



# CORNERSTONE

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



# TITUS

Growing the Church in Godliness



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL

*Fourth Sunday of Epiphany*

*04 February 2024*

# *Pastoral Notes*

Dear Cornerstone Family,

If you've been with us for a bit, you've seen the ministry of Cornerstone grow significantly. In the past three years, we've almost doubled in size. Though this sharp increase in growth was unexpected, we rejoice at the tremendous opportunity to serve more of God's people with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

At the same time, with increasing growth comes increasing ministry needs—more staff, leaders, volunteers, ministries, and space. And with increasing ministry needs comes increases in need for financial resources. Praise the Lord, the needs of Cornerstone through this season of growth have been met through your commitment to give generously to the work of ministry. In fact, every year of our twelve-year history we've seen an increase in giving, which means every year we've been able to invest more resources in kingdom work. Praise the Lord!

Knowing the legacy of generosity at Cornerstone, I asked you in December to please remember the church in your end of the year giving. I mentioned our great desire to continue to maintain a healthy financial position as a church through the purchase and update of The Corner House and the complete renovation of the bottom floor of the Chapel—two significant expenditures. I further mentioned our earnest desire to pay off, or, at the very least, greatly reduce the \$600,000 we owe on the Chapel before our balloon note comes due (or is renegotiated) in March of 2024.

For those of you who are able, I asked you to prayerfully consider increasing your giving to Cornerstone by 25-50% from December to March. Many of you heard that challenge and responded. Through your cheerful and sacrificial giving, we see the Lord answering our prayers!

**Our next Cornerstone Family Meeting will be during Sunday School on February 18<sup>th</sup>.** At that meeting, we will give several updates on the life and ministry of the church—including an important financial report regarding year-end-giving, renovations, and debt retirement. This meeting will be an opportunity for our church family to remember God's goodness, rejoice in God's provision, and renew our commitment to God's call in and through the church.

As we prepare for the February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, please continue to support the ministry of Cornerstone to the best of your ability as together we deploy our earthly treasure for eternal investment (Revelation 21:9-27).

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

The musical score is written for a keyboard instrument in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "O Splendor of God's glo - ry bright, O thou that bring - est light from light, O". The second system also has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Light of light, light's liv - ing spring, O Day, all day's il - lum - in - ing." The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

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

## Call to Worship—Psalm 5:7-8, 11-12

Pastor: Through the abundance of Your steadfast love, We will enter Your house.

All: We will bow down toward Your holy temple in awe of You.

Pastor: Lead us, O Lord, in Your righteousness; make Your way straight before us.

All: Let all who take refuge in You rejoice; let us ever sing for joy!

Pastor: You spread Your protection over us, that those who love You may exult in You.

All: For You bless the righteous, O Lord; You cover us with favor as with a shield.

## Hymn of Praise—Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Won - der - ful, mer - ci - ful Sav - ior, Pre - cious Re - deem - er and Friend;  
Coun - se - lor, Com - fort - er, Keep - er, Spir - it we long to em - brace;  
Al - might - y, in - fi - nite Fa - ther, Faith - ful - ly lov - ing Your own;

Who would have thought that a Lamb could Res - cue the souls of men?  
You of - fer hope when our hearts have Hope - less - ly lost the way;  
Here in our weak - ness You find us Fall - ing be - fore Your throne;

Oh, You res - cue the souls of men.  
Oh, we hope - less - ly lost the way. You are the One that we praise,  
Oh, we're fall - ing be - fore Your throne.

You are the One we a - dore, You give the heal - ing and grace

Our hearts al - ways hun - ger for; Oh, our hearts al - ways hun - ger for.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time and consists of six systems. Each system includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the piece concludes with a double bar line.

+++New Arrivals, please wait in the Narthex to be seated.  
Following the Confession of Sin, Ushers will assist you.+++

## New Testament Reading—Matthew 5:12-20

<sup>13</sup>“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup>For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

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—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.

## Congregational Prayer of Confession—based on Psalm 25:4-II, 18

Leader: Make us to know your ways, O LORD; teach us your paths.

**All:    Lead us in your truth and teach us,  
          for you are the God of our salvation;  
          for you we wait all the day long.**

Leader: Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,  
          for they have been from of old.

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

Leader: The LORD is good and upright; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

**All:    He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.**

Leader: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,  
          for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

**All:    For your name's sake, O LORD, You pardon our great guilt.**

Leader: You consider our afflictions and our trouble, and you forgive all our sins.

