

# Love is the Liberator

from *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, by Mary Baker Eddy

“What I say unto you I say unto all, WATCH.” — CHRIST JESUS

## “Our Prayer in Stone”

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, BOSTON ....	1
EXCERPTS FROM THE MOTHER CHURCH .....	J. Armstrong 1
CONSTRUCTION OF THE MOTHER CHURCH .....	E. P. Bates 2
THE “BUSY BEES” .....	Compiled 5
MOTHER’S ROOM .....	Joseph Armstrong 6
THE MOTHER CHURCH .....	7
<b>From Mrs. Eddy</b> .....	8
LAUS DEO! .....	Mary Baker Eddy 8
ADDRESS, — LAYING THE CORNER-STONE .....	8
<b>Interesting Squibs</b> .....	10
<b>A Watch to Work with Often</b> .....	11
<b>From the Early Workers</b> .....	12
BUILDING WITH SPIRITUAL SENSE .....	Gilbert C. Carpenter 12
HEALING ATMOSPHERE OF THE C. S. SERVICE .....	H. P. Nunn 13
A HAPPY NEW YEAR! .....	13
THE LADDER .....	J. G. Holland 14
WHAT I LIVE FOR .....	G. L. B. 14
<b>Current Articles</b> .....	15
FROM OUR LIBRARY .....	Lynda Spencer 15
WITH GOD, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE .....	Luanne Tucker 16
THE FUTURE AND THE PAST .....	Laurie Abbas Campbell 16
CHANGING YOUR COURSE .....	Jeremy Palmer 16
DIVINE PRESENCE .....	Benjamin Ndukwue 17
GOD’S CARE .....	Shahidat Abbas 17
LIBERTY OF ACTION .....	Lynda Spencer 18
OUT OF THE WILDERNESS .....	A Kindred Heart 19
GIVE ALL TO GOD’S PERFECT PLAN .....	Florence Roberts 19
FAILURE OF FALSE SYSTEMS .....	Gary Singleterry 20
THE IMPORTANCE OF AN EXALTED PURPOSE ....	M. Singleterry 20
<b>Letters of Gratitude</b> .....	21
<b>Testimonies of Healing</b> .....	24

A LADY WITH A  
LAMP SHALL STAND  
IN THE GREAT HIS-  
TORY OF THE LAND

A NOBLE TYPE  
OF GOOD  
HEROIC  
WOMANHOOD  
LONGFELLOW

January 2019

Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent

Published in Plainfield, NJ • [www.painfieldcs.com](http://www.painfieldcs.com)



# Love is the Liberator

from *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, by Mary Baker Eddy



Drawing by Luanne Tucker

A note about the sketch by Luanne:

Boston Light - Little Brewster Island (outer Boston Harbor),  
Massachusetts

Boston Light was the first light station in North America and is the country's oldest continuously used lighthouse site. The original structure, built in 1716, was destroyed during the Revolutionary War. Rebuilt in 1783, it has been called "the ideal American lighthouse." Designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1964, it is the only manned lighthouse in the United States.

"Our Prayer in Stone"

January 2019

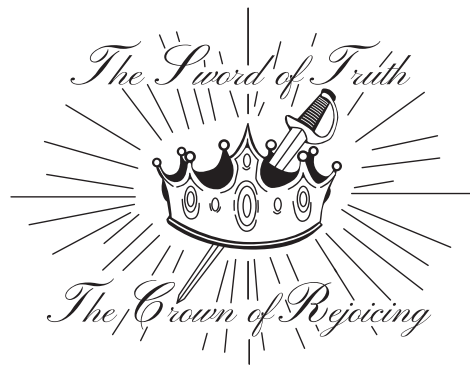
Copyright 2019

Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent

All rights reserved. — Printed in the United States of America

# Authentic Christian Science

*Unfettered by material organization*



About the new cover:

From *In Defense of Mary Baker Eddy, and the Remnant of Her Seed*, by Paul R. Smillie:

In the Christian Science Sentinel of September 6, 1913 on page ten, Archibald McLellan stated three most important points about the cover of the Sentinel and a minor change made at that time on its cover. Speaking of this change he said, "Beyond this there can be neither desire nor occasion for change in the Sentinel, because," he said, "Mrs. Eddy's instructions forbid any change." He explained this by saying, "Mrs. Eddy likewise gave instructions." The word "instructions" is most important. Speaking then of the two women, the lamps and the inscriptions beneath them, he said they had been "preserved as expressive of our Leader's thought. ..." Mrs. Eddy requested that the cover of the Sentinel be light blue in color."



This church is in no way affiliated with  
The First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts

# Table of Contents

<b>“Our Prayer in Stone” .....</b>	<b>1</b>
HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST, BOSTON .....	1
EXCERPTS FROM THE MOTHER CHURCH ..... Joseph Armstrong	1
CONSTRUCTION OF THE MOTHER CHURCH ..... Edward P. Bates	2
THE “BUSY BEES” ..... Compiled	5
MOTHER’S ROOM ..... Joseph Armstrong	6
THE MOTHER CHURCH .....	7
<b>From Mrs. Eddy .....</b>	<b>8</b>
LAUS DEO! ..... Mary Baker Eddy	8
ADDRESS, — LAYING THE CORNER-STONE .....	8
<b>Interesting Squibs .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>A Watch to Work with Often .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>From the Early Workers .....</b>	<b>12</b>
BUILDING WITH SPIRITUAL SENSE ..... Gilbert C. Carpenter	12
THE HEALING ATMOSPHERE OF THE C. S. CHURCH SERVICE ..... H. P. Nunn	13
A HAPPY NEW YEAR! .....	13
THE LADDER ..... J. G. Holland	14
WHAT I LIVE FOR ..... G. L. B.	14
<b>Current Articles .....</b>	<b>15</b>
FROM OUR LIBRARY ..... Lynda Spencer	15
WITH GOD, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE ..... Luanne Tucker	16
THE FUTURE AND THE PAST ..... Laurie Abbas Campbell	16
CHANGING YOUR COURSE ..... Jeremy Palmer	16
DIVINE PRESENCE ..... Benjamin Ndukwe	17
GOD’S CARE ..... Shahidat Abbas	17
LIBERTY OF ACTION ..... Lynda Spencer	18
OUT OF THE WILDERNESS ..... A Kindred Heart	19
GIVE ALL TO GOD’S PERFECT PLAN ..... Florence Roberts	19
FAILURE OF FALSE SYSTEMS ..... Gary Singleterry	20
THE IMPORTANCE OF AN EXALTED PURPOSE ..... Mary Beth Singleterry	20
<b>Letters of Gratitude .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Testimonies of Healing .....</b>	<b>24</b>



# “Our Prayer in Stone”

## Historical Sketch of the Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston

*Christian Science Journal, 1889*

In the spring of 1879, a little band of earnest seekers after truth went into deliberations over forming a church without creeds, called the "Church of Christ, Scientist." Being students of Mary Baker Eddy's in metaphysics, or Christian Science, they were known as Christian Scientists. While walking through deep waters of affliction, they went steadily on, increasing in numbers, and finding at every new experience that hitherto the Lord hath helped us.

At a meeting of the "Christian Scientists' Association," April 19, 1879, on motion of Mrs. Eddy, it was unanimously voted to organize a church designed to commemorate the word and works of our Master, which should reinstate primitive Christianity, and its lost element of healing. The members extended a call to Mary B. G. Eddy to become their pastor. She accepted the call, and was ordained A. D. 1881.

### Excerpts from

#### *The Mother Church*

Joseph Armstrong

Mary Baker Eddy had long been hoping for a church-edifice in Boston. After an unsuccessful attempt of the students to purchase a lot, Mrs. Eddy purchased the lot herself. In September 1892 she appointed four of her students — Ira O. Knapp, William B. Johnson, Joseph Armstrong, and Stephen A. Chase — as Board of Directors to hold the land in trust for the whole body of Christian Scientists, with the requirement that the Board erect a church-edifice on the land within five years.

The Church Directors, who, for more than a year were burdened with the heavy care and responsibility of erecting the edifice, can never forget, nor cease to thank God for the wise guidance, the helpful words, and the loving care of our Teacher and Mother, the Rev. Mary Baker Eddy.

She alone, God's chosen, deserves the credit for this mighty victory for Mind's supremacy; for it was her warning call and loving counsel that led on to success, in the face of such seeming odds.

### *The Work Begins*

The original architectural plans called for a building made of brick; but on later consideration, it seemed more appropriate to build the Church of granite from New Hampshire, Mrs. Eddy's native state.

In September 1893, Mrs. Eddy advised the Directors to lay the foundation in the following October. The contracts for excavating, pile driving, and stone foundations were signed on October 19, 1893, and the first foundation stone was laid on Wednesday, November 8, that same year. Donations, which had decreased, then began to flow freely into the Church Building Fund.

### *Laying the Corner-Stone*

Mrs. Eddy designated May 21, 1894, as the day for laying the Corner-Stone. The Corner-Stone was to rest in the wall over an arch, which must first be spanned by four heavy, curved, iron beams from a dealer in Pennsylvania. Due to a difference of opinion between the architect, the iron dealer, and the builders, the beams had not been made. Mrs. Eddy was made aware of this situation, and on May 19, just two days before the scheduled laying of the Corner-Stone, one of the Directors traveled to the mill in Pennsylvania, to find that still nothing had been done. The proprietors agreed to put all their forces day and night on this job, under the Director's watchful eye.

### *A Simple Ceremony*

The beams arrived and were installed, and the Corner-Stone was finally placed.

At that point, the workmen withdrew. The Directors uncovered their heads, and each laying a hand on the Stone, they prayed silently, and repeated the Lord's Prayer in unison.

