



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal Epiphany Sunday
07 January 2018

Welcome to Worship

If you are reading this in worship, I want you to know something—you are an answer to prayer. Each Sunday before worship, I ask God to bring into our midst exactly who He desires would be there. Since you are with us today, I believe God has a blessing in store for you. I am prayerful as we worship together today, that blessing will be received and enjoyed.

To that end, this service of worship has been designed that we might know God and the glory of the gospel of Jesus Christ. From the summons to worship at the beginning to the sending out into the world at the benediction, that you might know God, the truth and joy of salvation, and be equipped to answer the call to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Following the service, feel free to approach one of our elders (the men who help serve the Lord's Supper) with any prayer needs or questions you may have. I believe you will find them to be warm, inviting, and eager to serve. Please know I would personally enjoy getting to meet you this morning following the service, so please stop by and see me at the front door of the chapel.

It is my sincere prayer that your experience today at Cornerstone Presbyterian Church is one that blesses you spiritually and strengthens your faith in the Lord.

Grace & Peace, Rev. Nate Shurden

Sunday School Schedule

Nursery (basement)

PreK: Room 104 (basement)

Joe and Joy Marlo; Assistant: Kristin Lee

K/Ist Grade: Room 103 (basement)

Teacher: Michelle Marshall; Assistant: Mark Elliott

2nd/3rd Grade: Room 101 (basement)

Teacher: Bob Wolk; Assistant: Anneke Seely

4th/5th Grade: Comenius Room (third floor)

Teacher: Ronda Laventure; Assistant: Julia Grounds

6th Grade: Schaeffer Room (third floor)

Teacher: Charlotte Robinson; Assistant: Mary Lynn Giles

Youth (7th-9th and 10th-12th) at Merridees

Adult

The Chapel Class: Count it All Joy (Chapel)

Koinonia Class: The Westminster Confession of Faith (Kuyper Room 3rd Floor)

Exploring Cornerstone (Room 204)

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.

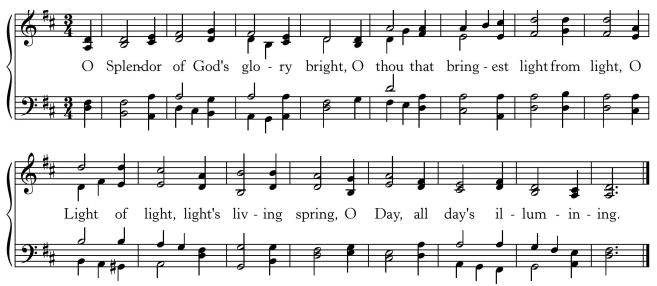
This is the pattern of his love in redeeming and saving his people.

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



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

Call to Worship—Psalm 148:I-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.

The Refrain for the First Sunday of Epiphany—Psalm I:I-2

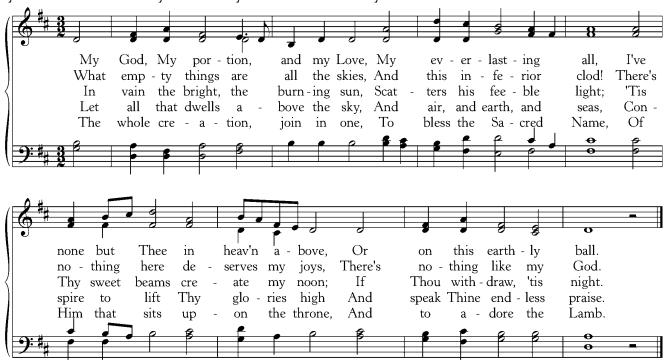
Pastor: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

All: but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

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



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



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

(Please be seated)

Old Testament Reading—Psalm 36:5-9

- ⁵ Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.
- ⁶ Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judgments are like the great deep; man and beast you save, O LORD.
- ⁷ How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

⁸ They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

⁹ For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

The Refrain for the First Sunday of Epiphany—Psalm I:I-2

Leader: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

All: but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

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.

Call to Confession—Psalm 51:15, 17

Leader: O Lord, open my lips,

All: and my mouth will declare your praise.

Leader: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

All: a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Corporate Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 25

Leader: 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.

Leader: 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!

Leader: 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.

Leader: 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+++



GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—Genesis I:I-3

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

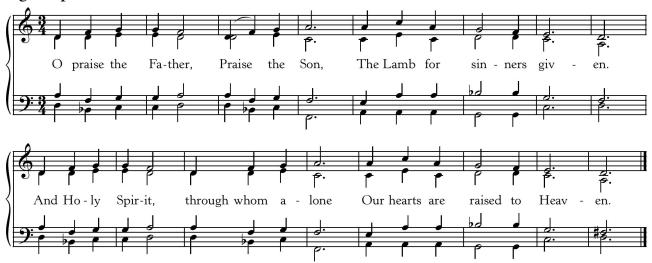
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon—In the Beginning: A Study of Genesis, pt I

In the Beginning

—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

Matthew II:28-30 & Psalm 34:8

Pastor: Jesus said: Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

All: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

The Refrain for the First Sunday of Epiphany—Psalm 1:1-2

Pastor: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

All: but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Sung Response—Gloria



CCLI #11121087 Text: Luke 2:14; Music: Franklin Gloria, Gregory D Wilbur, 2012 ©2012 Greyfriars Press.

