

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time

26 September 2021

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

Like any healthy organization, your leaders and staff regularly evaluate the ministry of Cornerstone to make sure we're staying on track with our vision. We ask ourselves questions like, "Are we organizing ministry initiatives that are effectively serving our vision? Are we offering a balanced diet of biblical, theological, and practical content? Are new people coming to know the Lord? Are we nurturing genuine disciples of Christ, and how do we measure that? How can we provide better environments/contexts for learning/growing?"

In asking those questions, and in seeing a great need for discipleship in a number of areas in the body, we've decided to heighten our emphasis on Sunday School and freshen our approach. Starting next Sunday (October 3rd) we are launching **The Cornerstone School of Discipleship**.

Every six to eight weeks, The Cornerstone School of Discipleship will offer two courses of study. One course will be a core class, and the other course will be an elective. The core class is the key biblical-theological subjects we'd like *every* Cornerstone adult to engage. The elective course will center on a wide variety of timely practical and cultural subjects that need addressing pastorally. We are hoping this one-two punch will help meet the growing need for discipleship in our time.

From October 3 to November 17, the first two classes in The Cornerstone School of Discipleship will be offered. Please take time to read the descriptions below and make plans to join us next week as we commit to growing in grace and the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ together.

The Cornerstone School of Discipleship

- 1. Core Class—The Mystery of the Holy Spirit led by Tony Giles (Room 303) In this six-week course, your understanding of the Holy Spirit's person and work will deepen as you explore the indispensable ministry of this mysterious and often underappreciated member of the Trinity. R.C. Sproul's The Mystery of the Holy Spirit is a supplemental resource. Available on The Bookshelf for \$10.
- 2. Elective Class—Pursuing the Joy of a Clear Conscience led by various teachers (Chapel) In this six-week course, you will come to appreciate why the Bible emphasizes the importance of a clear conscience, gaining practical instruction in how to train a conscience, how to free a guilty conscience, and how to peaceably work through matters of conscience with those in whom you disagree.

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.



Text: Edward Perronet, 1779; alt. St. 4 John Rippon, 1787; Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1793.

Call to Worship—from Psalm 121

Pastor: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

All: My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

All: Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Pastor: The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

All: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

Pastor: The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

All: The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Psalm of Praise—Psalm 138: With Grateful Heart



Text: Psalm 138, The Psalter, 1912; Music: SUSSEX CAROL, Traditional English Tune.

New Testament Reading—I Corinthians II:23-32

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for^[6] you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷ Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸ Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰ That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. ³¹ But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. ³² But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

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—Lamb of God



Text: John I:29; Music: FRANKLIN AGNUS DEI, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

Congregational Prayer of Confession—based on Isaiah 48:I-5, 9-II, I7-I8

Pastor: Lord, we come to You confessing.

You speak to Your people who are called by Your name.

All: We confess you as God, but not in truth or rightly.

Pastor: We call ourselves after Your name and declare that we are stayed on You.

O Lord, You have declared and announced what You would do and You did it.

All: But You knew we are obstinate, slow to submit, hard of heart.

Pastor: You declared what You would do

so that we could not claim we made things happen in our own strength or by human means.

All: For the sake of Your name, You defer Your anger.

For the sake of Your praise, You restrain Your anger that we may not be cut off.

Pastor: You have refined us in the furnace of affliction

so that Your name would not be profaned. Your glory You will not give to another.

All: By nature, we desire to steal glory for ourselves.

Pastor: For You are our Redeemer and the Holy One of Israel, and You declare,

"I am the Lord your God who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go."

All: O that we would pay attention to Your commandments!

Then our peace would be like a river, and our righteousness like the waves of the sea.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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



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

The Reading of the Word—Mark 14:12-25

¹² And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" ¹³ And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, ¹⁴ and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵ And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." ¹⁶ And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷ And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. ¹⁸ And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." ¹⁹ They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" ²⁰ He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. ²¹ For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

²² And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴ And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵ Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

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 49

Christ, Our Passover Lamb

—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—All Creatures of Our God and King, Vs 6



Text: Francis of Assisi, c. 1225, Tr William Draper, 1919; Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Cologne, 1623.

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

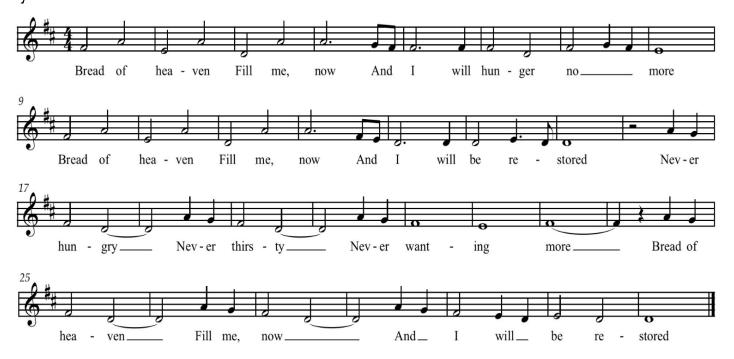
Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

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.

