



CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL
The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time
05 September 2021

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

I got a phone call from an old friend this week, reminding me of the time I helped him navigate a relationship he was trying to develop with a young lady. He had been discouraged by the last couple of encounters. The conversation was surfacy and the friendliness contrived. He really wanted to break through the casual and get to know her heart.

Now, before I go on, some of you are thinking, “Why, pray tell, did this young man come to you for advice on love?” If that’s you, we clearly need to get to know each other better. This may come as a shock, but in a previous life, I was something of a romance repairman. At the time, I had a girlfriend of six months (she became my wife!), so I was the resident expert on all things related to romance. Ignorant, love-struck friends would seek me out for wisdom on the ways of women. I’d offer commonsense strategies—free of charge, mind you—for jumpstarting your love life.

(You’ll find it a relief to know I’ve long since retired from this profession. Back to the story...)

On the phone, my friend started relaying my advice back to me as I braced for impact. According to him, I said something like, *“You’ve got to relax and let her talk. Listen to her words, every one of them. But I don’t want you to get hung up on her words. I want you to hear and respond to her heart. True intimacy happens when we hear and respond to the heart.”* Well, even a broke clock is right twice a day. That wasn’t as bad as I feared. Truthfully, that’s pretty good. It’s advice I could probably heed more often myself 😊

Romance aside, this silly recollection got me thinking about words. Specifically, it got me thinking about *my* words. What do my words say about my heart? What is my speech revealing about the kind of person I am (see Matthew 15:18; Luke 6:45)? As I asked myself those questions this week, I was invited into an opportunity to be honest with the Lord. To speak to the Lord true words about the darker parts of my heart and receive from Him truer words about His love and forgiveness. “For whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart” (1 John 3:20).

Today, you will take the Word of God into your mouth in worship. As you do this, it’s an opportunity to hear God speaking to you. It’s also an opportunity for you to be honest with the Lord, to come clean in His presence. What good will worship be today if all you do is honor the Lord with your lips, but your heart is a million miles away (Matthew 5:7-8)? Let’s disregard hypocritical ways and tell the Lord the truth. Moreover, let’s listen to the Word (John 1:1) tell us the truth about who He is, what He’s called us to do, and how much He loves us.

Your servant,



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—Psalm 100: All Earth with Joy

All earth, with joy, to the LORD come with loud voices ring -
 En - ter His gates with thank - giv - ing, to His courts come prais -
 ing. With glad - ness serve the LORD; come to Him joy - ful - ly
 ing. To Him be thank - ful, and bless His name, your voices
 sing - ing. The LORD is God, Know that He made us His
 rais - ing. The LORD is good; His lov - ing - kind - ness en -
 dures, We are the sheep of His pas - ture.
 His faith - ful - ness lasts for - ev - er.

Text: Psalm 100; Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Stralsund Gesangbuch*, 1665, Arr. in *Praxis Pietatis Melica*, 1668

Call to Worship—from Psalm 33:1, 4-5, 18-22

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

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

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

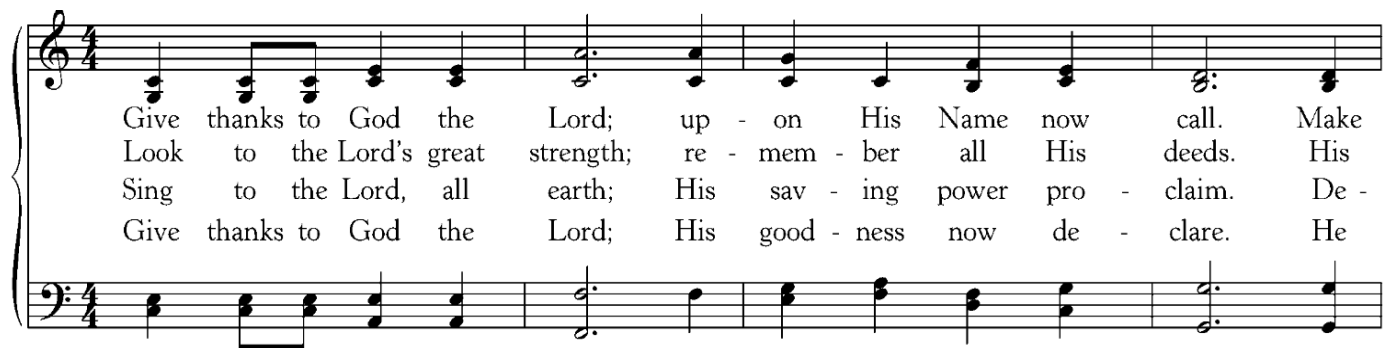
All: Let all the earth fear the LORD;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!

