

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time

30 May 2021

Pastoral Notes

After last week's sermon on marriage, divorce, and remarriage, a parent asked me for advice on speaking about sexuality with their children. I was glad to get the question! In our day, parents can't afford to be silent on subject of sexuality. Moreover, God has entrusted parents with the responsibility to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:4). This includes training them in the Bible's teaching on sexual faithfulness.

But how do we address the subject without looking like a fool? Below are four practical suggestions:

I. Plan the Talk

Settle your nerves by planning what you're going to say. Then, spend time praying over what you planned. Jot down a few notes to keep yourself on track. The more you can prepare your heart and words, the more you'll reduce awkwardness and stress, and the higher the likelihood you will communicate clearly, lovingly, and effectively.

2. Be Natural, Inquisitive, and Intentional

Avoid a "family meeting" communication style. Instead, just be yourself and use your regular family worship time or some planned down time. Begin by asking basic biblical questions about relationships, love, and marriage. As the conversation progresses, steer the dialogue to the matters of sexuality focusing on God's design for men, women, and marriage.

3. Start Young and Keep the Conversation Going

Begin as early as possible. Four, five, and six-year-olds are very observant. They pick up far more than we realize. When kids are young, talk in general ways about gender, love, marriage, and family. As your child progresses through grammar school, discuss the realities of sexuality, homosexuality, and transgenderism with faithful frankness. As they grow, commit to engaging them regularly about sexuality, getting more specific. Welcome their questions! Be God's instrument and trust the Lord to confirm the truth to their hearts as they mature.

4. Be Biblical

Let Scripture do the talking. In case you need help, here's a simple outline you could follow:

- Begin by talking about the creation account in Genesis I-2 and how God created us male and female, and in His
 image. Emphasize that gender, marriage, and the unique roles of men and women were all a part of God's good and
 wise design from the beginning.
- Discuss the fall in Genesis 3 and how everything that God created good—even marriage and sexuality—has been affected by the fall. Use a Bible story like Noah's infidelity or King David's adultery to help illustrate this. As appropriate, name specifically how the world has twisted the definition of marriage and gender. Be clear about how homosexuality is a sin and not in keeping with God's good design. Turn to Genesis 19:I-13, Romans I:26-27 or I Corinthians 6:9 to show the clarity and consistency of God's Word on the subject.
- Then discuss how God is presently at work redeeming and restoring the world, including marriage and sexuality, through the power of the gospel. Show from Ephesians 5:16-33 how God uses the love between a man and a woman in marriage as one of the primary ways He illustrates His love for the church!
- When age appropriate, prepare your children for the inevitable struggles they will face sexually. Let them know that
 sexual sin is something we all face in varying ways and degrees. This is why we must be faithful in confessing our sin
 and repenting of it. As appropriate, let them know you're still learning how to seek God's grace for forgiveness and
 new obedience in the area of sexuality.
- Close with Revelation 21 and the confident hope we have that no matter how twisted marriage and sexuality becomes
 in our time, in the day of Jesus Christ's return we will be free of sexual sin and perfected in holiness as a beautiful
 Bride ready for her Bridegroom, the Lord Jesus Christ.

I hope these simple suggestions strengthen you in knowledge and courage as you strive to raise children who will love, cherish, and follow the truth of God's Word for marriage and sexuality.

Your servant.

Nate

Worship is a response to the love of God that brings us out of darkness into his light. The rhythm and flow of the service reflects this present reality as God calls his people and reveals himself, forgives their sins, teaches them from his Word, the Bible, feeds them, and then sends them out to live what they have learned.

This is the pattern of his love in redeeming and saving his people.

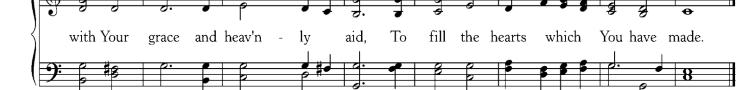
Prelude, Announcements, and Preparation

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE AND REVEALS HIMSELF

God calls His people to worship and come before Him. The Creator of all things reveals Himself through His Word and calls us into His presence.

Introit—Come, O Creator Spirit Blest, Vs I

Come, O Cre - a - tor Spir-it blest, And in our souls take up Your rest; Come,



Text: Rhabanus Maurus, circa 800, Trans by Edward Caswall, 1849; Music: TRURO, Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789.

Call to Worship—Psalm 145:8-13

Pastor: The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

All: The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

Pastor: All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD,

All: and all your saints shall bless you!

Pastor: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power,

All: to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Pastor: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

All: and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

Hymn of Praise—Give Thanks to God the Lord



Old Testament Reading—Psalm 78:I-8

I Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth!

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, 3 things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us.

4 We will not hide them from their children,

but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

5 He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel,

which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children,

6 that the next generation might know them,

the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children,

7 so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;

8 and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE & RECONCILIATION

The People of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.

Sung Preparation—Come, O Redeemer, Come





Come, O Re-deem-er, come, grant us mer-cy. Come, O Re-deem-er, come, grant us peace.