This simple ceremony was performed at close of day, alone with God; and, as the Mother had

quoted in a letter on this subject, "His voice was not heard in the street." The sun, which had been behind the clouds for three days, burst forth in brightness, just at this moment, and shone upon the Corner-Stone.

### *Watchful Care of the Beams*

The Director remained in Pennsylvania two more weeks to obtain the iron beams for the first floor of the Church. He watched the manufacturing process day and night and followed the iron on its journey, preventing the freight car from being side-tracked or otherwise hindered. The arrival of this iron proved that every demonstration, every effort to be obedient, makes the next step possible.

At every step difficulties multiplied; and affairs became more and more complicated, till the completion of the Church within the time specified, seemed impossible. The struggle grew harder and more hopeless, to human sense, as each day brought its added burden. Nevertheless, the Directors knew that God was directing our Teacher and Mother, and that He would not demand the unachievable of so faithful a servant. This knowledge and faith gave them strength to press on; and, as the Children of Israel looked to Moses to lead them safely through the wilderness, so they had confidence that God would, through our Leader, show the way out of this apparently desperate condition.

After a visit to Concord to the Mother, and a brief conversation about the building, the author's doubts vanished forever. Like Elisha's servant when his eyes were opened, he saw that "They that be with us are more than they that be with them" (II Kings), and from this hour he knew as an absolute certainty that, whatever the seeming, *the work would be done!*

### *Mr. and Mrs. Bates Offer to Help*

The contract for heating and ventilating apparatus was given to Edward P. Bates, a class-taught student of Mrs. Eddy, from Syracuse, New York. After arranging for his own work, he placed his whole time at the service of the Directors. He and Mrs. Bates, who was very familiar with architectural plans, remained there constantly until the

building was completed. They left their home in Syracuse, New York, and rented a suite of rooms in Boston so they could be on the job every day.

With 200 workmen at times, the only accident that occurred during the building was to a painter, who stepped through a hole in the unfinished floor and sprained his ankle. A Christian Scientist came at once to his side and relieved him of pain. His employer insisted that he go home; but the next morning he was back at the job, having run to catch his train.

Every step had been made through demonstration of Divine Science, the work of our beloved Teacher and Mother. Not a point could be carried without her aid; for she alone could show the way — God's way — and make it possible to do what mortal sense declared impossible. With this knowledge, those having the work in charge continued to press on in the face of all seeming discouragement, trusting Love to deliver them, and enable the workmen to complete the building.

## **Construction of The Mother Church**

Edward P. Bates

*Edward and Caroline Bates had taken Class with Mrs. Eddy, and both became teachers of Christian Science. The moral courage and obedience of Mr. and Mrs. Bates was of great help to our Leader in building her church. It is the same moral courage and obedience that will keep it with us.*

### *Letters from Mrs. Eddy*

Mrs. Eddy sent a messenger from her home in Concord to Boston with letters — sometimes daily, or two or three times a week. Mrs. Eddy's letters were at times a source of mystery to us, and not until the church was finished and dedicated and we had time to realize what they meant, did their full import occur to us. We then knew that, day by day as the work progressed, Mrs. Eddy was demonstrating at her home in Concord, and our whole duty was to obey. When we did obey, the work progressed rapidly. And so, little by little, we learned to do what seemed to be impossible; it was proven to be very possible under her demonstration.

Realizing the work was not progressing as it should, with the Board's approval, Mr. Bates took on the work of supervising the building operations. Just seven weeks remained until the day Mrs. Eddy had designated for the opening service. The roof was not on, no windows were in, and the building was full of snow and ice.

Mrs. Bates received a short but emphatic letter from Mrs. Eddy. It read, "Finish the Tower and plaster the Church." This letter produced a great deal of turbulence in my mind and some outward expression of it.

I looked about the church. It was not ready to plaster. How could Mrs. Eddy, up in Concord, know that we should plaster the church? We were on the ground pushing the work along as rapidly as possible; in fact, more rapidly than the contractors thought possible. Whether we would recognize it or not, Mrs. Eddy had a good reason for making this demand. We talked it over through the day and went to our rooms and talked about it all night.

### *Plastering the Church*

When Mrs. Eddy said, "Plaster the church," she provided a way by which it could be done, and there was no time when it was safe to retreat a single inch: no matter what obstacle seemed to be in the way, what resistance we met. We must press forward and carry out her demonstration.

Arrangements were made with the plastering contractor to labor on continuously till the job was ended. A Scientist remained in the building that night to render all assistance possible, and a midnight meal was furnished the workmen. At six o'clock the next morning, in exactly twelve hours instead of the estimated six days, the work was completed.

The plastering contractor came to me and said, "Mr. Bates, nothing like this was ever done before to my knowledge. I have never seen nor heard anything like it. It is wonderful that this church was plastered, two coats, in twelve hours." As I recall it, nearly all of the journeymen came to me and expressed their delight in having taken part in the work. They said when they went on the scaffold, they had no idea that they would get on a single coat through the night — never thinking

of the second coat, which was also put on. They saw it done, but could not understand how it was done. They applied twenty-four tons of plaster, containing several tons of water, in twelve hours, which to them was incredible. The hod-carriers had a busy time taking up this weight of plaster.

### *Mrs. Bates Settles a Labor Dispute*

Mrs. Bates twice climbed up a series of precarious ladders inside the edifice's tower wall to spend some three hours aloft in the cold wind to settle a labor dispute that had stopped the roofing of the bell tower. Mrs. Eddy summarized the incident thus in her "Dedicatory Sermon" for The Mother Church on January 6, 1895: "Woman, true to her instinct, came to the rescue as sunshine from the clouds; so, when man quibbled over an architectural exigency, a woman climbed with feet and hands to the top of the tower, and helped settle the subject." The difficulties all vanished before obedience, as they will.

### *The Sidewalk*

About this time it became necessary to look after the sidewalk outside the church. The weather was bitter cold. Concrete would freeze in two or three hours. E. Noyes Whitcomb, who had the contract for finishing the interior of the church, was a noble man, a courteous gentleman, who afterwards became a Scientist and joined the church.

We had talked over the matter of the sidewalk, and I asked him to go to some sail loft and get a sufficient number of old sails to go entirely around the church. He saw the point in a moment and got the sails. We fastened them to the wall of the church above the basement windows and carried them out on an angle to the roadway outside the curb. The church was heated, and we had put cotton cloth in the windows to retain it, and the building was being warmed very comfortably. We took the windows out of the basement and for two or three days let the heat out over the sidewalk. It drew the frost out of the ground, and then we began the walk, which we built without cessation. It proved to be a good structure. The canvas was kept in place until the walk was thoroughly dry and there was no danger of deterioration from frost, when it was removed.



Photo taken at The Mother Church, original, by Jeremy Palmer

*One of the finest windows in the Church is a double window, the Resurrection of Lazarus. Its rare perspective, made more striking by the stone mullions and clasping irons, give it an appearance of being outside the wall, as if one were gazing upon a scene of light and color beyond.*

*Joseph Armstrong*



### *Preparing for the First Service*

At 5:00 in the evening on the day before the first service, the last window had just been installed, but it looked like there was still about 150 days' work left to be done. There were mechanics there representing all the different trades, who were willing helpers; and together with them, we had many Scientists — ladies and gentlemen — who came in to dust, clean, and do anything they could to make ready for the opening of the church. The work went on quietly but rapidly. The clock struck twelve. In looking about the auditorium,

I noticed a great procession of men and women walking towards the vestibule. Every person in that room finished his work at the same moment. There were cleaners, masons, carpenters, brick layers, electricians, and so on, all manner of work going on, and all finished at the same moment; for the work was done and the room was ready for occupancy.

Mrs. Eddy said, "Have the room ready in December." As the clock tolled the hour of midnight on Saturday, December 29, everything was done. We could all go home to return to a service early in the morning, which we enjoyed exceedingly. Mrs. Eddy's demonstration was complete to the minute.

Many of the ladies who helped clean the church had come from the suburban districts and brought their Sunday clothes with them, intending to stay. It was late to go to a hotel, the weather was unfavorable. On Christmas Day we had bought the building known as 95 Falmouth Street for the Publishing House. We put one bed in there which Mrs. Bates and I used, and we gave our rented rooms to Mr. and Mrs. Kimball, who

came to be present at the opening service. Some of the ladies found friends with whom they could remain, others slept on the floor of the Publishing House.

### *The Dedication Service*

The dedication was held on January 6, 1895. Five services were held, attended by 6,000 students, and the church was formally dedicated to God.

A week later I was invited to travel to Pleasant View, in Concord. Mrs. Eddy asked me many questions about the church and how we proceeded to overcome the difficulties and prepare it for the service. She showed a great deal of interest in every detail. But finally a sad expression came over her countenance and she said, “Six thousand of my students could be there and enjoy the services and dedication of the church. Several members of my household went down, but I was not invited.” This gave me quite a shock, as I supposed the invitation to our teacher had been given either by the Directors or by the First Members.

I determined to send her an invitation to visit the church that she had built. I composed an invitation and took it to a jeweler to discuss with him as to the preferable form. We finally decided we would engrave it on a gold scroll which he designed. A few days later, Mrs. Bates and I went to Concord bearing this invitation in a green velvet box lined in white satin, with a white ribbon attached to a gold key to the Mother’s Room. Mrs. Eddy embraced Mr. and Mrs. Bates, and wept.

Mrs. Eddy came to the church the first week in April of that year and occupied the Mother’s Room. After removing her outer garments, she went into the auditorium and knelt down for several minutes. What she said was only known to herself and God.