Pastor: Our soul waits for the LORD;
he is our help and our shield.

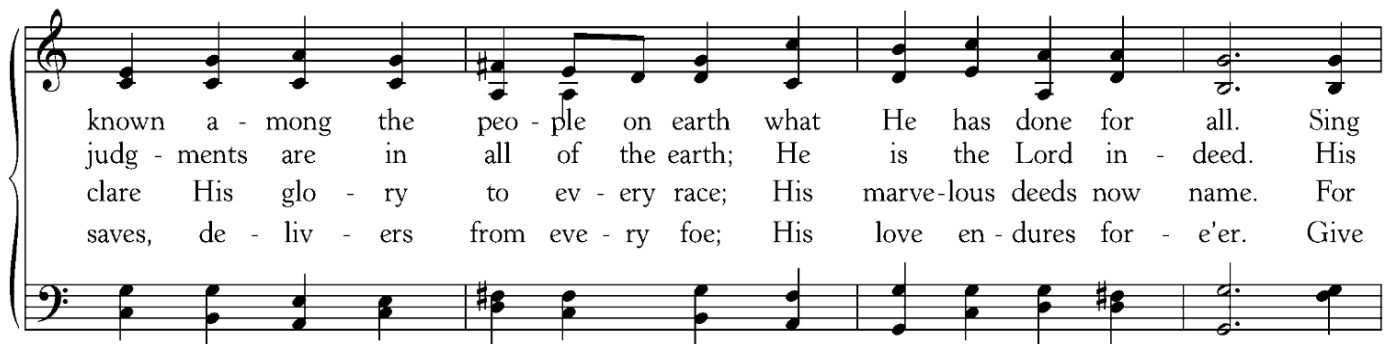
All: For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

Pastor: Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Hymn of Praise—Give Thanks to God the Lord



Give thanks to God the Lord; up - on His Name now call. Make
Look to the Lord's great strength; re - mem - ber all His deeds. His
Sing to the Lord, all earth; His sav - ing power pro - claim. De -
Give thanks to God the Lord; His good - ness now de - clare. He



known a - mong the peo - ple on earth what He has done for all. Sing
judg - ments are in all of the earth; He is the Lord in - deed. His
clare His glo - ry to ev - ery race; His marve - lous deeds now name. For
saves, de - liv - ers from eve - ry foe; His love en - dures for - e'er. Give

praise to Him, now sing; His won - drous acts pro - claim. Re -
 cov' - rant e'er will stand; His oath He'll ne'er for - get. A
 great is God the Lord, most worth - y of all praise. He
 thanks un - to His Name and glo - ry in His praise; Praise

joice, all you who seek the Lord; come glo - ry in His Name.
 thou - sand gen - er - a - tions pass; God's word con - tin - ues yet.
 made the heav - ens and the earth; fear Him and give Him praise.
 to the God of Is - ra - el for ev - er - last - ing days.

Text: Susan H. Peterson, 1999; Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1868.