CCLI #11121087 ©1996 Metro One, Inc. Text and Music: Fernando Ortega, 1996.

Corporate Prayer of Confession—based on I John 4:7-21 & 3:17

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Love comes from You, and we know we are to love one another.

All: Sometimes our lack of love brings into question whether we truly know You for You are love.

Pastor: Because of Your love for us, we also ought to love one another for You abide in us and Your love is perfected in us.

All: If we confess that Jesus is the Son of God, You abide in us and we abide in You.

Pastor: You are love and Your love is perfected in us so that we might have confidence on the day of judgment. There is no fear in love; give us a perfect love that casts out fear.

All: Because You first loved us, we should love one another.

Too often we say we love You,

but act in ways that express hatred towards our brothers and sisters.

Pastor: But You command us to love our brothers and sisters even as we love You.

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need,
yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?

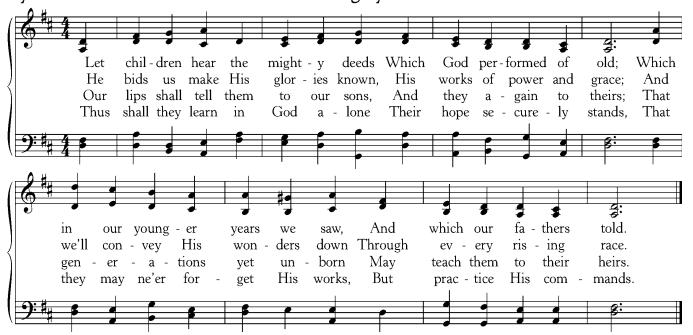
All: Give us the grace to truly love our neighbors—wholeheartedly, sacrificially, and without fear.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—from Psalm 13:1, 5-6

How long, O Lord? Will you forget us forever? How long will you hide your face from us? But we have trusted in your steadfast love; our hearts shall rejoice in your salvation. We will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with us.

Hymn of Praise—Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds



Text: Isaac Watts,1719, Psalm 78:1-7; Music: DUNDEE, Scottish Psalter, 1615.

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—Mark 10:13-16

¹³ And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." ¹⁶ And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

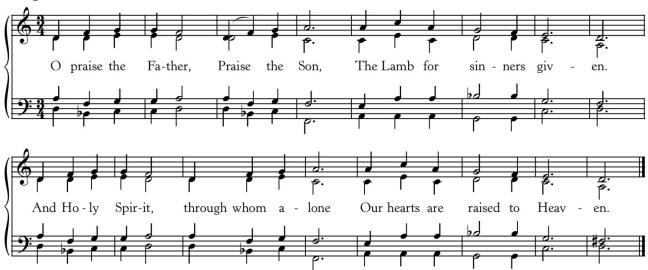
All: But the Word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon—Follow Me: The Gospel of Mark, pt 33

Let the Children Come

—Ben Griffith, Pastor

Sung Response—O Praise the Father



Text: John Mason, 1683; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2011.

Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven

and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,

from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church,

The communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

^{* &}quot;Catholic" refers to the universal church of God's people throughout all time and from all places

Sung Response—Sanctus



CCLI #11121087 Text: Is 6:3, Rev 4:8, Mt 21:9; Music: Franklin Sanctus, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

God offers to His people the gift of communion with Him through the grace of the sacrament and we respond in thanksgiving.

Words of Institution and the Lord's Table

Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is the family meal for Christians. We invite all baptized Christians who are members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, and who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ to join us.

If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. You can find some sample prayers on the next page. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the church.

At Cornerstone, we come forward to receive communion. Proceed to the first table for the bread, and then on the second for wine/juice.

Psalm of the Month for May—Psalm 28: O Lord, to Thee I Cry



©2021 Noah Aikens; Text: The Psalter, 1912; Music: Noah Aikens, 2021.

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper

If you are not able to partake in the Lord's Supper today, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth. Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen

Prayer of Belief. Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen

Prayer of Commitment. Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen

Hymn of Communion—Psalm 79: Remember Not, O God

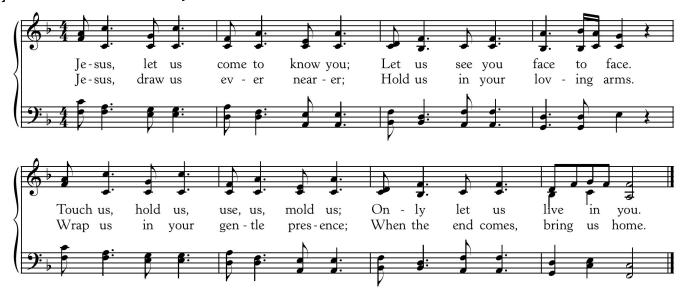






CCLI #11121087 ©2016 Text: Psalm 79:8-13, The Psalter, 1912; Music: Greyfriars Press, 2016.

Hymn of Communion—Jesus Let Us Come to Know You



CCLI #11121087 ©1987 Mole End Music, Text and Music: Michael Card, 1987.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Hymn of Praise—Rejoice, O Pure in Heart



Text: E.H. Plumptre, 1865; Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1883.