The second and last visit Mrs. Eddy made was early in October, 1895. She came to the city in a private car on Saturday and spent the night in her room. In order to utilize her time, at her request, several of her students visited her Saturday night, one after the other, and she gave them splendid instructions as to the course to pursue in their work. Sunday morning, as Mr. Bates escorted her down the aisle, the students all rose as

a mark of courtesy and remained standing until she took her seat in her private chair on the platform.

During this address several healings took place; one in particular of a man who came in with two crutches, listened to her, and went out without them. When he reached the house he was visiting on Tremont Street, his friends asked him where his crutches were. He said he had not seen them since he went into that church and heard that woman talk. The janitor looked for the crutches but never found them.

Mrs. Eddy never spoke in public without healing taking place. The truth that she expounded would heal the sick and redeem the sinner, and it has gone around the world in its mission.

### **The “Busy Bees”**

Compiled

**A**t the dedicatory service of The Mother Church Mrs. Eddy acknowledged the Busy Bees, children of students of Christian Science, who raised money to decorate Mother’s Room. Mrs. Eddy requested in a letter to, “have children ‘Busy Bees’ seated in the front pews. They will wear badges simply ‘Mother’s Room.’ I have named them in my Sermon.” Below is the excerpt from Mrs. Eddy’s Dedicatory Address.

“Sweet society, precious children, your loving hearts and deft fingers distilled the nectar and painted the finest flowers in the fabric of this history, — even its centre-piece, — Mother’s Room in The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston. ... Ah, children, you are the bulwarks of freedom, the cement of society, the hope of our race!” (Pul. p. 8)

Mrs. Eddy later wrote, “The Children Contributors My Beloved Children: — Tenderly thanking you for your sweet industry and love on behalf of the room of the Pastor Emeritus in The First Church of Christ, Scientist, Boston, I say: The purpose of God to youward indicates another field of work which I present to your thought, work by which you can do much good and which is adapted to your present unfolding capacity. I request that from this date you disband as a society, drop the insignia of ‘Busy Bees,’ work in your own several localities, and no longer contribute

to The Mother Church flower fund. As you grow older, advance in the knowledge of self-support, and see the need of self-culture, it is to be expected you will feel more than at present that charity begins at home, and that you will want money for your own uses. Contemplating these important wants, I see that you should begin now to earn for a purpose even higher, the money that you expend for flowers. You will want it for academics, for your own school education, or, if need be, to help your parents, brothers, or sisters. Further to encourage your early, generous incentive for action, and to reward your hitherto un-

selfish toil, I have deeded in trust to The Mother Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, the sum of four thousand dollars to be invested in safe municipal bonds for my dear children contributors to the room of the Pastor Emeritus. This sum is to remain on interest till it is disbursed in equal shares to each contributor. This disbursement will take place when the contributors shall have arrived at legal age, and each contributor will receive his dividend with interest thereon up to date, provided he has complied with my request as above named." (My. p. 216-217)



Drawing by Luanne Tucker

## Mother's Room

Joseph Armstrong

Loving touches still continue to be added to this room, and ever will be, as long as hearts turn in gratitude to the one who gives her life for them and the world.

The most recent addition is a gift from Mrs. Eddy herself to the Church, — a large oil-painting, measuring six feet by five, of the little rocking-chair, covered with black hair-cloth, in which she sat while writing *Science and Health*. It would seem impossible for such a room as this to afford space for so large a picture; but the arrangement is so skillful as to increase the beauty of both. The picture rests on the floor, and is lighted by electric lamps, fastened on the upper edge of the frame, and concealed by green draperies. The effect of the painting, so placed, is to enlarge as well as enrich the room; for it is so realistic that, looking at it, one seems to be gazing into another apartment. (Room measures 15 feet by 18.)

On a bookmark, given by two little girls, are printed some lines from Whittier, which express the thought of many who enter this room.

And so I find it well to come,  
For deeper rest, to this still room;  
For here the habit of the soul  
Feels less the outer world's control;  
And from the silence, multiplied  
By these still forms on every side,  
The world that time and sense has known  
Falls off, and leaves us God alone.



Drawing by Luanne Tucker

## The Mother Church

*Christian Science Journal 1895*

**T**he Mother Church edifice — The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, is erected. The close of the year 1894 witnessed the completion of “our Prayer in Stone,” all predictions and prognostications to the contrary notwithstanding.

Of the significance of this achievement we shall not undertake to speak in this article. It can be better felt than expressed. All who are awake thereto have some measure of understanding of what it means. But only the future will tell the story of its mighty meaning or unfold it to the comprehension of mankind. It is enough for us now to know that all obstacles to its completion

have been met and overcome, and that our temple is completed as God intended it should be.

This achievement is the result of long years of untiring, unselfish, and zealous effort on the part of our beloved Teacher and Leader, the Reverend Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, who nearly thirty years ago began to lay the foundation of this temple, and whose devotion and consecration to God and humanity during the intervening years, have made its erection possible.

Those who now in part understand her mission, turn their hearts in gratitude to her for her great work, and those who do not understand it, will in the fullness of time, see and acknowledge it.

# From Mrs. Eddy

## Laus Deo!

Mary Baker Eddy

*Written on laying the corner-stone  
of The Mother Church*

*Laus Deo*, it is done!

Rolled away from loving heart

Is a stone.

Lifted higher, we depart,

Having one.

*Laus Deo*, — on this rock

(Heaven chiseled squarely good)

Stands His church, —

God is Love, and understood

By His flock.

*Laus Deo*, night star-lit

Slumbers not in God's embrace;

Be awake;

Like this stone, be in thy place:

Stand, not sit.

Grave, silent, steadfast stone,

Dirge and song and shoutings low

In thy heart

Dwell serene, — and sorrow? No,

It has none,

*Laus Deo!*

---

## Address, — Laying the Corner-stone

Beloved Students: — On the 21st day of May, A. D. 1894, with quiet, imposing ceremony, is laid the cornerstone of "The First Church of Christ, Scientist," in Boston.

It gives me great pleasure to say that you, principally the Normal class graduates of my College, well known physicians, teachers, editors, and pastors of churches, by contributions of one thousand dollars each, husband and wife reckoned as one, have, within about three months, donated the munificent sum of forty-two thousand dollars toward building The Mother Church. A quiet call from me for this extra contribution, in aid of our Church Building Fund, found you all "with one accord in one place." Each donation came promptly; sometimes at much self-sacrifice, but always accompanied with a touching letter breathing the donor's privileged joy.

The granite for this church was taken from the quarries in New Hampshire, my native State. The money for building "Mother's Room," situated in the second story of the tower on the northeast corner of this building, and the name thereof, came from the dear children of Christian Scientists; a little band called Busy Bees, organized by Miss Maurine R. Campbell.

On this memorable day there are laid away a copy of this address, the subscription list on which appear your several names in your own handwriting, your textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," and other works written by the same author, your teacher, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science; without pomp or pride, laid away as a sacred secret in the heart of a rock, there to typify the prophecy, "And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; . . . as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land:" henceforth to whisper our Master's promise, "Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

To-day, be this hope in each of our hearts, — precious in God's sight as shall be the assembling of His people in this temple, sweet as the rest that remaineth for the righteous, and fresh as a summer morn, — that, from earth's pillows of stone, our visible lives are rising to God. As in the history of a seed, so may our earthly sowing bear fruit that exudes the inspiration of the wine poured into the cup of Christ.

To-day I pray that divine Love, the life-giving Principle of Christianity, shall speedily wake the long night of materialism, and the universal dawn shall break upon the spire of this temple. The Church, more than any other institution, at present is the cement of society, and it should be the bulwark of civil and religious liberty.

But the time cometh when the religious element, or Church of Christ, shall exist alone in the affections, and need no organization to express it. Till then, this form of godliness seems as requisite to manifest its spirit, as individuality to express Soul and substance.

Does a single bosom burn for fame and power? Then when that person shall possess these, let him ask himself, and answer to his name in this corner-stone of our temple: Am I greater for them? And if he thinks that he is, then is he less than man to whom God gave "dominion over all the earth," less than the meek who "inherit the earth." Even vanity forbids man to be vain; and pride is a hooded hawk which flies in darkness. Over a wounded sense of its own error, let not

mortal thought resuscitate too soon.

In our rock-bound friendship, delicate as dear, our names may melt into one, and common dust, and their modest sign be nothingness. Be this as it may, the visible unity of spirit remains, to quicken even dust into sweet memorial such as Isaiah prophesied: "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them."

When the hearts of Christian Scientists are woven together as are their names in the web of history, earth will float majestically heaven's heraldry, and echo the song of angels: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

To The Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, and to the dear children that my heart folds within it, let me say, 'Tis sweet to remember thee, and God's Zion, with healing on her wings. May her walls be vocal with salvation; and her gates with praise!



Image by Carl Miller

# Interesting Squibs

Finish each day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely and with too high a spirit to be encumbered with your old nonsense.

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.

*Will Rogers*

"Bitter is not expelled by bitter, that is to say, devil by devil; but sweet expels bitter, that is to say, the finger of God casts out demons." — Martin Luther

Luther had grasped an elementary proposition of Christian Science.

*Christian Science Journal 1893*

Shall we never learn that the Hand that guides us is able to uphold us so that we can "run and not be weary, and walk and not faint"?

*Annie J. Close*

There is but one failure, and that is not to be true to the best one knows! Circumstances are not in our power; virtues are. It is not in our power to avert the bitter failure which earth may inflict; it is in our power to win the high success God bestows.

*Christian Science Journal 1885*

To be wronged is nothing unless you continue to remember it.

*Author Unknown*

An exchange says that a Chicago waiter was "accidentally shot in the pantry." Why will the papers insist upon using these medical terms? We don't know how to sympathize with the poor fellow. It is to be hoped the pantry is not a vital spot.