New Testament Reading—Colossians 1:3-14

³We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, ⁴since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints,⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel,⁶which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, ⁷just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf⁸and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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 Response—Search Me, O God

Search me, O God, and know my heart to - day;
Lord, take my life, and make it whol - ly thine;
try me, O Sav - ior, know my thoughts, I pray.
fill my poor heart with thy great love di - vine.
See if there be some wick - ed way in me;
Take all my will, my pas - sion, self, and pride;
cleanse me from eve - ry sin and set me free.
I now sur - ren - der, Lord. In me a - bide.

Text: J. Edwin Orr, 1936; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2018. © 2018 Greyfriars Press, Used by Permission.

Congregational Prayer of Confession—based on Psalm 37:3-5, 7-8, 39-40

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. You call us to trust in You and do good,

All: We have not delighted ourselves in You, Lord,
and our hearts have not desired You.

Pastor: We have failed to commit our ways to You, nor have we trusted in You.

All: We are not still before You.
We have not waited patiently for You, O Lord.

Pastor: Lord, teach us to refrain from anger and forsake wrath.

All: Turn our hearts from that which tends to evil.

Pastor: For the salvation of the righteous is from You, Lord,
You are our stronghold in times of trouble.

All: Deliver us, O Lord. May we always take refuge in You.

Silent Prayers of Confession

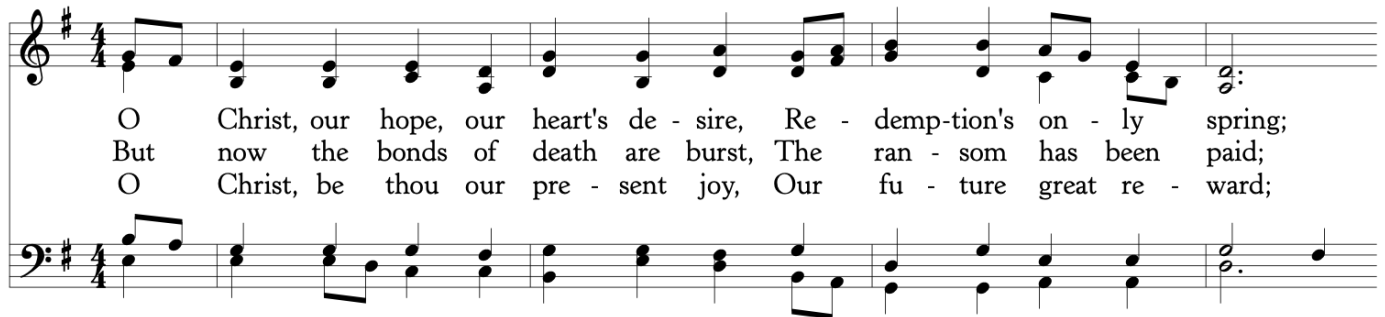
Assurance of Pardon—from Psalm 13:I, 5-6

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—O Christ, Our Hope



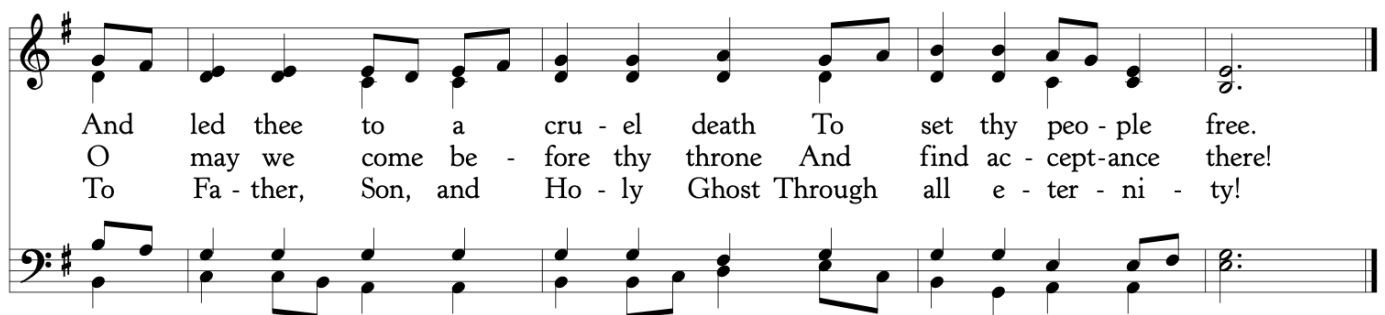
O Christ, our hope, our heart's de - sire, Re - demp-tion's on - ly spring;
But now the bonds of death are burst, The ran - som has been paid;
O Christ, be thou our pre - sent joy, Our fu - ture great re - ward;