## Silent Prayers of Confession

### Assurance of Pardon—Titus 3:4-7

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

*+++New Arrivals are Welcome to be Seated+++*

# Hymn of Praise—Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is je - sus my re - deem - er There is no more for heav - en now to  
The night is dark but I am not for - sak - en For by my side, the sav - iour He will  
No fate I dread, I know I am for - giv - en The fu - ture sure, the price it has been  
With ev - ery breath I long to fol - low Je - sus For He has said that He will bring me

give He is my joy, my right - eous - ness, and free - dom My stead - fast love, my deep and bound - less  
stay I la - bour on in weak - ess and re - joic - ing For in my need, His pow - er is dis -  
paid For Je - sus bled and suff - ered for my par - don And He was raised to o - ver - throw the  
home And day by day I know He will re - new me Un - til I stand with joy be - fore the

peace To this I hold, my hope is on - ly Je - sus For my life is whol - ly bound to  
played To this I hold, my Shep - herd will de - fend me Through the deep - est val - ley He will  
grave To this I hold, my sin has been de - feat - ed Je - sus now and ev - er is my  
throne To this I hold, my hope is on - ly Je - sus All the glo - ry ev - er - more to

His Oh how strange and di - vine, I can sing, "All is mine" Yet not I, but through Christ in me  
lead Oh the night has been won, and I shall o - ver - come yet not I, but through Christ in me  
plea Oh the chains are re - leased, I can sing, "I am free" Yet not I, but through Christ in me  
Him When the race is com - plete, still my lips shall re - peat Yet not I, but through Christ in me

CCLI #11121087 Text & Music: Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, and Michael Farren, 2018. ©2018 CityAightMusic.

## The Reading of the Word—Titus 3:1-8

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, <sup>2</sup>to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. <sup>3</sup>For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. <sup>4</sup>But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. <sup>8</sup>The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

## Sermon—Titus: Growing the Church in Godliness, Part 4

*Devote Yourself to Every Godly Work*

—Tony Giles, *Pastor*



## Sung Response—O Praise the Father

The image shows a musical score for a sung response. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The first system contains the lyrics: "O praise the Fa-ther, Praise the Son, The Lamb for sin - ners giv - en." The second system contains the lyrics: "And Ho - ly Spir-it, through whom a - lone Our hearts are raised to Heav - en." The music is written in 3/4 time and features a simple, hymn-like melody.

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.

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

## Sung Response—Christ Be with Me (*from St. Patrick's Breastplate*)

Christ be with me, Christ with-in me, Christ be-hind me, Christ be-fore me, Christ be-side me, Christ to  
win me, Christ to com-fort and re-store me, Christ be-neath me, Christ a-bove me, Christ in qui-et, Christ in  
dan-ger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stran-ger.

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

Text: *Atomriug indui niurt tren*, St. Patrick, 372-466, Trans by Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-95;  
Music: ST. PATRICK CLONMACNOISE, Traditional Irish Hymn Melody.

## 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 Communion—Psalm 120: In My Distress I Cried to God

In my dis - tress I cried to God, and He has an - swered me;  
 What shall be done to you, O tongue, for words un - just and false?  
 A - las for me, that I must roam this wil - der - ness of strife!  
 Too long my soul is made to dwell with those who peace ab - hor;

from ly - ing lips, de - ciev - ing tongues, O Lord, my soul set free.  
 Sharp ar - rows of a might - y man, and heat of burn - ning coals.  
 Must I re - main and tar - ry here, in con - flict spend my life?  
 I am for peace, but when I speak their hearts are set on war.

My soul, cry out to God on high; He an - swers eve - ry plea.

In deep dis - tress, have con - fi - dence He shall your soul set free.

St. 1 © 2017 Bill Lovegrove; St. 2-4 © 2017 Mount Calvary Baptist Church; refrain © 2016 Tina Nguyen. Music © 2017 Tina Nguyen.

## Hymn of Communion—When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 For - bid it, Lord that I should boast, save in the  
 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ my God: all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down: did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far to small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown.  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1707, 1709; Music: HAMBURG, Gregorian Chant, Arr. By Lowell Mason, 1824.

### 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—Awake My Zeal, Awake My Love

A - wake, my zeal; a - wake, my love, To  
A - wake, my char - i - ty, to feed The  
Sub - due thy pass - ions, O my soul! Main -  
Let ev - ery fly - ing hour con - fess I

serve my Sav - ior here be - low, In works which per - fect  
hun - gry soul, and clothe the poor; In Heav'n are found no  
tain the fight, thy work pur - sue, Dail - y thy ris - ing  
gain Thy Gos - pel fresh re - nown; And when my life and

saints a - bove And ho - ly an - gels can - not do.  
sons of need, There all these du - ties are no more.  
sins con - trol, And be thy vic' - tries ev - er new.  
la - bors cease, May I poss - ess the prom - ised crown!

Text: Vs 1-4, Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: TALLIS CANON, Thomas Tallis, 1560.

# 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—Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

## Sung Response—Barocha (Numbers 6:24)

The Lord bless you and keep\_\_ you. The Lord make His face shine up - on\_\_ you,  
and give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace for - ev - er. The  
Lord be gra - cious to\_\_ you. The Lord turn His face\_\_ to - ward\_\_ you,  
and give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace for - ev - er.  
And give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace for - ev - er.

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

**Missions Prayer**— Rebecca Diboll (daughter of our Tony and Mary Lynn Giles) was introduced to cross-cultural missions by Serge’s Missionary Apprentice Program in Dublin, Ireland from 2005-2009. Since then, she has dedicated her life to missionary care, specifically focusing on transition points for families. In 2022, Rebecca rejoined Serge as an Associate Team Leader in the Member Care department. She and her husband, Josh, are based in Birmingham, Alabama.