*Christian Science Journal 1885*

It is at first an "unpleasant duty" to break our idols, or to see them broken. But they must, every one, go, every one be broken, crushed, ground to powder. It is difficult to say which is the harder, — to part with the material, fleshly idols, or with the mental. But in time we come to thank the person or persons, be they friends or enemies, who helped to break them.

*Christian Science Journal 1889*

Doubts are the leaks that sink the ship of Faith.

*Christian Science Journal 1885*

Man is not the victim of desire, but the child of satisfaction.

*Bicknell Young, 1936 Primary Class*

If I am not allowed to laugh in heaven, I don't want to go there.

*Martin Luther*

It was a South-western train-master who issued the following order: "Hereafter, when two trains meet on the same track, one must come to a full stop till the other passes."

*Christian Science Journal 1885*

The question for man is not what he shall scorn, but what he can love.

*Christian Science Journal 1885*

The first fresh hour of every morning should be dedicated to the Lord, whose mercy gladdens it with golden light.

*Charles Spurgeon*



Photo taken at The Mother Church, original, by Jeremy Palmer

## A Watch to Work with Often

January 3, 2019

**"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." — II Chronicles 7: 14**

We have an opportunity, a duty, right now to turn our country — and our world — from the secular path it has been on for years now, back to God and His Christ. We each have a responsibility to humble ourselves before God, and in our own hearts, repent, ask Him to reveal to us — and to heal — our "secret faults." Animal magnetism is

going to fight against this — but when we stand toe-to-toe against its evil suggestions ("Animal magnetism, I acknowledge your claims, but I denounce your power!" *Collectanea*, p. 151), it will dissolve harmlessly into its "native nothingness"! No power on earth can oppose the glorious outcome God has prepared, if we are faithful!!

**"Every one of us has a responsibility which he cannot evade. We can do more than we have dreamed toward preserving the stability of nations and of society generally."**

from *Lectures on Christian Science*,  
by Peter V. Ross, page 204

# From the Early Workers



Photo taken at The Mother Church, original, by Jeremy Palmer

## Building with Spiritual Sense

Gilbert C. Carpenter

*Course in Divinity and General Collectanea*

“God’s purpose was to establish a Church with a new form of means less material whereby to worship Him. Is it not wonderful and glorious to watch the signs of the times!” (Excerpt, letter from Mrs. Eddy, Oct. 11, 1892)

Whatever our Leader gave her students to do that seemed to be beyond their human performance and understanding, was an effort to force them to develop and use spiritual sense.

An example of this was the building of The Mother Church. Mrs. Eddy laid down arbitrary provisions and requirements which made the human mind feel that such requirements could not possibly be fulfilled. The result was that those in

charge worked on the problem from the standpoint of demonstration. To some degree they relinquished the human mind, because they felt it to be inadequate to perform the tasks successfully, according to the demands of their Leader. In this wise way did Mrs. Eddy ensure the building of the church being a spiritual development for those engaged in the work, as well as the result of scientific demonstration of divine Mind, rather than a product of mortal mind, or material sense.

How does man develop spiritual sense? By use. Before he can use it, he must know he has it and begin to lose faith in the adequacy of the false sense. Thus, when a problem is placed before the student, the solution of which defies his trained human mind, the despair he feels over the inadequacy of the human mind to supply the solution helps to drive him to the use of the divine Mind, which of necessity involves the use and development of spiritual sense.

## The Healing Atmosphere of the Christian Science Church Service

Herschel P. Nunn

*Christian Science Journal Feb. 1933*

“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.” “Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders.” (Ps.)

The heart of the Christian Scientist is filled with thanksgiving and praise as he enters the “gates” of his church. He is grateful, not alone for the blessing he will receive during that hour, but also for the fact that the “stranger that is within thy gates” may find a vital, practical sense of religion and worship that will bring him healing and regeneration.

Those who attend the Christian Science church find a sense of peace and quietness, a sense of the presence of God, a place of refuge “under the shadow of the almighty.” When hungering ones, eagerly searching for spiritual food, come to one of these services for the first time, they often experience so definite a sense of healing, that the entire course of their lives is changed. They find that, like Paul, they have walked on a road to Damascus where a vision of the Christ has appeared, correcting the false sense of Christian Science they may have had, and making their thought receptive to Truth. They have lifted their heads somewhat above the miasma of mortal belief and breathed the atmosphere of divine Mind.

Mary Baker Eddy tells us, “Pure Mind gives out an atmosphere that heals and saves.” (Mis. 260) This healing atmosphere of the Christian Science church is largely the responsibility of church members. It is the Christian Scientist’s joyous privilege to pray for the congregation as a whole, “collectively and exclusively.” (Man.) The seeming spell of materiality needs to be broken. In the sanctuary of spiritual consciousness, their oneness with infinite Mind, and the omnipresence of God, are realized. The atmosphere which heals and saves displaces the atmosphere of material sense, and healings occur.

Everyone present may entertain a consciousness receptive, alert, eager, hungry for the bread of life. Those present will receive good in abundance. They may touch the hem of the Christly garment and be healed.

How important it is that this work should be done is indicated by our Leader in the Manual (Art. III, Sect. 1). In speaking of the moral obligations of Readers in our churches to prepare themselves adequately for their task of reading the Sunday Lesson, she says of this Lesson that it is one “on which the prosperity of Christian Science largely depends.” She proceeds further to say of the Readers, “They must keep themselves unspotted from the world, — uncontaminated with evil, — that the mental atmosphere they exhale shall promote health and holiness, even that spiritual *animus* so universally needed.” Does she not state here the ideal for every Christian Scientist?

The responsibility for our Christian Science service does not rest on the Readers alone, but upon each individual church member.

In Paul’s first epistle to Timothy we find this confirming injunction: “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men. . . . For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.”

## A Happy New Year!

*Christian Science Journal 1886*

This is the greeting in thousands of households. Let it come to you, “who are of the household of faith”; — not to you only, but to all men everywhere, for truly it is written in the Scriptures, that God “will have all come to the knowledge of the Truth.”

The best New Year’s gift that can come to any mortal is health; and with health — spiritual as well as physical — the mortal ceases to be mortal, and is gradually expanded into the surrounding Immortality.

It is this gift which Christian Science offers to the world; as Saint Paul says, "The gift of God is Eternal Life." When Science offers this gift, it does so not of itself, but as steward of the heavenly treasure.

All is of God, if He but wave His hand. If you live spiritually, in what mortal mind calls the New Year, you will be happy; and you will learn that with God there are no New Years, or Old, but one ceaseless and ever-present *now*. Let the year be new in this, that you have "newness of Life."

Many happy memories of the past twelve months crowd upon the thought. Let the greeting of the New Year be fraught with Intelligence, as well as Love.

---

## The Ladder

J. G. Holland

*Christian Science Journal 1886*

We rise by the things that are under our feet;  
By that we have mastered, of good and gain;  
By the pride deposed and the passion slain,  
And the vanquished ills that we hourly meet.

Heaven is not reached by a single bound;  
But we build the ladder by which we rise,  
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,  
And we mount its summit round by round.

---

## What I Live For

G. L. B.

*Christian Science Journal 1883*

I live for those who love me,  
For those who love me true;  
For the heaven that smiles above me  
And awaits my presence too:

For the human ties that bind me,  
For the tasks by God assigned me,  
For the bright hopes left behind me,  
And the good that I can do.

I live to hail that season,  
By gifted minds foretold,  
Where men shall live by reason,  
And not alone by gold —

When man to man united,  
And every wrong thing righted,  
The whole world shall be lighted,  
As Eden was of old.

I live to hold communion  
With all that is divine;  
To feel there is a union  
'Twixt Christian hearts and mine;

To profit by affliction,  
Reap truth apart from fiction,  
Grow wiser from conviction,  
And fulfill each grand design.

I live for those who love me,  
For those who know me true;  
For the heaven that smiles above me,  
And awaits my being too;

For the wrong that needs resistance,  
For the *cause* that *lacks assistance*,  
For the future in the distance,  
And the good that I can do.

# Current Articles

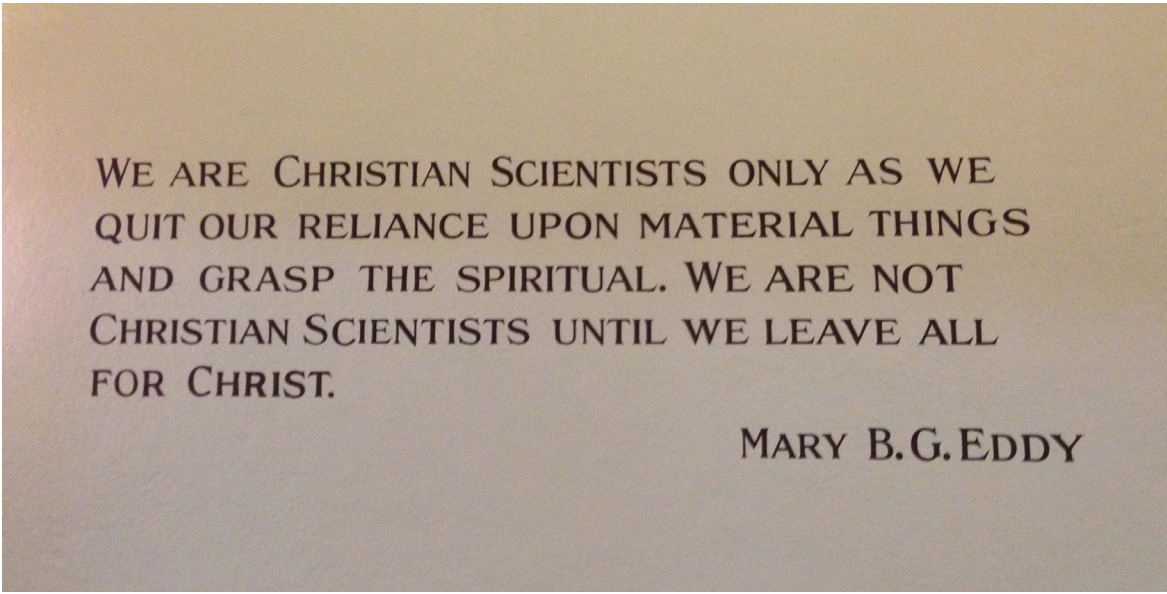


Photo taken at The Mother Church, original, by Jeremy Palmer

## From Our Library

Lynda Spencer

Recently I had the opportunity to read *The Mother Church*, by Joseph Armstrong.