Cre - a - tor of the world art thou, Its Sav - iour and its King.
And thou art on thy Fa - ther's throne In glor - ious robes ar - rayed.
Our on - ly glo - ry may it be To glo - ry in the Lord!



How vast the mer - cy and the love Which laid our sins on thee,
O may thy might - y love pre - vail Our sin - ful souls to spare,
All praise to thee, as - cend - ed Lord; All glo - ry ev - er be



And led thee to a cru - el death To set thy peo - ple free.
O may we come be - fore thy throne And find ac - cept-ance there!
To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost Through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Latin Hymn, 8th Century, Tr. By John Chandler, 1837; Music: KINGSFOLD, Old English Folk Song

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—Ephesians 1:15-21

¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love^a toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—

Pressing Deep the Gospel

—Tony Giles, *Pastor*

Sung Response—Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise
him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1709; Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois's *Genevan Psalter*, 1551.

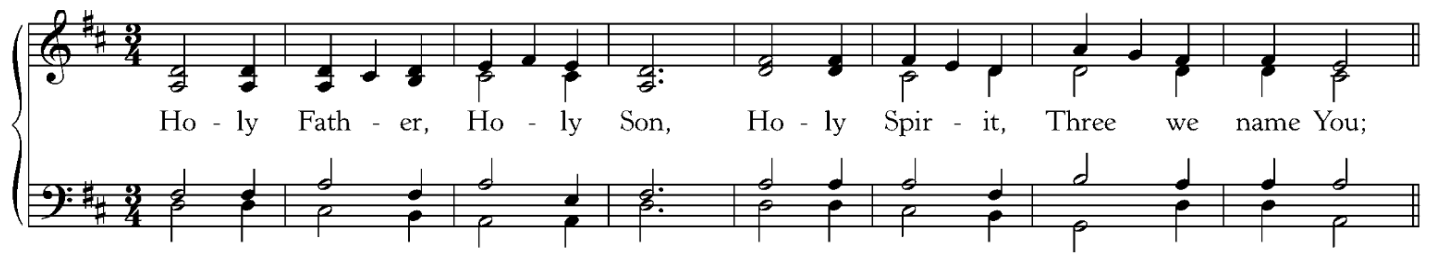
Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

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.

* "Catholic" refers to the universal church of God's people throughout all time and from all places

Sung Response—Holy God We Praise Your Name, Vs 4



Ho - ly Fath - er, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it, Three we name You;



While in es - sence onl - y One, Un - di - vid - ed God we claim You; And a -



dor - ing bend the knee, While we sing this my - ster - y.

Text: Based on *Te Deum*, 4th c., Attr Ignace Franz, 1774; Music: GROSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, 177

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—Psalm 13: How Long Will You Forget Me, Lord?

How long will You for - get me, Lord? Shall it for - ev - er be?
O Lord my God, con - sid - er me and an - swer my com - plaint.
But I have set my con - fi - dence up - on Your stead - fast love.

O how long shall it be that You will hide Your face from me?
My eyes en - light - en, lest the sleep of death should make me faint.
My heart with - in me shall re - joice at res - cue from a - bove.

How long take coun - sel in my soul, with sor - row deep in me?
So that no en - e - my should say, "A - gainst him I pre - vailed."
I will un - to the Lord my God sing prais - es cheer - ful - ly,

How long ex - alt - ed o - ver me shall be my en - e - my?
or those that trou - ble me re - joice, when I am moved and failed.
be - cause He has His boun - ty shown to me a - bun - dant - ly.

