

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time

27 June 2021

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

In Presbyterian government, there are historically three ruling bodies or courts. First, there is the Session, which is the name given for the ruling body of a local church (e.g. the eldership of Cornerstone Pres). Second, there is the presbytery, which is the name given for the ruling body of a particular region. The presbytery is made up of all the teaching elders (pastors) and commissioned ruling elders from each member church in that region (e.g. Nashville Presbytery) Lastly, there is the General Assembly. This is the name given for the ruling body of the entire denomination. It's made up of all commissioned teaching elders and the prescribed number of ruling elders from every church in the denomination.

Once a year in the summer the General Assembly (GA) of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) meets together. Pastors, ruling elders, delegates from fraternal denominations, and guests from around the globe gather to worship, fellowship, and conduct the business of the church. This year's annual meeting is June 28-July 2 in St. Louis, MO. Rev. Tony Giles, Rev. Ben Griffith, and yours truly, along with two of our ruling elders, Mr. Jim Smith and Mr. Jim Payne, will be attending as commissioners this year.

Before I attended my first General Assembly (GA) in 2005 as a seminary student, I wondered, "What happens at GA?" For simplicity's sake, let me identify four main purposes of the GA.

First, GA is where our denominational organizations and agencies such as Mission to the World, Mission to North America, Covenant College, Covenant Theological Seminary, Reformed University Fellowship, etc. meet yearly with pastor and elder representatives to submit budgets, make personnel changes, give reports on ministry health, and address any other pertinent matters of business relating to their organization or agency.

Second, GA is a time for pastors and elders to receive ongoing education and training for the work of ministry. Every year there are dozens of seminars led by ministers and scholars on a vast array of theological, historical, and practical subjects. This year there are seminars on church planting, leadership, worship, doctrine, intergenerational relationships, social reform, and a vast array of counseling related subjects.

Third, GA is also a time for the whole denomination to come together for worship and fellowship. Each day's session of GA is closed with a worship service, and the breakfast, lunch, and dinner slots are reserved for organized and casual opportunities for pastors and elders to spend time together in fellowship.

Fourth, the leading purpose of the GA is to address mission critical denominational matters of business. This includes but is not limited to matters of theological, cultural, ecclesiastical, and administrative importance to the denomination and its churches. There are a number of significant matters of business facing the GA this year. Please take time this week to pray for the commissioners of GA. Specifically, pray that consciences would be held captive to the Word of God and that the business conducted will bring glory to God (Heb. 10:22; 1 Cor. 10:31).

Once the business is complete and the smoke has cleared, I will pull together a summary of highpoints and key actions. In the meantime, if you have interest in learning more about this year's GA, you can visit pcaga.org.

Your servant,

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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.



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

Call to Worship—Psalm 33:I-5, I2, 2I

Pastor: Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.

Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!

All: Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

Pastor: For the word of the LORD is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

All: He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

Pastor: Blessed are those whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

All: For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

Hymn of Praise—All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name



Old Testament Reading—Zechariah 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

If will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

^{II} As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

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



Fa - ther en-throned on high, Ho - ly, Ho - ly: An - cient e - ter - nal light, hear our prayer. Look now up - on our need, Lord be, with us; heal us and make us free, from our sin.



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 Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 81:6-9, 11-14, 16

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. Like the people of Israel,

You relieved our shoulders of our burden. You freed our hands.

All: In distress we called, and You delivered us.

You answered our prayers.

Pastor: You call us to hear You as You admonish us,

but we are slow to listen.

All: There are strange gods among us.

We bow to the idols in our hearts.

Pastor: Would that we would listen to Your voice;

that we would submit to You.

All: You give us over to our stubborn hearts

to follow our own counsels.

Pastor: Oh that we would listen to You and walk in Your ways.

All: Subdue our enemies;

subdue our hearts and thoughts to conform to Your desires.

Pastor: Feed us with the finest wheat and satisfy us with honey from the rock.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Hymn of Praise—The Earth with All That Dwells



Text: The Psalter, 1912, Psalm 24; Music: KINGSFOLD, Old English Folk Song

The Reading of the Word—Mark II:I-II

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴ And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵ And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶ And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷ And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸ And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields.⁹ And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

¹¹ And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

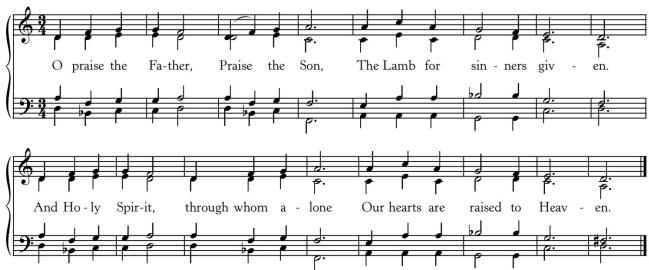
All: But the Word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon—Follow Me: The Gospel of Mark, pt 37

The King on a Colt: The Way to the Cross

—Nate Shurden, 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 June—Psalm 27: O Lord, You are My Light