This was a hidden gem regarding the history of the building of The Original Mother Church in 1894. Throughout its pages are deep lessons in the challenges, events, letters, and experiences they encountered. From beginning to end it makes clear that Mrs. Eddy established this Church on a spiritual foundation. Every step of the way she insisted that the students were not to rely on human effort and human thinking, but only on God's direction and to seek to please Him in everything, no matter how mundane or how tempting to use the human will.

The greatest treasure we have is the edition printed in 1910. In Precepts 2 Carpenter refers to this edition when he writes "So she (Mary Baker Eddy) makes it very clear that she treated the church as one would a patient; that she had to take it up every day and work for it; and that it was her demonstration that brought out the results. If this had not been her thought, when she revised and approved of Joseph Armstrong's book, *The*

*Mother Church*, she would never have permitted the following statements to remain: 'Every step up to this time had been made through demonstration of divine Science, the work of our beloved Leader. Not a point could be carried without her aid for she alone could show the way — God's way — and make it possible to do what mortal sense declared impossible.' When in the fall of 1937 these sentences were omitted from page 77, when a new revision was published, students had a right to protest and insist that the Board of Directors have them reinstated in the book. Thus we find a notice in the Christian Science Sentinel of October 9, 1937 that all copies be returned in order to have this done."

The most striking difference of the varied editions is the unique set of pictures each one includes. For example, the 1908 edition includes photos taken during construction, and the 1937 edition includes colored photos of the stained-glass windows. (The book was copyrighted in 1897, 1908, 1911, 1937 and 1967.) This book gave me a deeper appreciation for what Mrs. Eddy was demonstrating for us all, showing us the necessity to please God in all activity for that which will endure.

## **With God, All Things Are Possible** Luanne Tucker

**T**he Bible says, “With God, all things are possible.” We can all prove that this is true.

Last week, when I was in my Pottery Shop with some customers, one of them asked me who built the building for me. I told her I built it, along with all the plumbing and wiring. She then asked, “How do you know how to do everything? Is there anything you can’t do?”

In the past, when asked about my abilities, and for fear of being scoffed at any time I talk about God, I would reply, “I just do.” But I have learned through the teachings in this church and the lessons I have learned from my practitioner, that with God all things are possible.

I hesitated for a moment but felt strongly compelled to express that it is God who provides the wisdom and the strength and the ability to accomplish any task. “It was God who built this shop for you and me and anyone else who needs a safe place to just ‘be.’” At that moment I felt so completely wrapped in love, and I know they did too. The woman then said, “Yes, it IS God, that is so wonderful, I just love being here.”

I am so grateful for everything I am learning through the study and practice of Christian Science. A recent Sunday Roundtable discussion on moral courage helped me to understand the importance of exalting God. What an incredible life I get to live, in the service of God.

---

## **The Future and the Past** Laurie Abbas Campbell

How often we can get all wrapped up with worry about the future — and that worry can really wrap us up mentally if we’re not on guard!

After finding Plainfield Church a few months ago, a job I had held for twenty years ended. The fear of joblessness and of the future began to engulf me, and I knew I had to turn completely to God.

I asked for help from a Plainfield practitioner,

and I started spending hours each day in prayer. My practitioner recommended I read Hymn 391 from the Christian Science Hymnal. The first verse was especially helpful to me:

Why search the future and the past?

Why do you look with tearful eyes

And seek far off for paradise?

Before your feet Life’s pearl is cast.

I took a little piece of paper with this hymn on it everywhere I went for several days, and worked with it often. I came to realize there is nothing to fear, since God’s love is here, always has been and always will be, so what is there to fear? Nothing!

Several days later I went to a hiring event for holiday deliverers. I was hired on the spot, and at a decent wage. Other problems which could have been very costly with my house turned out to be nothing. A repairman waived a charge for fixing the furnace on a cold day, and I found a perfect housemate to share the expenses. All proofs of God’s care.

I no longer fear or have a sense of how I want the future to work out. I give it all to God, only wanting to do His bidding. I am so grateful to be learning here that God has a perfect place and plan for me, and for every one of His children.

---

## **Changing Your Course** Jeremy Palmer

**I**n *Science and Health*, Mary Baker Eddy writes on page 253, “If you believe in and practise wrong knowingly, you can at once change your course and do right.” Learning this since coming here to Plainfield Church has made an enormous difference in my life.

There were many years that I was very anti-social. I worked solitary jobs that had minimal contact with people, and did my best for a long time to keep most everyone away from me. Generally, if I had to interact with people, I was not nice at all. My basic thought was, “If I treat my family well and work hard, nothing else should matter.”

When I came here in 2013, it was after a pro-

longed downward spiral. It became clear that on all fronts I had failed, and everything about what I thought, and believed, and did, was the cause. That was the biggest reason I wanted to commit suicide: I believed everything about me as a person was toxic.

But then God brought me to Plainfield, and I started to learn that the garbage I had thought was my identity was just a lie that I could stop giving power to. As Mrs. Eddy said, I could change my course and do right.

So here I am, learning to live Christian Science. The best example I can give of the transformation I have gone through — other than the joy and purpose I have in my life now — is a day I had a few weeks ago. I went on a long car ride, and at two different stops I had four people come up to me and ask me various questions. There were a lot of other people around, yet they came to the big guy with a beard, the man who many used to call, “unapproachable.” And, I was happy to help them.

I am really happy to be here and learning the new, better way! I thank God, Christian Science, this church, and my practitioner for showing me the way to love my neighbor, and also to love myself.

---

## Divine Presence

Benjamin Ndukwe

Recently I had an experience that I thought worth sharing. At my job I work with adults with autism, and in some cases their families as well. Recently I had scheduled an appointment to take one of my clients and his parents to a nearby Motor Vehicle agency. My client sometimes expresses himself in a manner that could attract a lot of attention, and realizing that the Motor Vehicle agencies in New Jersey can often be quite disorderly, I had prayed all day, and the day before, knowing that there is no place or space where God is not and by knowing very well that Divine Love alone governs the entire universe, including man. I also declared that no claims of sickness, diseases, diagnosis, or judgment, can enter God's realm of peace and harmony.

Upon our arrival at the agency, I saw several

people leaving. At first I thought the agency was closing; but when I inquired, I was told their computerized payment system was not working, and they were not able to accept payment of any kind. They said it had been down for quite a while and they were advising people to take their chances and wait, or come back another time. I thought, “No!” — I had worked all day for this and I will not leave. The thought immediately came to me that there is no system failure in divine Mind, and that every system obeys the divine Mind that governs it.

The story of Christ Jesus, described in the Bible, when he calmed the raging storm has always been helpful to me when I'm in a situation like this. I told my client and his parents not to worry, that we would get it done today. I continued to entertain these good thoughts, trying to eliminate every doubt that tried to creep in. We completed the forms and were asked by one of the agents if we wanted to wait; I said yes. The agent was very kind to us. She asked us to sit in a more quiet area with less noise and movement. And in a very short while, the computer system came back. Based on where we were seated, we were second in line! The process didn't take long either, and we were on our way home.

The whole experience was remarkable and peaceful; my best experience at the DMV so far. I have never seen my client so calm and happy. His parents were amazed and grateful for how everything had worked out. They thought it was because of my presence. I told them it was not me but divine Presence. This is another example that “divine Love alone governs man” (Mary Baker Eddy), especially when we hold our thought fixed on the goodness of God rather than environmental claims. I'm so grateful for the Plainfield Church and what I am learning here. I am also grateful for Mary Baker Eddy for this Science, which can be applied to any circumstance, including the little things that matter to us.

---

## God's Care

Shahidat Abbas

I am so grateful for all that I have learned and continue to learn about Christian Science here at the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Inde-

pendent. I found Plainfield after a major health scare; and, even though I grew up in Science, graduated from a branch church Sunday school, and was involved in the Christian Science org throughout my university studies, I never really learned to practice Christian Science. If it was taught, somehow I completely missed it, and I am so grateful to have been led to Plainfield where I'm learning how Science is meant to be practiced. Had I not found Plainfield, I have no doubt that I would have left Science altogether.

Late last year when I dropped comprehensive coverage for my 12-year-old vehicle, the insurance agent suggested that I at least get roadside assistance service to supplement my coverage. At the time, I nonchalantly brushed it off, as I really don't drive the car that much. Earlier this year a friend had an issue with their car, and I felt a strong urge to follow through and actually get the roadside assistance service for my vehicle, so I obeyed it.