CCLI #11121087 Words: *The Scottish Psalter*, 1650. Alt; Music: Josh Sparkman, 2020

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—It is Well With My Soul

When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way, When
 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let
 My sin, oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought! My
 And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, The

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou has
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ has re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The trump shall re - sound, and the

taught me to say, It is well, it is well, with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, And hath shed His own blood for my soul. It is
 bear it no more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend, Ev - en so, it is well with my soul.

well with my soul; it is well. it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul;

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873; Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1876.

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE

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—Psalm 57: Be Thou, O God, Exalted High



Be thou, O God ex - al - ted high; And as Your glor - y fills the
O God, my heart is fixed; 'tis bent Its thank - ful tri - bute to pre -
A - wake, my glor - y; harp and lute, No long - er let your strings be
Your prais - es, Lord, I will re - sound To all the list - ening na - tions



sky, So let it be on earth dis - played, Till You are here, as
sent; And, with my heart, my voice I'll raise To You, my God, in
mute; And I, my tune - ful part to take, Will with the ear - ly
round; Your mer - cy high - est heav'n tran - scends; Your truth be - yond the



there, o - beyed. Till You are here, as there, o - beyed.
songs of praise. To You, my God, in songs of praise.
dawn a - wake. Will with the ear - ly dawn a - wake.
clouds ex - tends. Your truth be - yond the clouds ex - tends.

Text: Nahum Tate & Nicholas Brady, 1696 from *A New Version of the Psalms of David*; Music: ©2011 Greyfriars Press

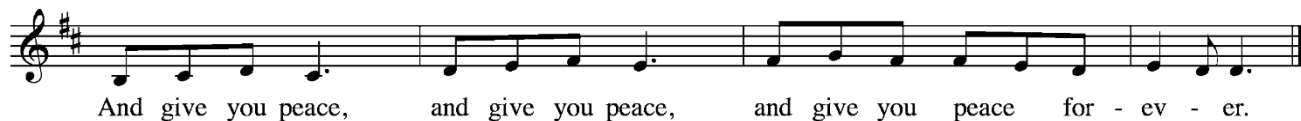
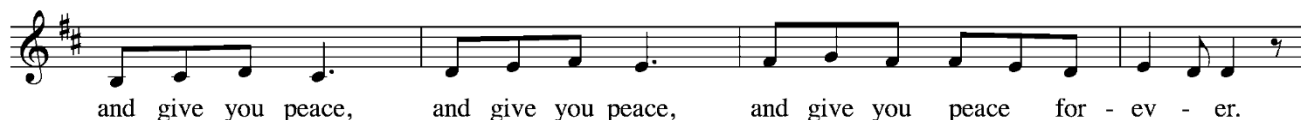
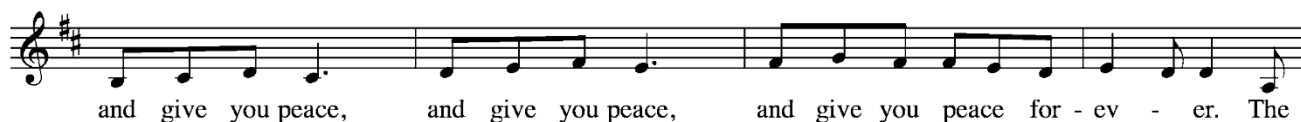
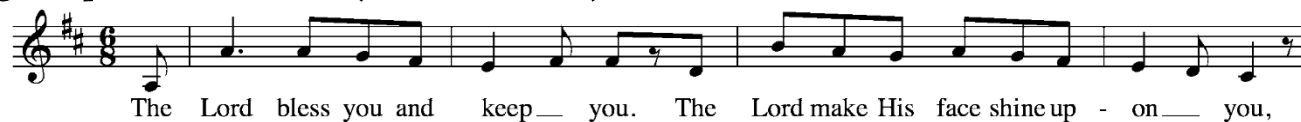
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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—Romans 8:38-39

38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

Sung Response—Barocha (Numbers 6:24)



CCLI #11121087 © 1989 Birdwing Music; Text and Music: Michael Card, 1989.

