



CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL

Epiphany Sunday

06 January 2019

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.

Prelude, Announcements & Preparation

Introit—O Splendor of God's Glory Bright, Vs I

O Splendor of God's glo - ry bright, O thou that bring - est light from light, O
Light of light, light's liv - ing spring, O Day, all day's il - lum - in - ing.

Text: St. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Music: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621.

Call to Worship—Psalm 148:1-5, 7-8, 13

Pastor: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

All: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!

Pastor: Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!

All: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Pastor: Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word!

All: Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created.

Pastor: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.

Hymn of Praise—Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en, to his feet your trib - ute bring;
Praise him for his grace and fa - vor, to our fa - thers in dis - tress;
Fa - ther - like, he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows;
An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him face to face;
ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, who, like me, his praise should sing?
praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless;
in his hands he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes;
sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space,



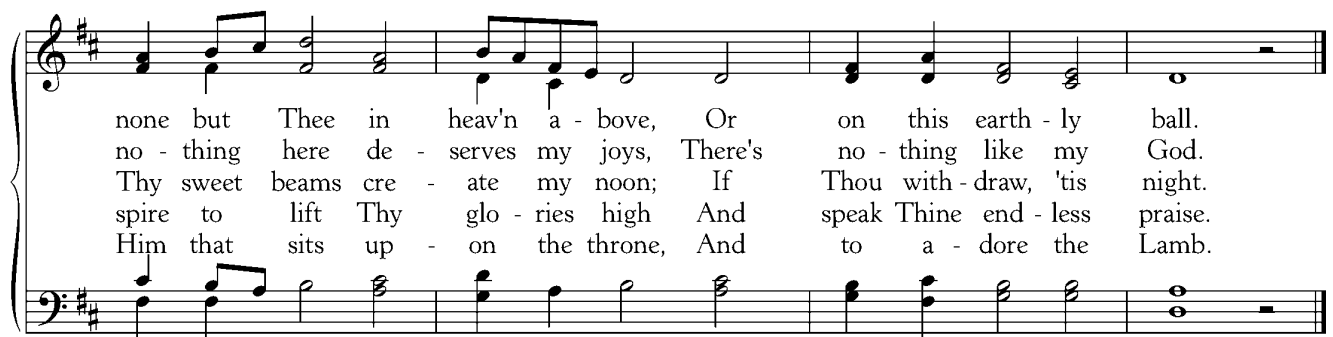
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
 praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
 praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, wide - ly as his mer - cy goes.
 praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise with us the God of grace.

Text: From Psalm 103, Henry F. Lyte, 1834; Music: PRAISE MY SOUL, John Goss, 1869.

Hymn of Praise—My God, My Portion, and My Love



My God, My por - tion, and my Love, My ev - er - last - ing all, I've
 What emp - ty things are all the skies, And this in - fe - rior clod! There's
 In vain the bright, the burn - ing sun, Scat - ters his fee - ble light; 'Tis
 Let all that dwells a - bove the sky, And air, and earth, and seas, Con -
 The whole cre - a - tion, join in one, To bless the Sa - cred Name, Of



none but Thee in heav'n a - bove, Or on this earth - ly ball.
 no - thing here de - serves my joys, There's no - thing like my God.
 Thy sweet beams cre - ate my noon; If Thou with - draw, 'tis night.
 spire to lift Thy glo - ries high And speak Thine end - less praise.
 Him that sits up - on the throne, And to a - dore the Lamb.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, from Southern Harmony.

+++Latecomers Please Wait to be Seated+++

New Testament Reading—Matthew 2:1-11

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was.¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

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

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 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.

Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 25

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls.
Our God, in you we trust.

Let us not be put to shame; let not our enemies triumph over us.

All: **Make us to know Your ways and teach us Your paths.
Lead us in Your truth and teach us.**

Pastor: You are the God of our salvation. May we wait for you all the day long.
Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

All: **Remember not the sins of our youth and our transgressions;
according to Your steadfast love remember us, for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord!**

Pastor: For Your name's sake, O Lord, pardon our guilt, for it is great.

All: **Consider our afflictions and our troubles, and forgive all our sins.**

Pastor: You lead the humble in what is right. May we be humble; teach us Your way.

All: **All of Your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep Your covenant and Your testimonies.**

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—based on 2 Corinthians 4:6 & 15

For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

+++Latecomers are Welcome to be Seated+++

Hymn of Praise—When All Thy Mercies



When all thy mer - cies, O my God, My ri - sing soul sur - veys, Trans -
When worn with sick - ness, oft hast Thou With health re - newed my face; And
When na - ture fails, and day and night Di - vide Thy works no more, My



port - ed with the view, I'm lost In won - der, love and praise.
when in sins and sor - rows bowed, Re - vived my soul with grace.
ev - er grate - ful heart, O Lord, Thy mer - cy shall a - dore.