Last weekend I was driving home on a major highway when my brakes seemed to fail. Each time I pumped the brakes, the car seemed to accelerate instead of slowing down. I managed to exit the parkway but was unable to bring the car to a complete stop along the side of the road. I continued until I saw an empty field, and the car slowed enough in the tall grass until I was able to pull the emergency brake and bring it to a complete stop. For a second I wondered who I could call to come pick me up from the middle of nowhere the Friday before Christmas. Then I remembered the roadside emergency service, so I called the service and they rushed a technician with a tow truck out to me. The tech commented on how calm I seemed, as a lady all alone in a dark rural area with an inoperable car. I just smiled. What the tech did not know, and I did not mention, was that I had been working with the first commandment and knowing that God is ALL so there was no need for panic, as I knew that my Creator had my back. My car was towed to a repair shop only a few miles from my home, and I was able to pick it up today all fixed and working like new.

I am very thankful for God's protection, and for all the lessons that I've gained by being a member of this wonderful church.

## Liberty of Action

Lynda Spencer

**“T**ruth should emanate from the pulpit, but never be strangled there.” (*Science and Health*, p. 236)

When the inquiry arises regarding how Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, differs from the Boston church, most of the time the underlying question really is “why.” The motive behind the question may vary; but for those who have been in the organization for a long time, it may stem from fear. Is Plainfield “authentic,” or is it going against Mrs. Eddy’s wishes? The issue goes beyond activities to how the Mother Church Manual is being used.

To the question whether the Manual is being followed properly — which Manual? Being independent of Boston, the Plainfield Church is free to follow the 88<sup>th</sup> Manual, which is the final and last one Mrs. Eddy approved and sanctioned. Since 1910 the Mother Church Manual has been used legalistically with the intent to control. Plainfield no longer operates as a “branch church” since it has been excommunicated by Boston, so it is at liberty to follow its own spiritual leading. Careful reading of Mrs. Eddy’s writings makes clear her intention to keep all churches independent of each other.

It is very important to understand one particular change to the Manual that was put into place after Mrs. Eddy’s passing. It can be found in the 89<sup>th</sup> edition on page 120 where it reads, “Present Order of Services in The Mother Church.” In this 89<sup>th</sup> edition you will find the words added: “and Branch Churches.” This was also done on page 127 for the Sunday School service. This addition creates a false perception and makes a sweeping implication that all churches must look like and follow the Boston church. The added words allow for subtle but overreaching control of branch churches by the b.o.d. in Boston. To change the words which Mrs. Eddy was divinely directed to write is taking something holy and corrupting it.

Another outcome of changing Mrs. Eddy’s language has resulted in Boston labeling some literature “unauthorized,” thereby preventing members from learning the true history of the Cause, which should be free from ecclesiastical

control. Let the 88<sup>th</sup> Manual, Mrs. Eddy's final edition, speak for itself. "Let the Word have free course and be glorified." (*No and Yes*, p. 45)

## Out of the Wilderness A Kindred Heart

I am so happy to have found you online! I stumbled upon your YouTube videos, which eventually led me to your incredible website that offers so many fantastic and inspirational items to watch, listen to, read, and/or order! I couldn't be more grateful to have finally found/been led to you!

I have been a class-taught Christian Scientist for some time; however, it became very clear to me that the intended democratic control of our church (per the Church Manual) was being imposed upon by the Board of Directors. The "book talks" being given then in book stores had strayed so far from what a Christian Science lecture was supposed to be that it was alarming. So few Christian Scientists in the local church seemed to get it.

My discouragement and disillusionment with the Mother Church over the years has grown, though my love of Christian Science has never waned. Thankfully, one practitioner mentioned to me about The Bookmark and the Red and Blue Books, along with other so-called "unauthorized" literature, — all of which saved me during these many years in the wilderness of knowing something in the movement was amiss. A recent Plainfield Bible Study that clarified the controversial subject about Mrs. Eddy being the "woman clothed with the sun" in Revelation 12:1, was so refreshing, as that has been very confusing to me due to the contradictory input I've received.

Over these last several decades, every time those at "headquarters" would tamper with things — i.e., changing the periodicals, varying the number of sections and citations each week in the Lesson-Sermon, using versions of the Bible other than the King James Version, producing a new hymnal, etc., not to mention the horrendous financial mess they've created, and utter lack of ethics — I would have feelings of unease.

Furthermore, no one has been able to explain to me satisfactorily about the estoppel clauses.

And the Church Manual never made sense to me with all the references to Mrs. Eddy's approval being required. However, when you published and promoted the 1910 Coup article, and I heard your discussion about it online, I was *beyond thrilled* to find kindred hearts! I purchased a copy of the 88th Edition of the Church Manual right away, and after comparing it with the 89th edition, I can now see more clearly what happened when those disobedient few "hijacked" the Christian Science movement upon our dear Leader's passing, causing the devastating damage that we are all now witnessing. I was saddened, though not too surprised, to hear recently about the discouraging visit to The Mother Church that Mary and Florence mentioned.

And now, having attended your church services and classes for several weeks, I couldn't be more grateful to have found a worldwide group of clear thinking, wide-awake Christian Scientists, who are following our beloved Leader, Mary Baker Eddy, and her true and pure teachings!

This letter is simply meant to let you know how very grateful I am to have found Plainfield Church. Happily, my CS study has received a huge "jump-start" as a result of the inspiring history of your church, as well as inspiration gained from your incredibly dedicated band of working Christian Scientists. Your genuine love for Christian Science and Mrs. Eddy rings so true and makes all the difference. And, I love your *Love Is the Liberator* magazine, with its most special cover that you've preserved as Mrs. Eddy would want it!

## Give All to God's Perfect Plan Florence Roberts

In the book, *Course in Divinity and General Collectanea* (the Blue Book) Mrs. Eddy instructs, "Have no will opposed to God. Meekness is not weakness. It is 'not my will but Thine be done,' throwing ourselves into God's power."

This counsel is so important and can be one of the best lessons we can put into practice. It has taught me to see God as All-in-all, and that He has a perfect plan for each one. When we put it on the altar, that plan unfolds. Letting go of our

personal ownership, though, can be very difficult when we are tempted to listen to the negative thoughts that come, trying to make us doubt God and make us fearful. I have learned that this surrendering really doesn't mean giving something away or giving something up; rather, it means that I am giving all to God's perfect plan.

This has been very comforting and assuring to me. One writer comments on this surrendering this way: "There comes a time when you must do that with everything or you lose out." There does come a time when many of us are finding that we must surrender all, our self, our careers, relationships, homes, children, to that perfect plan of God. I know that when we do that, we find peace. Peace because finally we have made God absolutely in control in our lives.

---

## Failure of False Systems

Gary Singleterry

There is a really good article from an old Journal that has a sentence in it that states, "We can truly welcome the failure of all false systems to bring health and harmony to earth, for these very failures can teach but one lesson, and that is, that the only real help comes from God." ("The Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand," by C. W. Chadwick, June 1905 Journal)

I will never forget that statement because before I read it, I would look at all these failures of government programs and many so-called religions that get messed up and ruin people's lives, and I would get really angry. I would see all these programs that weren't doing, that couldn't do, what people were hoping they would do.

When I read this, I thought, "thank you, God, I don't have to get angry anymore at the failure of all these false systems." I can thank God that people are learning that they can't rely upon human systems to meet their needs. They are being pushed to rely on God. These failures will turn everyone to God.

I have since then been very grateful to be able to work for mankind in a positive way, to expect all mankind to turn to God to meet their needs.

I am so grateful to have found real Christian Science practiced at this church and to be learning more and more the great benefit Mrs. Eddy has given to mankind by discovering this Science and giving it to us so clearly.

---

## The Importance of an Exalted Purpose

Mary Beth Singleterry

"Fidelity finds its reward and its strength in exalted purpose." (*Miscellaneous Writings* p. 341) It is a beautiful thought. When you are really ready to commit yourself to this work, it is nothing to dabble in. It requires a 24/7 dedication. Taking up this work, taking on the mantle and doing this work properly, the results are unlimited because God's power is unlimited. Jesus describes in his parable of the Good Soil, qualities it takes to stay the course.

How do we stay committed and be that good soil that does not turn back when challenges come? The answer is, an "exalted purpose." It is wanting something not just for yourself but for all mankind. In this exalted purpose you find a renewed sense of hope, joy, and an energy to continue on. Those who are here for their own selfish reasons tend to turn back. Individuals who are here to bless the world, how could they turn back? It would be impossible.

In the preface of *Miscellaneous Writings* Mrs. Eddy writes, "To preserve a long course of years still and uniform, amid the uniform darkness of storm and cloud and tempest, requires strength from above, — deep draughts from the fount of divine Love." Dear Mrs. Eddy, here again she is telling us to stay the course. To remain steady requires that we go to that fount of Love. To fill our hearts, minds, and souls with the Love of God so that we can persevere. What an example she has set before us. All the things that could have stopped her, taken her out, many discouragements and other challenges, but she never did stop! She persevered to the end. It is a humbling example for all of us.

# Letters of Gratitude

I am from Canada. I was just calling to say how much I truly appreciate listening to Plainfield services. Sorry, I am a bit emotional [her voice was breaking] but I was so touched by the Roundtable Bible lesson this morning on Zacharias. (December 8, 2018)

I just wanted to say thank you for all that you are doing. I feel like I am truly a student of Christian Science, having started to listen to services at Plainfield Church. Thank you so much. My voice normally does not sound like this, but I am so touched, I had to call.

*Voicemail message from Canada*

I want to express my thanks for the Bible Study sessions which I am enjoying so much. I am grateful for the extra meaning, as well as the Bible commentaries on your website.

*England*

I'm so grateful to the Plainfield Christian Science Church for all the information that is available on the website and YouTube.

I started listening about one month ago. I had been very discouraged. The night before I started listening, I heard a voice which I believe was God who told me to remember, from Isaiah, "Don't fear I am with you." I went to bed reading that verse. The next morning I listened to a recording where you all were talking about the same verse. I knew then that I was listening to the right information.

