

CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal
Ordinary Time—The Sundays of Pentecost
15 November 2020

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

Several times a year, we pause on a Sunday morning to focus on the missionary call of God to His people and to highlight the many mission supports of Cornerstone. Today is one such Sunday, but, in a unique way, today is more than a focus on mission. It is a beautiful demonstration of God's mission being fulfilled through New College Franklin and Cornerstone.

We welcome to the pulpit today Mr. Christian Brewer. Christian is a graduate one of our most deeply supported and beloved mission supports, New College Franklin. While in college, he was a member at Cornerstone and served as a Pastoral Intern and Youth Director on staff for two years before transitioning to Charlotte, NC, with his lovely wife, Courtney, to pursue a Master of Divinity degree at Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS). Christian is presently an intern at Sovereign Grace Presbyterian Church in Charlotte where my former New Testament Professor, Rev. Dr. Bill Barclay, is now pastor. Christian is nearing the end of his time at seminary. Lord willing, he will graduate in May 2021.

While in seminary, Christian and Courtney have faithfully maintained their connection with Cornerstone. Several times a year they return to the area and worship with us. Needless to say, it's always a delight to renew our bonds of fellowship. It's been an honor to see Christian and Courtney's love for Christ and His church mature over the years and to support them in a variety of ways as they pursue the Lord's call to ministry.

Finally, you'll notice in the pew racks this morning our newly updated Cornerstone Mission Support bookmark. On the front, you'll see a brief statement from our founding documents on our belief and commitment to missions. On the back, you'll find a listing of our current mission supports as a church. Please take one—no, two—bookmarks! Keep one in your Bible and stick one on your refrigerator or somewhere where you'll see it often. Commit to pray for our supported church plants, campus ministers, missionaries, and organizations as together we strive to fulfill our vision, "To glorify God in the gospel as disciples who make disciples!"

Your servant,

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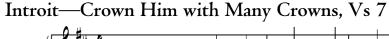
Worship is a response to the love of God that brings us out of darkness into his light. The rhythm and flow of the service reflects this present reality as God calls his people and reveals himself, forgives their sins, teaches them from his Word, the Bible, feeds them, and then sends them out to live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

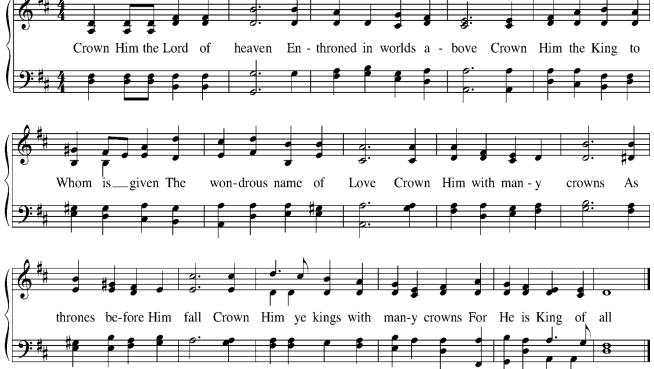
This is the pattern of his love in redeeming and saving his people.

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.





Call to Worship—based on Psalm 115:1-3, 15, 18

Pastor: Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to Your name give glory,

All: For the sake of Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness!

Pastor: Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?

All: Our God is in the heavens; He does all that He pleases.

Pastor: May you be blessed by the LORD, who made heaven and earth!

All: We will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

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



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

New Testament Reading—Ephesians I:15-23

Is For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that 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, ¹⁸ having 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, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far 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. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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.



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

Congregational Prayer of Confession

Pastor: "The Lord is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him. (Psalm 103:8, 10-11)

All: Lord God,

Subdue in us the love of sin,

Let us know the need of renovation as well as of forgiveness,

in order to serve and enjoy You forever.

We come to You in the all-prevailing name of Jesus,

with nothing of our own to plead,

no works, no worthiness, no promises.

We often stray,

often knowingly oppose Your authority,

often abuse Your goodness;

May we not be careless of Your favor or heedless of Your glory;

Deeply impress us with a sense of Your presence,

that You are present about my path, my ways, my lying down, my end.

(Adapted from The Valley of Vision: Puritan Prayers)

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—based on Psalm 103:2-5

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

All: who forgives all our iniquity, who heals all our diseases,

Pastor: who redeems our life from the pit,

All: who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy,

Pastor: who satisfies us with good

All: so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Hymn of Praise—Before the Throne of God Above



Mission Initiative Sunday

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—Acts I:6-II

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." ⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

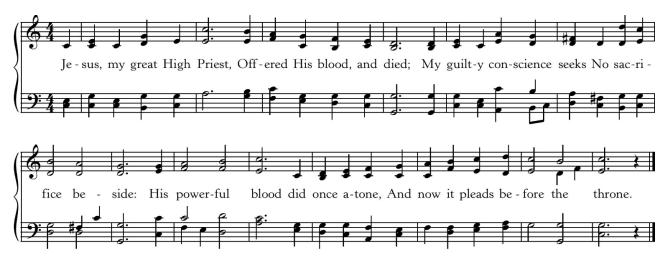
Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—From Commission to Ascension

—Christian Brewer, Seminary Student Under Care at Reformed Theological Seminary, Charlotte, North Carolina

Sung Response—Join All the Glorious Names, Vs 8



Text: Isaac Watts, 1709; Music: Darwall, John Darwall, 1770.