### Prayer Requests

- Rebecca will be helping deploy a handful of workers to the UK & Ireland in February & March. We are praying for final support provision & visas for those who are getting ready to go. There are also a few short-term workers return to the US from their field work next week. Please pray for good closure & for easy re-entry to the US. Pray also for discernment for these missionaries as they consider their next steps.
- Rebecca will help plan and lead the annual Member Care retreat in April for their team of eighteen staff. Pray for professional growth & increased unity as these mostly remote workers meet in-person in Pennsylvania.
- Serge is hosting their company-wide Leadership Conference in Spain at the end of May. Pray for safety and health for those traveling around the world and for vision as we meet together. Rebecca will attend this without Josh, which will be their first time in separate countries since getting married!

*Welcome to Cornerstone! If you are visiting with us today, we are glad you're here!  
We invite you to fill out a visitor form by scanning this QR code so that we may welcome you personally.  
Alternatively, visitor cards are available at either entrance to the chapel  
and can be placed in one of the offering boxes as you leave.*



## *Focus on Church Ministry*

### **2023 Giving Statements**

An email recently went out to church members with a link to access and print your 2023 Giving Statement for your personal records. As a reminder, you will need to log into CCB to run your giving statement. From the email you received, hit the green button “Get Statement” and follow these instructions: for Type indicate “family” (if applicable); under Quick Date Range simply select “Last Year,” and under Tax Deductible select “Deductible Only.” Click “Run Report” and you may print from there. If you have never logged in before or need help, contact Robin Spsychalski at [office@cstonepres.org](mailto:office@cstonepres.org). Thank you for assisting the Cornerstone Office in utilizing the CCB software for your Giving Statements. Please note: if you are not a member of Cornerstone, a hard copy of your Giving Statement has been mailed to you.

### **Loving Franklin’s Elderly**

On the first Sunday of each month, a group from Cornerstone leads a brief worship service at Morning Pointe of Franklin. We’d love to have you offer friendship to the residents and lend your voice to the singing of hymns. Please join us after the service *today* from 1:30-2:15 p.m. Contact: [ethan@cstonepres.org](mailto:ethan@cstonepres.org)

### **Cornerstone Family Meeting**

Calling all Cornerstone members! On Sunday, February 18 we will have a Cornerstone family meeting in the Chapel during the Sunday School hour to give a few updates on the life of the church. Please make plans to join.

### **A New Wilbur Music Release!**

Our very own Greg Wilbur releases his brand new album, *Securely I Will Dwell*, on February 13. To celebrate the release and to learn about this project, we will have a special adult Sunday School class on February 25. Pastor Nate will lead a Q&A with Greg on his own musical development, the making of this project, worship music in general, and much more.

### **Evenings of Encouragement for Moms**

This group meets the first Tuesday of every month at the home of Suzann Allen (2940 McLemore Circle). Join us Tuesday, February 6, 6:45-8:30 p.m., as we discuss Sara Wallace’s book, *For the Love of Discipline*.

### **Cornerstone Youth—Middle School Caving Trip**

All Cornerstone 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join us on Saturday, February 17, for a day trip to Cumberland Caverns. We will do an adventure tour of a cave—hiking, crawling, and climbing together through this unique part of creation. The cost is \$65 per person. Registration is open on the website!

*Save the Date:* The Cornerstone Youth are heading to Deer Run for a spring retreat April 26-28.

### **Book Discussion: Monday, February 26**

Join us from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at The Corner House to discuss the award-winning autobiographical novel *Everything Sad is Untrue* by Daniel Nayeri. A refugee from Iran, Nayeri immigrated to Oklahoma at the age of 8. As we enter the season of Lent, this story presents a beautiful picture of what it means to take up your cross and follow Christ. Copies are available on the Bookshelf. Contact: [greg@cstonepres.org](mailto:greg@cstonepres.org)

### **Midweek at Cornerstone**

Starting February 14 and continuing each week leading up to Holy Week, we’ll gather on Wednesday evenings for Midweek. Join us for a fellowship dinner and then stay for Youth Group, Kid’s Club, Choir, and Vespers, where we will dive into the One Another Commands. *Registration for the first dinner will open this Thursday!*

## Taking the Message Home

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Today's message, "Devote Yourself to Every Godly Work," is taken from Titus 3:1-8. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group.

- Augustine stated that, as a result the fall, "humanity is curved in on itself." How does the gospel rightly understood and applied begin the work of curving us both upward toward God and outward toward others?
- Where have you seen changes in your life and character that have enabled you to love people whom you find difficult to love? Where do you further need to see that change take place?
- What does it take to disagree without being quarrelsome? What would it look (sound) like to "show perfect courtesy toward all people," including those with whom we strongly disagree? Give an example.
- What do Matthew 5:16 and I Peter 2:12 add to Paul's exhortation in Titus 3:1-8?
- How can you use the truths of this passage to "*stir up one another to love and good works*" (Hebrews 10:24)? Take some time to do just that now.

## CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### Presbyterian Church in America

**Pastor:** Nate Shurden (615-618-4707 Office) or [nate@cstonepres.org](mailto:nate@cstonepres.org)

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### Ruling Elders

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*All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version*