Hymn of Praise—Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul



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—Lead on, O King Eternal



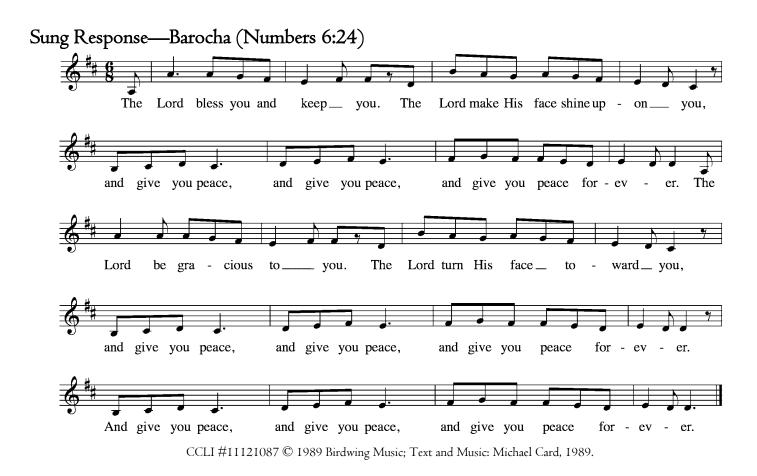
Text: Ernest W. Shurlff, 1888; Music: LANCSHIRE, Henry Smart, 1836. Alt. 2007.

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—Jude I:24-25

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. *Amen*.



Mission Prayer Focus—Joshua Kines is currently serving as the mission pastor at Parish Church, a church plant of the PCA. His roles consist of everything contained in the office of a senior pastor with an emphasis on outreach and evangelism as we seek to establish Parish Church as a particularized church in the PCA.

Prayer points:

- Pray for our particularization service coming up on August 1st.
- Pray for the smooth transition of new leadership as our first group of elders take office.
- Pray for our financial health. Pray that Parish Church is fully self-sustaining by the end of 2021.
- Pray for our continued growth and impact in Lafayette as we enjoy our largest new members class since starting.
- Pray for the transition of several new ministry positions to take shape in the fall and for continued ministry development.

Focus on Church Ministry

Women's Summer Study/Youth Fundraiser Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of

Bible study will continue on Tuesday evenings, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. through July 20. 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.**

Men's Study

Revelation

The Friday morning men's theology study will not meet on July 2. We will resume July 9 and continue meeting Fridays, from 7:00-8:30 a.m throughout July.

Cornerstone Talent Bank

We are creating the Cornerstone Talent Bank, which will help us know what areas you may have interest and ability in to serve the body of Christ at Cornerstone.

Follow the link in the Weekly Connection email, or fill out the form now by scanning the QR code.

Coffee with Calvin

Brothers, join the men of Cornerstone this summer as we study the short Christian classic, The Golden Booklet of the Christian Life, by John Calvin. Our next gathering is Thursday, July 29 at 7:00 a.m. at the Franklin Mercantile. No RSVP needed.

Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Team meets weekly, in person and via Zoom, to lift up the needs of the church. The meeting has moved to Monday evenings throughout June and July. To submit a prayer request or receive an invitation to join the Zoom meeting, contact prayer@cstonepres.org.

Summer 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 as we explore some of these stories and see how these voices from our past continue to encourage us today. June 27: A Method to the Madness: Bright Designs behind the Frowning Providences in the Life of William Cowper

July 4: For God's Glory Alone: The Cosmological Legacy of J.S. Bach

July II: Lessons from Northumbria: Aiden, Cuthbert, and Oswald on the Love and Mission of God

Cornerstone App

You can give, sign up for events, submit prayer requests, listen to past sermons, access the members-only directory, and stay on top of All Things Cornerstone through the church app. Simply search "Cornerstone Pres Franklin" in your app store.

Cornerstone Youth

The Youth Group meets every Wednesday, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Allens' for worship, study, and fun. Dinner is provided. All rising 7th-12th graders are invited! Don't forget a towel if you plan to swim. Questions? youth@cstonepres.org

Young Marrieds Fellowship and Lunch

We will gather for lunch after second service today and again on July II. Join us! R.S.V.P. johnsonhannahruth@gmail.com Today's message, "The King on a Colt: The Way to the Cross" is taken from Mark 11:1-11. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family or Home Fellowship Group.

- As Jesus approaches Jerusalem during Passover, describe the social climate in Jerusalem. What expectations might be lodged away in the hearts of those following Jesus as he prepares to enter Jerusalem?
- We see a deliberate preparation on the part of Jesus as he sends his disciples into Bethphage to secure a donkey (v.2-6). What does the choice of a young donkey teach us about Jesus (see Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:4, 5)?
- What is the significance of waving the palm branches and the singing of "Hosanna" (see Psalm I18:25-26)?
- How does Jesus's entry to Jerusalem prepare the way for our salvation? How is the entry of Jesus a model for us in following Jesus?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Assistant Pastor: Tony Giles (615-430-8801) or tony@cstonepres.org

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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@cstonepres.org

Ruling Elders

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Will Kesler (423-313-7493) John Millard (423-443-8852) Ron Moffat (629-215-5135) *Jim Payne (615-497-0613) Jim Smith (615-347-4188)

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*Mark Elliott (615-477-1041) Matt Faulk (714-801-7596) Dan Fiedler (615-812-4032) Kevin McClung (615-243-9228) Mike Payne (615-579-6453)

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*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