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. We have options for wine and grape juice. The bread and wine or juice are stacked together.

Psalm of the Month—Psalm 89:I-18: We Will Sing Your Love Forever



Text and Music: Gregory D Wilbur, 2020.

Hymn of Communion—O Christ, Our Hope



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

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

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 9: O Lord Most High



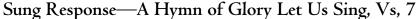
CCLI #11121087 ©2012 Text: Psalm 9, The Psalter, 1912; Music: GREYFRIARS PRESS, 2012.

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—Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. *Amen*.





Text: The Venerable Bede, 673-735; Trans Benjamin Webb, 1854; Music: LASST UNS ERFFEUEN, Peter von Brachel, 1623

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

Sign up for Home Fellowship Groups

New groups are forming for the spring of 2021. HFGs are the small group ministry of Cornerstone that serve to connect God's people together in community for fellowship, prayer, and service. If you are not currently in a group, please consider joining one. Anyone interested in joining a Home Fellowship Group may visit our website or app to sign up. Questions? Want more info? HFG@cstonepres.org or contact Pastor Ben Griffith

Prayer Summit: Learning to Pray—Again

Kingdom Prayer in a World at Odds

How should we to pray in this moment as citizens of the world to come in the midst of a world at odds? What biblical truths and current realities are to shape our prayers and direct our hearts? Join us as we seek to answer these questions on Tuesday, November 17, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Join us in-person on the third floor at Cornerstone, or you can join us via Zoom. Contact Pastor Tony Giles for a Zoom invitation. tonygiles@me.com

Children's Ministry

The Children's Ministry is in need of a PreK teacher beginning in January, 2021. We also need folks who are willing to step into classrooms and sub when regular teachers and assistants have to miss. If you would like to be a part of the important work the Children's Ministry is doing in laying a foundation for our covenant children, go to the app or website to fill out an interest form, or contact Meredith Suits. elementary@cstonepres.org

Deck the (Cornerstone) Halls!

Please come and help decorate our church for our celebration of Advent on Saturday, November 28, from I:00 - 3:00 p.m. It is a joyous and festive time of fellowship—we will enjoy cookies, spiced cider, and coffee, too!

Giving

Boxes for tithes and alms are outside both chapel entrances, or give securely on the website or app.

Advent Choir

Join us as we prepare music for the annual Lessons and Carols Service! We will rehearse Wednesdays through December 9, from 7:15 – 8:30 p.m. at Cornerstone.

Advent Devotionals

Advent Devotionals will be available at both chapel entrances beginning November 22. If you are not yet returning to corporate worship and would like a devotional mailed to you, please contact Martha Brooks martha@cstonepres.org.

Vespers

From Grumbling to Gratitude:
Pursuing a Thankful Heart for Thanksgiving
In a year where it seems like everything has gone wrong, can God really expect us to give thanks? Make plans now to be at Cornerstone this Wednesday evening, November 18, from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. for our final week of Vespers. We are learning how to see, savor, and share in the goodness of God on a bad day...even a bad year. Come and join us as we learn what it means to give thanks in all circumstances. There will also be programming for children during the Vespers hour. Please let our Children's Ministry Coordinator, Meredith Suits, know if your children will be attending. elementary@cstonepres.org

Let Us Thank the Lord: A Time for Gratitude

Join together with the church body at Cornerstone during the Sunday School hour on November 22 for an open time of sharing what the Lord has been doing in your life in 2020. Let us together express gratitude for the providence of the Lord.

Let them thank the name of the Lord
for His steadfast love,
for His wondrous works to the children of man!
Let them extol Him in the congregation
of the people,
And praise Him in the assembly of the elders.
Psalm 107:21-32

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Pastor: Nate Shurden (615-618-4707 Office) or nate@cstonepres.org
 Assistant Pastor: Ben Griffith (601-606-2687) at ben@cstonepres.org
 Assistant Pastor: Tony Giles (615-430-8801) or tony@cstonepres.org
 Worship and Chief Musician: Greg Wilbur (615-512-4156) or greg@cstonepres.org
 Office Administrator: Susan Bumpus (615-618-4707) or office@cstonepres.org
 Administrative Assistant for Discipleship: Martha Brooks martha@cstonepres.org
 Home Fellowship Information: HFG@cstonepres.org
 Women's Ministry: Martha Brooks and Julie Kesler at women@cstonepres.org
 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

 Ron Moffat (629-215-5135) Jim Payne (615-497-0613) Jim Smith (615-347-4188)

Deacons

Wes Pittman (615-393-0365) Brent Roberts (615-394-0662) *Jim Robinson (615-587-0442) Todd Russell (615-319-4803) David Steffens (615-557-5316) Matt Suits (706-218-2823) Casey Taggart (662-813-3563) Larry Thompson (901-734-1520) Bob Vermilye (615-943-8139)

Kevin McClung (615-243-9228) Todd Mike Payne (615-579-6453) David

*Mark Elliott (615-477-1041)

Matt Faulk (714-801-7596)

Dan Fiedler (615-812-4032)

*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