Welcome to Cornerstone! If you are visiting with us today, we are glad you're here and would love the opportunity to welcome you personally. We invite you to fill out the visitor card available in the pew in front of you. Please drop it in the offering boxes at either chapel entrance as you leave.

Focus on Church Ministry

“Seasons of Life” – Registration Open

Sisters, make plans to join us on the evening of Thursday, September 30, at 6:00 p.m. at the Franklin Mercantile for our next “Seasons of Life” featuring a guest speaker, Courtney Doctor. Courtney is an author and speaker, as well as the Director of Women’s Initiatives for The Gospel Coalition, and we are thrilled to have the privilege of hearing from her at this event. Bring your friends and youth aged daughters and granddaughters! Register through the website or app. Space is limited.

Men’s Book Study

Brothers, join with other men from Cornerstone this fall in reading and discussing Carl Trueman’s *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*. Our first meeting will take place Tuesday, September 14, at 6:45 a.m. at Biscuit Love. Books are available on The Bookshelf. Please register through the website or app.

Elementary Sunday School Registration

Please visit the church website or app to register your children, ages three years through 6th grade, for the 2021-22 Sunday School year. Sunday School for all ages begins September 12.

Cornerstone Youth

The Youth Group is taking a short break over the next few weeks. We will resume Sunday School on September 12, and Wednesday night activities will pick back up on September 15 with an evening of fun in Pinkerton Park from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Coffee with Calvin

Our final installment of this men’s summer series has been rescheduled to Thursday, September 16 at 7:00 a.m. at the Franklin Mercantile.

Cornerstone Young Adults – Save the Date

Mark your calendars for Friday, September 24, at 6:00 p.m. for a fellowship at the home of Madeline Cawley (609 Tywater Crossing Blvd). Additional details are coming soon. If you have questions: Taylor Thompson (taylor.thompson@tkc.edu) or Nathan Johnson (njohnson.professor@gmail.com).

Adult Sunday School

The Lay of the Land: Reflecting on the PCA and the 2021 General Assembly

This upcoming Sunday School class will teach you about the foundations and story of our denomination in light of the key business of this year’s General Assembly. Special attention will be given to the study committee on sexuality and the issue of same sex attraction. You will walk away from this class with a better biblical understanding of the issues and in context of the PCA’s history and distinctives. All adults are encouraged to attend.

Overflow Rooms

Masks are required in the overflow rooms during the 10:45 a.m. service.

Lost and Found

We have accumulated quite a few cups, journals, umbrellas, glasses, sweaters and more. Please check out the lost and found items in the room behind the kitchen. Items remaining at the end of the month will be donated to Graceworks.

Vespers

Wednesday evening Vespers will begin October 6 and run through November 17. There will be discipleship programming for all ages. Make plans now to include these seven weeks on your fall calendar.

Taking the Message Home

Today's message "Pressing Deep the Gospel," is taken from Ephesians 1:15-21. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends or Home Fellowship Group.

1. Paul prays that the greatness of all we have in Christ would break in on our hearts. According to v. 18 what do we need for that to occur? Take some time to pray for that now.
2. Why does the content of our prayers tend to default to circumstances only? How can Paul's prayer for believers (Eph 1:16b-20) shape your own prayers for others?
3. Take some time to pray that you (or someone else – especially those who do not yet know Jesus) would know or understand God better in some way. Pray that you (or someone else) would live with greater hope or confidence in God in some way.
4. What are possible obstacles to your active participation in Cornerstone's Sunday morning "School of Discipleship" beginning this fall? How can you arrange your Sundays in order to participate in one of the classes?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