CCLI #11121087 © Fernando Ortega, 1991 Text: Joseph Addison, 1712; Music: Fernando Ortega, 1991

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—Psalm 139:1-24

1 O Lord, you have searched me and known me!

2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

4 Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

7 Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?

8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

9 If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

11 If I say, “Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night,”

12 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

13 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb.

14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them,
the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

18 If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you.

¹⁹ Oh that you would slay the wicked, O God! O men of blood, depart from me!
²⁰ They speak against you with malicious intent; your enemies take your name in vain.
²¹ Do I not hate those who hate you, O Lord? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?
²² I hate them with complete hatred; I count them my enemies.
²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!
²⁴ And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;
 All: **But the Word of our God will stand forever.**

Sermon—A Prayer for the new Year, Part 1
Search Me

—Nate Shurden, *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

Sursum Corda

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to
give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Sung Response—Gloria

WOMEN

Glo-ry to God in the high - est! Peace to His peo-ple on earth.

MEN

Glo-ry to God in the high - est! Peace to His peo-ple on

earth. We praise

earth. Glo-ry to God in the high - est! Peace on earth. We praise

You! We bless You! We a - dore You! We glo - ri - fy!

We give You thanks for Your glo - ry. We give You thanks for Your glo - ry.

We give You thanks for Your glo - ry. We give You thanks.

Words of Institution and the Lord's Table

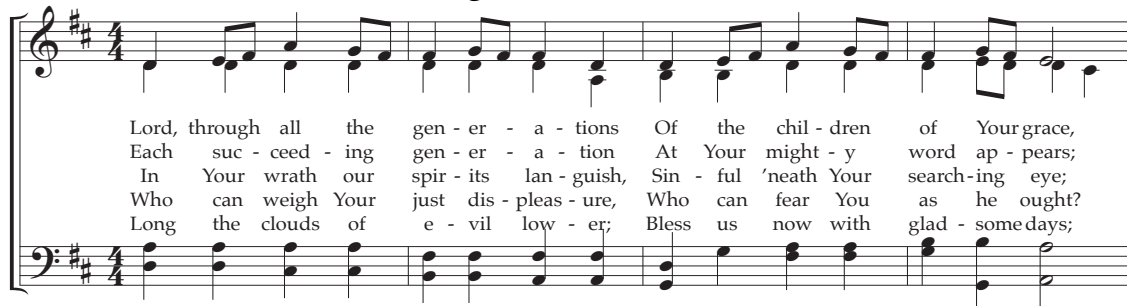
Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

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. You may take the bread at the first table and then proceed to either side for the wine/grape juice.

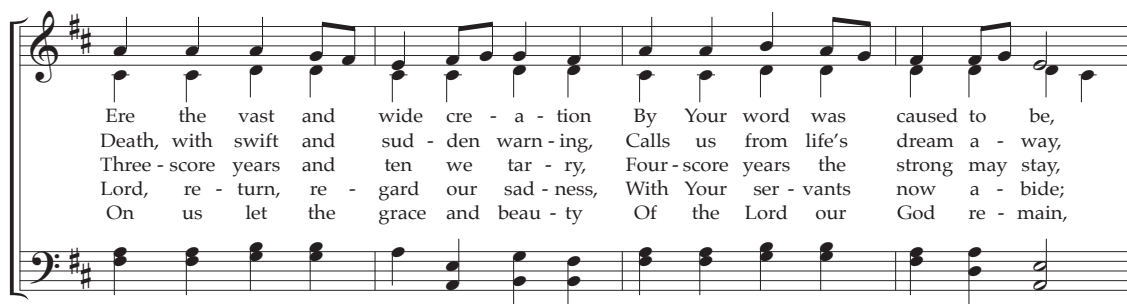
Psalm of the Month—Lord, Through All the Generations, Psalm 90



Lord, through all the gen - er - a - tions Of the chil - dren of Your grace,
Each suc - ceed - ing gen - er - a - tion At Your might - y word ap - pears;
In Your wrath our spir - its lan - guish, Sin - ful 'neath Your search - ing eye;
Who can weigh Your just dis - pleas - ure, Who can fear You as he ought?
Long the clouds of e - vil low - er; Bless us now with glad - some days;



In our fears and trib - u - la - tions, You have been our dwell - ing place.
For You count in time's du - ra - tion One day as a thou - sand years.
All our days are passed in an - guish, In Your wrath we pine and die.
Teach us now our days to mea - sure And to wis - dom turn our thought.
Let Your ser - vants see Your pow - er, Let their chil - dren learn Your praise.