Hymn of Communion—Bread of Heaven



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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—We Will Feast



CCLI #11121087 Used by Permission. Text and Music: Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore, 2015

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—Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah



Text: William Williams, 1745; Music CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1907.

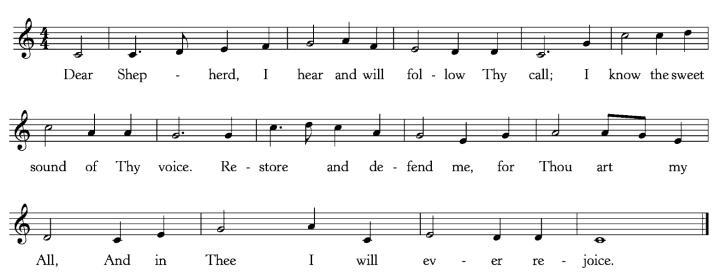
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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 6:23-24

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. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. *Amen*.

Sung Response—O Thou in Whose Presence, Vs II



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

Missions Prayer Focus—Richie Sessions is currently the RUF campus minister at Vanderbilt University, reaching students for Christ and equipping them to serve. This is done in large and small groups, as well as one-one meetings through Richie and his servant leadership team. Prayer Focus:

- 1. Pray for our staff: Blair McFadden, Spencer Sipe and Maria White.
- 2. Pray for our "Pray Large" group. We doing a series called Modern Questions, Ancient Answers
- 3. Pray for our servant team—to grow closer and know ways to reach out
- 4. Pray for group development—Freshmen
- 5. Pray for wisdom, courage and creativity
- 6. Pray for lonely, disconnected students—that RUF will have an opportunity to be a community for them.

Focus on Church Ministry

Music, Video and Sound Teams

We are looking for folks to help serve in the video and sound ministry on a rotation basis for video and when needed for sound. Training is available! In addition, we would love to include more players and singers for Sunday morning worship. For more information please contact Greg Wilbur: greg@cstonepres.org

Sunday School

Adults: in the Chapel

Youth: Merridee's (meet on the patio in front of the Chapel to walk together)

Babies/Toddlers: Room 102

3 years - Kindergarten: Room 103

 $I^{st} - 2^{nd}$ grade: Room 104

3rd – 4th grade: Room 101

 $5^{th} - 6^{th}$ grade: Room 301

"Seasons of Life: A Season of the Unknown"

Registration closes tomorrow at noon!
Sisters, please join us Thursday, September 30, at 6:00 p.m. at the Franklin Mercantile for our next "Seasons of Life" featuring 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. Bring your friends and youth aged daughters and granddaughters! Register through the website or app.

Men's Book Study

Join with other men from Cornerstone this fall in reading and discussing Carl Trueman's *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self.* We are meeting on Tuesdays at 6:45 a.m. at Biscuit Love. There's still time to join in! Please register through the website or app.

Overflow Rooms

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

Young Moms' Encouragement Group

If you have young children, this is for you! This new group will meet three times before Christmas for a night out with a purpose. The first meeting is October 2I (location TBD) and will be led by Suzann Allen, Julie Kesler and Allison Millard. Please let us know you're interested in participating by filling out a form through the midweek email or on the Women's Ministry page of the church website. Questions? women@cstonepres.org

Midweek at Cornerstone

In our fall Vespers series entitled, *Telling the Future:* The Last Days and Christian Hope, we'll explore how the doctrine of the end times provides the Christian with hope for life in today's world. In addition to this teaching series there will be a catered dinner available on the back patio at Biscuit Love, Advent Choir rehearsal, Youth Group, and Kids Club. Dinner registration will open on Thursdays and remain open until Mondays at noon. \$5/person, \$20/family maximum. Please make plans to spend midweek with your Cornerstone family beginning Wednesday, October 6.

Seminary on Saturday

Westminster Theological Seminary is hosting "Seminary on Saturday" at Covenant Presbyterian in Nashville on November 6. Drs. David Garner and John Currie will be speaking on "Mission Unstoppable: Christ and His Church." You can find out more and register for this event at www.SeminaryOnSaturdays.com.

Today's message, "Christ, Our Passover Lamb," is taken from Mark 14:12-21. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group.

- Tim Keller notes that every sin is, in a sense, a betrayal of Jesus Christ. If that's the case, then why is not every sinner a Judas?
- What lesson(s) might we take away from the fact that Jesus's betrayer comes from within the ranks of the disciples?
- What parallels do you see between the first Passover meal and the last Passover meal?
- How is Jesus the ultimate fulfillment of the feast of Passover? (For starters, see John 1:29 and Hebrews 9:22.)
- In your own words, what is a sacrament, and why is the sacrament of the Lord's Supper important?
- What was your biggest takeaway from today's message?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