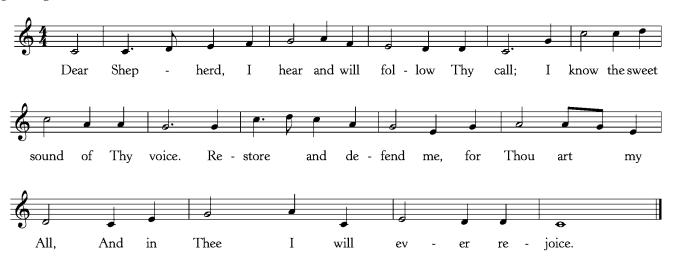
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.

Benediction—I Thessalonians 5:23-24

23 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

Sung Response—O Thou in Whose Presence, Vs II



Text: Joseph Swain, 1791; Music: DAVIS, 1813.

Mission Prayer Focus—Tim Tan is a church planter for the Nashville Presbytery and senior pastor of Crossroads of the Nations. His wife, Phemie, heads up their evening ESL and children's programs.

- I. May the Spirit give us wisdom, in regards to the church opening further or not. Crossroads is made up of people from diverse cultures. Their perspective on the pandemic is different than most.
- 2. Praise God that the year and half of disruption has provided discipling and outreach opportunities.
- 3. As God continues to congregate His people in Crossroads, may the Spirit add to the church, bind the spiritual ties of His people, and raise leaders to lead His church.



Welcome to Cornerstone! We're glad you're visiting with us today and would love the opportunity to welcome you personally. We invite you to fill out our visitor card by following this link.

https://cornerstonepresbyterianchurch.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/40/responses/new

Focus on Church Ministry

Women's Summer Study/ Youth Fundraiser

Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Revelation This summer the women of Cornerstone will be led by Nancy Guthrie in a study of the first eleven chapters of the book of Revelation on Tuesday evenings, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., June 15 – July 20. Personal Bible study questions are now available on the Women's Ministry page of the church website. Invite friends and neighbors! No registration; just show up! **Bring a few dollars to support the Senior High Youth Group—they will be selling drinks in the courtyard to raise money for their trip to the Reformed Youth Ministries Conference.

Youth Group – Mark your calendars!

6/6 – Summer SS starts

6/9 – Wednesday night kick off @ the Allens'

6/19 – Kayak Trip

Questions? Contact Taylor: youth@cstonepres.org

Reformed Youth Ministries Conference Donations

Be on the lookout! We will have special opportunities to support the Youth Group on June 6 and 13 as they make plans to attend the Reformed Youth Ministries Conference in Panama City this July.

Men's Summer Study

Using R.C. Sproul's *Everyone's a Theologian: An Introduction to Systematic Theology*, Randy Allen will lead the men of Cornerstone through an entrance level study of Reformed theology on Friday mornings in June and July, 7-8:30 a.m. on the 3rd floor at Cornerstone. Books are available on The Bookshelf! Register through the website or app.

Cornerstone Talent Bank

We are creating the Cornerstone Talent Bank which will

help the deacons know what areas you may have interest and ability in to serve the body of Christ at Cornerstone. You should have received a link in your email, or you can fill out the form by scanning the QR code. More to



come on this in the June 6 Cornerstone Family Meeting!

Summer Sunday School Opportunities

The Children's Ministry is in need of three teacher assistants to serve this Summer in Sunday School. There is no prep involved in being an assistant – just show up and love kids! Assistants are needed in the $1^{st}/2^{nd}$ grade class, the $3^{rd}/4^{th}$ grade class, and the 5th grade class, June 6-July 18. Don't let a vacation or two prevent you from inquiring about this—even if you won't be in town all seven weeks, you can still serve! Contact Meredith Suits: elementary@cstonepres.org

Cornerstone Family Meeting

During the Sunday School hour on Sunday, June 6th, we will have a mid-year Cornerstone Family Meeting. All adult members and regular attendees are strongly encouraged to attend. Please make plans to join us for this important meeting!

New Chapel Class: Standing on Their Shoulders: Portraits of Faithfulness from Church History

Church history is filled with compelling stories of men and women God used in mighty and surprising ways. Come join us during the Sunday School hour, June 13 – July 18, as we explore some of these stories and see how these voices from our past continue to encourage us today to run the race set before us.

Young Marrieds

Young and newly marrieds, mark your calendars for June 13, 27, and July II! Come after second service for a time of lunch and fellowship, hosted by Randy and Suzann Allen. Lunch will be provided. Babes in arms welcome. Let us know you're coming! Contact Randy Allen (randmanrx@protonmail.com) or Hannah Johnson (johnsonhannahruth@gmail.com). 2940 McLemore Cir.

Giving

There are boxes for tithes and alms at both Chapel entrances, or you can give safely and securely online through the church website and app.

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Men's Ministry: Ron Moffat or men@cstonepres.org

Acting Youth Director: Taylor Thompson (717-371-0848) or youth@cstonepres.org Children's Director: Meredith Suits (865-250-3579) or elementary@cstonepres.org

Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org

Prayer Requests: prayer(a)cstonepres.org

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

