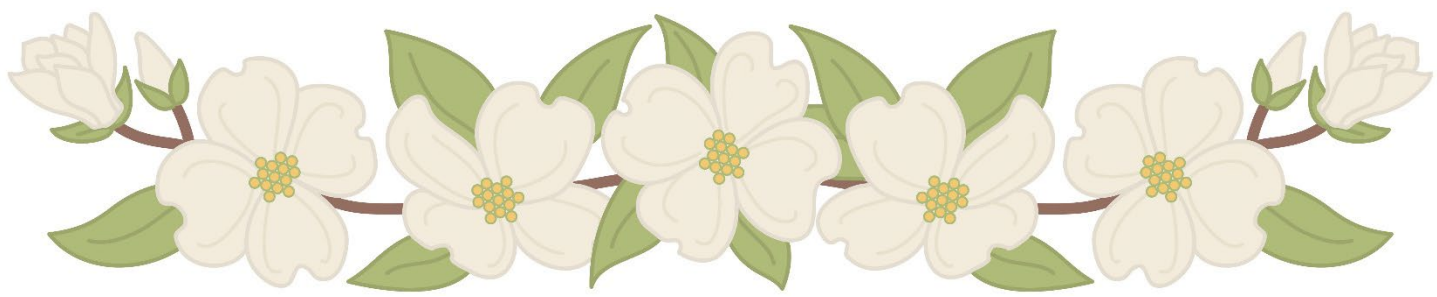
COAT CLOSET Mission!

We continue to accept cash donations as well as coats, etc during the off season. Please either email us at jre11@verizon.net or call 757.710.1524 to leave a message, to arrange pickup or drop off. Monetary donations may be sent to Onley UMC, P O Box 98, Onley, VA 23418; please note "coat closet" in the memo section of the check.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Website: <https://www.onleyumc.org/>
 Google Review: <https://g.page/r/CW9SLu50qxK6EBU/review>
 Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/OnleyUMC/>.

YouTube Channel: <http://bit.ly/OUMC-YouTube>
 Join our email chain: onleymethodist@gmail.com



OUR PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS from April 14, 2024

- The United States of America, other countries around the world, and our leaders
- Wartorn areas including Ukraine, Israel & the Middle East
- Americans serving in the armed forces and in dangerous foreign diplomatic posts.
- Our missionary in Cambodia, Clara Mridula Biswas.
- Persecuted Christians
- The United Methodist Church and The Virginia Annual Conference
- Members in assisted living: Dottie Milliner

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| • Debra Allen | Gardner | • Rosilee Lewis |
| • Linda Nyborg | • Lois White | • Elmer Reed |
| • Ellie Marsh | • Tom and Claudia Webb | • Joseph Roddy |
| • The Lecato Family | • Mary Jane Bowling | • Ernie Ruediger |
| • Bobby Wood | • Don Bowling | • Sandy Jones |
| • Dick Jenkins | • Virginia Lively | • Patrica Gall |
| • Ada Jo Amadeo | • James Powell | • Pat Drummond |
| • Roland Majors | • Ginny Powell | • Abby Brassfield |
| • Faye Wilfong | • Roger Weinheimer | • Kathy McLean |
| • Gaye Burkhart | • Diane Nickel | • Crystal Foti |
| • The UMC Cashville Charge | • Al McMath | • Lou Young |
| • The Harmon's Grand Niece and Nephew | • George McMath | • Travel Mercies |
| • A Friend of Dot | • E. A. McMath | • Unspoken |
| | • Jim Canody | |
| | • Virginia Yeaman | |

✠ *Special prayers for the family and friends of:*

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| • <i>Pat Gardener</i> | • <i>Ann (Milliner) Freeman</i> | • <i>Bob Reynolds</i> |
| • <i>Faye Wilfong</i> | • <i>Fred Harris</i> | • <i>Donald Young</i> |
| • <i>Buddy Matthews</i> | • <i>Joan Recor</i> | • <i>Pauline Small</i> |

Please share your joys and concerns
with Pastor Jim at :
jimcanody@vaumc.org or
call the parsonage at 757-787-3150