Ere the vast and wide cre - a - tion By Your word was caused to be,
Death, with swift and sud - den warn - ing, Calls us from life's dream a - way,
Three - score years and ten we tar - ry, Four - score years the strong may stay,
Lord, re - turn, re - gard our sad - ness, With Your ser - vants now a - bide;
On us let the grace and beau - ty Of the Lord our God re - main,



Or the moun - tains held their sta - tion, You are God e - ter - nal - ly.
Like the grass, green in the morn - ing, With - ered by the close of day.
Long the load of grief to car - ry, Till at last we fly a - way.
Fill our days with joy and glad - ness, With Your mer - cy sat - is - fied.
Strength - en us for no - ble du - ty That our work be not in vain.

Text: Psalm 90, *The Psalter*, 1912; Music: Greyfriars Press, 2018.

Hymn of Communion—Light of The Anxious Heart

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

Light of the anx - ious heart, Je - sus, Thou dost ap - pear, To
Joy - ous is he with whom, God's Word, Thou dost a - bide, Sweet
Bright - ness of God a - bove, Un - fath - om - a - ble grace, Thy
bid the gloom of guilt de - part, And shed Thy sweet - ness here.
Light of our e - ter - nal home, To flesh - ly sense de - nied.
pres - ence be a fount of love With - in Thy cho - sen place.

Text: St. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153, Tr. by John Henry Newman, 1801-80;
Music: SELMA, Robert Archibald Smith, 1780-1829

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.

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—As With Gladness Men of Old, Vs I-4

As with glad - ness, men of old Did the guid - ing star be - hold
 As with joy - ful steps they sped To that low - ly cra - dle bed
 As they off - ered gifts most rare At that cra - dle rude and bare;
 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - ery day Keep us in the nar - row way;

As with joy they hailed its light Lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright
 There to bend the knee be - fore Him Whom Heaven and earth a - dore;
 So may we with hol - y joy, Pure and free from sin's al - loy,
 And, when earth - ly things are past, Bring our ran - somed souls at last

So, most gra - cious Lord, may we Ev - er - more be led to Thee.
 So may we with will - ing feet Ev - er seek Thy mer - cy seat.
 All our cost - liest treas - ures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n - ly King.
 Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo - ry hide.

Text: William Chatterton Dix, 1860; Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1838

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—Revelation 4:11

“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power,
 for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.” *Amen.*

Sung Response—What Child is This, Vs 3

The image shows a musical score for a four-part vocal setting of the hymn 'What Child is This'. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are: 'So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own Him; the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by: joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mar - y.'

Text: William Chatterton Dix, 1865; Music: GREENSLEEVES, 16th Century English

Prayer Focus—Joshua Kines (Emily) is the church planter and senior pastor of Parish Church(PC) in Lafayette, Louisiana, a church plant of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). The greater Lafayette area has over 250,000 people and no PCA churches prior to PC being planted in 2016. Joshua has over 15 years experience in church planting, including work as a church planter in Peru and Columbia, South America, prior to being called to Lafayette. He and Emily have been blessed by the Lord with six children.

- Praise for the recent addition of 37 communing and non-communing members, as well as several new families waiting to join in the next class.
- Praise for the hiring of a pastoral assistant (Scott Holstein) and a new children's ministry director (Rosie Moyer). Both additions have already proved timely and fruitful.
- Pray for Josh and Emily's involvement in the start of a classical Christian school in Lafayette. (www.logoslafayette.com)
- Pray for the financial, logistical, and practical aspects of some substantial strategic updates we are making to the building where we meet. Pray for favor with the building owner, for financial stewardship of the resources available, and for the blessings we believe this will bring to the church.
- Pray PC's second annual Renew Women's Conference this year with speaker, Lisa Hellier. The Lord brought over 170 ladies from the community last year and we are praying for the same this year. Pray for the fruit that comes from the conference and PC's continued exposure in the tight-knit community of Lafayette.

Today is the first message in the sermon series, “A Prayer for the New Year.” The message for today is, “Search Me” from Psalm 139:23-24. Take time this week to discuss the questions below with your family or Home Fellowship Group.

- Read back through Psalm 139:1-18. What key doctrines do you see?
- What do you make of the sudden shift in vs. 19-22? How does this section add a dimension of meaning to the Psalm’s overall meaning?
- David’s first plea in vs. 23-24 is for God to search him and know him. It’s a call for examination even inquisition (see Job 38:3). What is David hoping to accomplish with this first petition?
- Why is it important that God searches us? If God were to search you right now, what would He find? What would you want Him to find?
- Close this time by asking God to search you and know you.

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Terry Cheney (579-7089)

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Jim Smith (347-4188)

Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (943-8443)

Deacons

Gene King (806-3726)*

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Bob Vermilye (599-9577)

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*On Sabbatical

^oLeave of Absence



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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version