Thank you so much, and I look forward to learning more about Christian Science.

*California*

I am a solo Christian Scientist in El Salvador, Central America. I am so grateful to have found your web page, and see if I can keep contact with more Christian Science people. Thank you so much for the recorded lessons and other materials. Bless you.

*El Salvador*

Thank you so much for the printed information you have been sending me since I requested mailings of "Love Is the Liberator" several weeks ago.

I wanted to mention how much I appreciate all the audio that you provide freely. It is very educational and inspiring, and I love to listen.

I continue to explore your website and am very glad that I have discovered it. Again, thank you so much.

*South Carolina*

I grew up in Christian Science, and have had class instruction; however I feel I can honestly say I have grown more in this wonderful religion and way of life since I became a member of this church with its wonderful teachings, whether they come through the practitioners, the Bible Study, the Roundtable discussions, the church services or all the powerful articles and books provided on the website — the answer is always there.

*Virginia*

Hello wonderful Christian Science Church of Plainfield. I want to thank you so much for being a beacon of light for Mary Baker Eddy's important work. I am not new to spirituality and miracles, but I am new to *you*, whom I originally found on YouTube, of all places! I've since then discovered your amazing website of resources, so many of them freely shared — and in this day and age, that is nothing short of miraculous, too. But I also wanted to send you some financial support, as I am able. I will point others your way as well.

*Hawaii*

I want to express my gratitude for the recent Unity Watch readings that were focused on working and watching with the Truth for our nation and our mid-term elections. I have referred back to them over and over in my study and prayerful work. I cannot say enough how truly beneficial they have been. We are so blessed to have these valuable Watches and the truths provided to us for effective work. I particularly loved a poem from the Watch for September 27th, it was written by Peter Kidd and entitled "Rise Above the

Mist” — “Perfect God could not be cruel or send us in a downward spin — stick to perfect God and you’ll rise above the mist you’re in.”

I also have found the powerful article written by Julia M. Johnston entitled, “God’s Elect,” which I found on the church website. Very helpful. I would recommend that to everyone — very useful in today’s current affairs.

Thank you, Plainfield Church, for having such a wonderful website that overflows with so much good — the articles and books are so helpful and the Watches — not only benefit the world but help us individually.

*Virginia*

I am so grateful to your church, website, YouTube videos, Bible Studies, Roundtables, testimonies, and the efforts of all the people who make it possible. Thank you.

*Wisconsin*

I am writing to say a big THANK YOU for your YouTube channel and all the videos and people involved in getting the videos online. It is a gift.

I have listened to the articles “Oneness” and “I Am That I Am” dozens of times.

Thank you, thank you, thank you.

*Washington*

I discovered your website because it was printed in Mr. Hartsook’s newsletter, and I have loved listening to your online offerings. They have been very educational — a great help to my progress!

Thank you.

*South Carolina*

I am very grateful for the helpful articles and inspiring writings on “forgiveness” in the July issue of Love is the Liberator magazine. The new magazine is exquisite! I am so grateful to all who put so much love into this magazine for all of us to study.

*Massachusetts*

The love that is expressed by the members of the Plainfield Church abounds! It is palpably felt when we attend church over the internet. How

can we thank you enough! Where else would we go if the Plainfield Church were not there?

Enclosed is our contribution to help fund this wonderful outreach that circles the globe.

*Vermont*

Yesterday, I was visiting a friend and she said she wanted to tell me a story that she had not shared with anyone else. I listened to the story, something that had filled her with fear for many months. Throughout the story, my friend talked about a person who she felt had wronged her. We talked about the power of forgiveness, but she said she wasn’t sure she could forgive this person. We talked about how we are told in the Bible that we must forgive. I suggested that she ponder forgiveness while she attends her church services. She said she would.

So, when I arrived home, I said to myself, “Who do I need to forgive?” I knew the message God had sent earlier in the evening was also meant for me! And that week Watching Point 34, dealing with the subject of forgiveness, was to be studied. Always divine Mind sending the needed angel message for progress and healing.

Continuing gratitude for all the tools provided by our church and for the support and love of our members. I’m so grateful to be able to share this Truth!

*Illinois*

Thank you all for the beautiful service. The music and hymns were wonderful. “I Need Thee Every Hour” is a childhood favorite, and I found myself getting teary-eyed joining in the singing. All of the testimonies are appreciated.

Thank you, Florence, for the comforting readings. The story of Jesus and his fearful disciples in their boat is a powerful testimony. When confronted with the force of the stormy trials in my life that threaten to sink my boat, I’m so thankful to know that Christ is right with me in the boat.

Rembrandt’s famous painting, The Storm on the Sea of Galilee, captures the whipping winds violently tossing the boat as the waves roar. Yet Jesus is asleep. He wasn’t in the boat, but safe in His Father’s arms where his consciousness always abides. In the painting, Jesus looks to the open-

ing of light in the heavens breaking through the darkness. Everyone else is looking at the fierce storm. The light from heaven glows in Jesus. The twelve disciples each react to the storm in the best way they can, but there is a thirteenth person represented. Rembrandt has painted himself clinging to the boat's mast, his red hair blowing in the wind, as he holds on for dear life. The artist had many personal storms in his life.

Years ago when I woke up one morning, unable to see, I recalled this powerful Bible teaching. I sat up in bed and quickly reminded myself Christ was right with me in the boat. I was not alone, to keep having faith. Before long, the way opened up and my vision was restored.

I'm so thankful to have gained much more inner strength from the teachings in the Bible and from the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent.

*Florida*

At this Thanksgiving season, one thing I am most grateful for is the presence of this wonderful demonstration of Church, its website which records the inspired services, and instructional Roundtables and Bible Studies, as well as makes available a treasure trove of articles presenting clearly the teachings of Christian Science as revealed to our beloved Leader, Mary Baker Eddy.

I'm grateful for the recommendation to read daily and consecutively at least some from the Bible, from the textbook, and from Prose Works. This practice has been a blessing. Often the ideas from this daily reading have been the ones needed later in the day to pray with or to share the inspiration and insights with others.

*Maryland*

I would like to express my gratitude for what I'm learning, and for the information provided by the Plainfield Church. I'm learning to overcome error with Truth in my daily walk and conversation, I'm able to tell when a strong suggestion is trying to drag me down. It's not always easy, but I'm grateful to be able to tell what's going on and not be dragged into it.

I listened to the recording on malpractice and learned so much. I listened to testimonies from

Mrs. Singleterry and learned about Colossians 1:9-14. This is a wonderful prayer that is changing me and my loved ones. Thank you so much.

*California*

To Luanne and all, I'm grateful today for the Bible discussion. It is clarifying, reaching out to me saying, "Come. Mortal mind isn't real, but real Life is attracting." Here is God's law, the Science of the universe, worked and fought for by Mrs. Eddy to present in a form we could embrace, and now by this church body. It encourages me to persist, insist, and claim and cling vigorously to the true God idea.

Thank you for naming, calling out, and laughing at old theology beliefs, particularly of condemnation. It falsely claimed to operate in the family and creep into my spiritual attitude and prayer. This is a healing step in claiming true Being. The Bible Study is life-giving and life-saving!

*Virginia*

Dear ones, what a stream has appeared in my desert in the form of your church. I'm not near enough to a Christian Science church to attend one. I've been a member of the Mother Church for about 14 years and did attend a local church when I lived elsewhere. I long for the fellowship, but so far, this church of yours is filling that need until the day I can again sit in a building beside my brothers and sisters. I wonder if there are any inexpensive apartments close to your church. It's sort of silly to think of moving there when I've just met you, but I'm retired and, who knows, eventually! Please send me a membership application.

*Ohio*

# Testimonies of Healing

## Glasses No Longer Needed

*from J. D. in Arizona*

I am most grateful for Christian Science and for all it has accomplished in my life.

I have worn glasses for most of my adult life, until just recently.

Nearly a year ago while reading my Lesson one morning I noticed the type was not clear, so I removed my glasses to check the lenses to see if they were soiled. Suddenly, I realized the printed page was clear without my glasses. That day was the very last time that I used glasses.

The only use for my glasses now is to remind me to say, thank you, Shepherd. I am most grateful.

## Panic Attacks Healed

*from L. S. in Pennsylvania*

I am grateful for a healing of chronic panic attacks, of years' standing, since participating at Plainfield Independent Church. Gradually they lessened in severity and occurrence as I received consistent practitioner support here, kept up with the weekly classes, and practiced obedience to God. I saturated my thought with the materials found on our website, learning to assimilate this truth and step-by-step put it into daily practice. I started memorizing the 91<sup>st</sup> Psalm, as instructed by my practitioner, and worked to cast out fear, hate, pride, and gaining moral courage. As I did all this, I found fear was no longer driving my life.

These attacks were directly correlated to not having a correct understanding of Christian Science, lacking a relationship with a loving God, and living in disobedience to His precepts. I am deeply grateful for this freedom and the tools to face each day. I am also grateful for the support of a Christian Science practitioner who knew the history of Christian Science and Mary Baker Eddy, opening her writings to me.

## Migraine Headaches Healed

*from A. M. in Missouri*

Since childhood, I have experienced migraine headaches. I have spent a lot of time over the years in fear of these headaches, because it seemed I had no control over them and was frequently concerned one would develop when I had something important to do. Well-meaning family and friends made many suggestions for treatments they had heard about, and before coming to this church, I had tried different prescription medications, but despite these medications and a try at "alternative treatment," nothing really helped, and sometimes they made things worse. Thus, I just adapted to having them.