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.

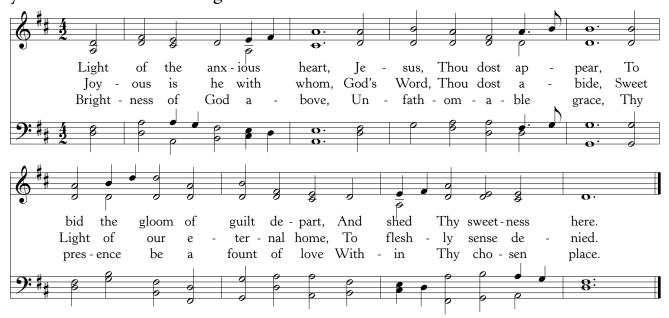
At Cornerstone, we come forward to receive communion. You may take the bread at the first table and then proceed to either side for the wine/grape juice.

Psalm for Epiphany—Psalm 8: O Lord, Our Lord in All the Earth



Text: The Psalter, 1912: Music: KENTUCKY, Southern Harmony.

Hymn of Communion—Light of The Anxious Heart



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.

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



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." Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Both now and forever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Sung Response—What Child is This, Vs 3



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

Prayer Focus—Brad Mills (Carrie) is the church planter and pastor of Grace Clovis Presbyterian Church (GCPC) in Clovis, CA, a church plant of the Presbyterian Church in America in the Central Valley area of California where 73% of the population is unchurched. GCPC seeks to equip a community of saints in the city of Clovis who are committed to gospel living through fellowship, outreach, discipleship, and church planting.

- Praise God for the opportunity GCPC had to close out 2017 with two adult baptisms, a covenant child baptism, and the addition of ten new members!
- We spent much of 2017 praying for greater financial sustainability and the Lord provided in unexpected ways. We were able to cover our budget for a total of five months of the year, with three of those months coming in the last three months.
- We completed our officer training in October. We have two elder candidates and one deacon candidate. They completed their written exams in December and will be taking their oral exams later this month. We are planning on holding our particularization service on Sunday, March 4th.

Available Today! EPIPHANY DEVOTIONALS: Scripture Reading Guide for the New Year



As we look to 2018, we're trying something new. Instead of just reading straight through the Bible, we're going to read smaller selections that are scattered through the Scripture, so that you're getting a steady diet of Old and New Testament throughout the year. Further, the chosen Scriptures will center on themes from our sermon series, which means the main themes of our worship services will inform our Bible reading selections throughout the week.

We are also adding in a weekly memorization verse, or we might say, "meditation verse." It's important to be reading the Bible daily, but it's equally important to chew on particular texts in a meditative way, learning to hide words and phrases into your heart (Psalm II9:II).

We're hopeful that by approaching our Bible reading more intentionally, letting the Lord's Day worship service set our direction, we might experience in even greater measure of the living and active power of God's Word in our life together (Hebrews 4:12)

Today's message, "In the Beginning" is taken from Genesis 1:1-3. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group.

- What was the original context in which the book of Genesis was written? What purpose does Genesis serve in the redemptive story of Scripture?
- Reflect on the specific words and phrases of Genesis I:I-2, teasing out the meaning within the word choices. What do we learn about the nature of God and creation from these first two verses?
- The creation narrative of Genesis I and 2 answers many questions and leaves many questions unanswered. What questions do you see the creation narrative answering? What questions does it not answer? What should we learn from this?
- Is there anything close to the idea of "gospel" present in these opening verses? If so, where do you see it?
- How does Genesis I:I-2 provide hope and significance for our everyday lives as together we embark on a new year together?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Pastor: Nate Shurden (618-4707 Office) or nate@cstonepres.org
Assistant Pastor: Tony Giles (430-8801) or tony@cstonepres.org
Worship and Chief Musician: Greg Wilbur (512-4156) or greg@cstonepres.org
Office Administrator: Susan Bumpus (618-4707) or office@cstonepres.org
Home Fellowship Coordinator: Bob Wolk or HFG@cstonepres.org
Women's Ministry: Marijean Green and Mary Lynn Giles at women@cstonepres.org
Men's Ministry: Terry Cheney (579-7089) or men@cstonepres.org
Youth Director: Christian Brewer (887-9576) or youth@cstonepres.org
Children's Director: Martha Brooks (591-1683) or elementary@cstonepres.org
Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org
Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

Ruling Elders

Randy Allen (260-1884) Steve Green (504-8733) Brian Phillips (429-8125)
Terry Cheney (579-7089) Joe Haworth (289-7543) Jim Smith (347-4188)
Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (643-8443) Jim Payne (497-0613) Greg Wilbur (512-4156)*

Deacons



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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version