I had been dealing with these headaches for so long, that while it seems obvious now, it took a practitioner in this church to wake me up to the fact that these headaches should not be continuing. They had no law, no truth, — absolutely nothing behind them to support their existence, and I needed to stop accepting them as part of my life. I'm grateful to say that these headaches have lessened, both in frequency and severity, in proportion as my fear of them has lessened, due to working with the truths that my practitioner has given to me.

Recently, I had the passing thought that it had been such a long time since I had a headache, and another family member had made a similar comment as well. Interestingly enough, very shortly thereafter, I was awakened in the middle of the night with symptoms of a very painful migraine headache. I felt that I needed help and reached out to my practitioner. As she always does, she responded she was up and praying for me; and more importantly, she reminded me that there was no law of relapse. She clearly affirmed that the progress I had made could not be undone, there could be no return of old beliefs, prior fear — essentially, no return of this nonsense! I could actually feel a strong sense of peace, and the thought came that I should rest in the truth of what this dear practitioner had stated, and that when I got up, I would be able to do all I needed to do. I did rest, and, as was promised, these symp-

toms began to lift. By the time I had to get up, all symptoms had left!

I have tremendous gratitude for this church and our dedicated practitioners, and, of course, to the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, Mary Baker Eddy, for enlightening the world and leaving us with this Science.

## Protection from Accident

*from B. S. in California*

I am grateful to share evidence of God's love and protection, and of the redeeming of my life.

Quite recently, a car ran through a fence and onto my driveway, colliding with my vehicle. Only by minutes did I escape being struck, having just parked my car and entered my home. Thankfully, the other party was not injured, other than being frightened. Her car sustained major damage.

What followed would have overwhelmed me had it not been for my deepening understanding of God through the study of Christian Science. It seemed like a tidal wave of activity crashed upon my property — but I was not moved. I needed to interact with paramedics, police, firemen, insurance agents, neighbors, and photo-taking. However, in the midst of this, I felt calm with a calmness I've not known.

Family and friends expressed fear and anger out of concern. To this I was able to express God's love and protection for all.

Since this incident, I am more open with my love of God. I no longer keep my Bible and Christian Science literature out of view at home or otherwise. I am realizing there is nothing more precious than God. I can no longer keep this treasure hidden like a buried secret.

I envision my unfolding spirituality as ascending a mountain. I like to call it the Mountain of Glory. Each day I am humbled by how God meets me wherever I am on that mountain — whether I've climbed a little higher, or whether I've stumbled backward. He is always there.

Thank you, Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent — and praise and gratitude to God!

## Thought Changed, Pain Healed

*from D. G. in Illinois*

I have been wanting to join our church's Unity Watch for the past week, but was not successful. Finally, I set an alarm to notify me each Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Tonight, I was in excruciating pain and was so wrapped up in it, that it was the only thing I was focused on. I prayed for God's help. I went up to my bed, still in pain. My alarm sounded with the message "Unity Watch." *Thank you, God!* While waiting for the Unity Watch to begin, I changed my prayer to one that focused my thought on God. I pray, if mortal mind ever tries to get me in this type of a hold again, that I will remember this lesson and turn my thought immediately to God, knowing that His Truth is real and error is unreal, and knowing that relief from mortal mind's lie is always at hand.

After the Unity Watch, I had the thought to get up and go do some tasks that needed to be done. I got up completely without pain — I was healed! I turned my computer on, and went to our YouTube channel. The audio that played was the Roundtable from November 25th. The discussion was exactly what I needed to hear. I printed out articles that were mentioned, and treasure all the ideas that were presented. I will continue to work with these Truths and expect my perfection!

Each and every day, I am more grateful for the love of God, Mrs. Eddy, our church, and all mankind, for we are all children of God!!

## God Gives All Supply

*from C. H. in Pennsylvania*

I had an experience with a leaky roof that caused me to really use what I am learning, with the prayerful help of my practitioner. Christian Science is real Life being applied to every human need just as Mrs. Eddy told us.

When I got concerned about the cost of the repair, I thought about what I've been learning about supply, that God gives *all* supply, not just some supply. I had to keep holding to this because

the leak would come and go, and I had tried several times to get someone to repair it. The Bible says that God perfecteth everything that concerneth me. Did I believe this? Yes! Wait patiently on the Lord — okay, do it.

The result of God's constant Love is a leak that was fixed by an Amish roofer who caulked a small area and wasn't going to charge anything,

but my daughter gave him a payment to show our gratitude. I found a scrap of paper some time ago where was written: Steps to Faith: be as a child, purify, and practice what you already possess.

I am so grateful for our Plainfield Church, Independent and all the teaching that is done here, along with practitioner help.

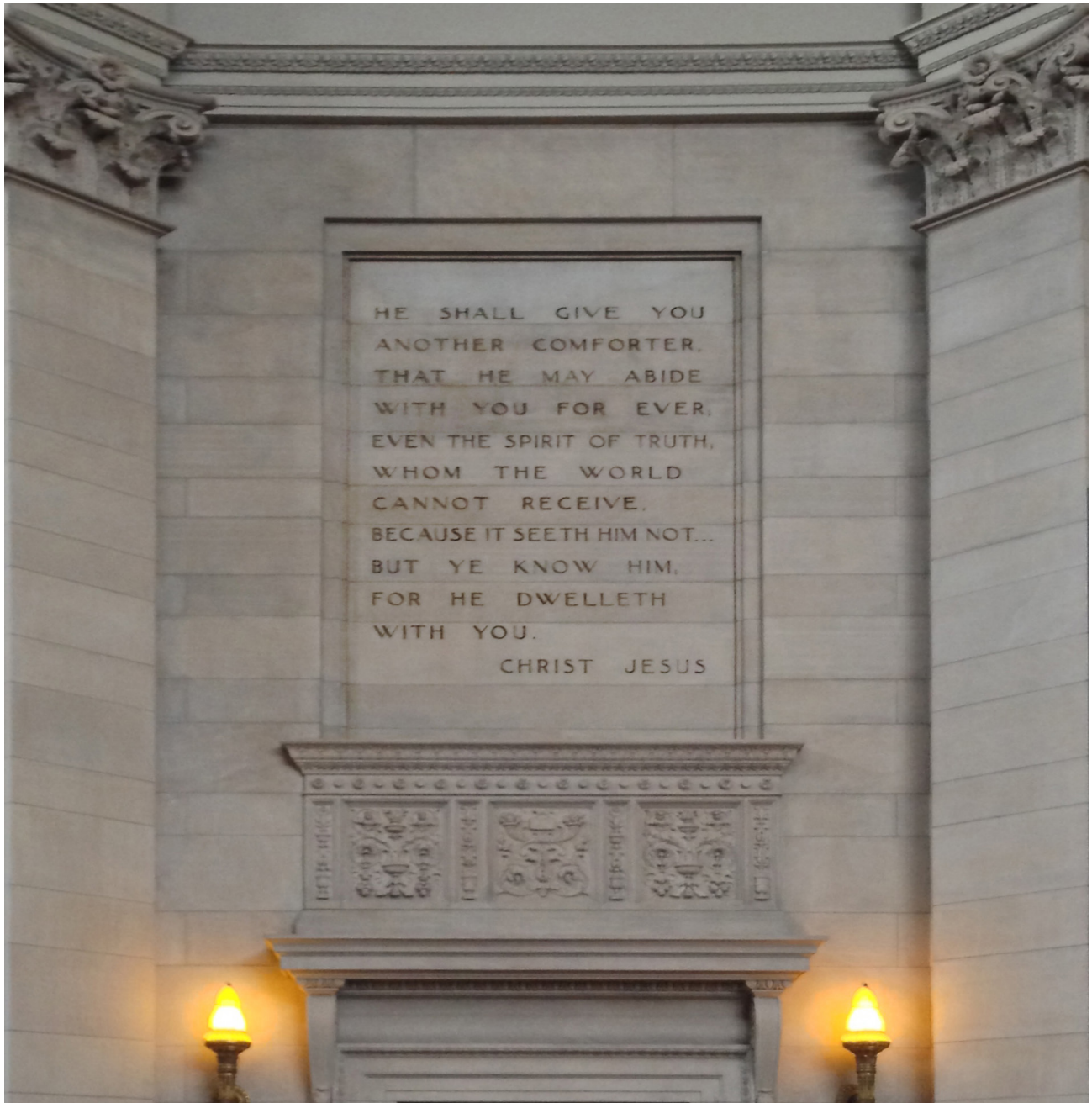


Photo taken at The Mother Church, extension, by Jeremy Palmer



Photo taken at The Mother Church, original, by Jeremy Palmer



Photo of The Mother Church, original, by Jeremy Palmer



Drawing by Luanne Tucker

**INDEPENDENT  
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE  
PRACTITIONERS**

**Mrs. Mary Beth Singleterry CS**

331 Claremont Road  
Bernardsville, New Jersey 07924

**908 561-8843**

**[marybethsingle@aol.com](mailto:marybethsingle@aol.com)**

**Mrs. Florence Roberts CS**

2146 Eastlake Road NE  
Atlanta, GA 30307

**404 510-1332**

**[froberts2004@yahoo.com](mailto:froberts2004@yahoo.com)**



## Plainfield Christian Science Church

Independent

905 Prospect Avenue

P.O. Box 5619

Plainfield, NJ 07061-5619

Telephone 908 756-4669

### **Come Join Us!**

Wednesday Evening Testimony Meeting — 8:15 P.M.

Saturday Bible Study — 10:00 A.M.

Sunday Roundtable Discussion — 10:00 A.M.

Sunday Service and Sunday School — 11:00 A.M.

NURSERY AVAILABLE FOR ALL SERVICES

Visit us at our website:

**[www.plainfieldcs.com](http://www.plainfieldcs.com)**