

CORNERSTONE Presbyterian Church



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal Second Sunday of Lent 25 February 2024

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

I can't begin to express what a joy it was last Sunday in our Cornerstone Family Meeting to announce the payoff of the chapel. Through your generous giving over the last three months, in response to our earnest call to reduce our debt load as a congregation, the final \$655,000 dollars on the chapel was eliminated. No need to renegotiate the balloon note in March! Praise the Lord for his provision.

In addition to the good news of the chapel pay off, we heard an encouraging renovation report from Mr. Jim Smith. The Corner House updates and renovations continue and remain in budget, and the first-floor renovation of the chapel is making good headway. Sheetrock started going up this week! Barring any more significant setbacks, we will be in the new room sometime after Easter in April.



As we noted back in November, we are on the very front end of a search for another Assistant Pastor. With the job description now in place, and the Personnel Committee leading the search, we are beginning to make initial contacts with a few candidates. Please be praying for the search, for patience and wisdom, and for the Lord to lead us to the

Finally, in September of last year, we opened up a nominating, training, and election cycle for new officers. After a record-setting number of nominations were received, twelve men accepted the call to begin training. As the end of phase two of training nears, we have ten men remaining in training. Please remember these brothers and their families in prayer: Mr. Jeff Alldredge, Mr. Kerry Hart, Mr. Sean Kelley, Mr. Mike Kretsinger, Mr. Tim McCoy, Mr. Matt Michaud, Mr. Matthew O'Roark, Mr. Taylor Thompson, Mr. William Tice, and Mr. Carl Ware.

As always, if you have any questions about any of these matters, do not hesitate to reach out to the church office. We will do our best to answer your questions or serve you in any way we can.

Your servant,

right man.

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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.

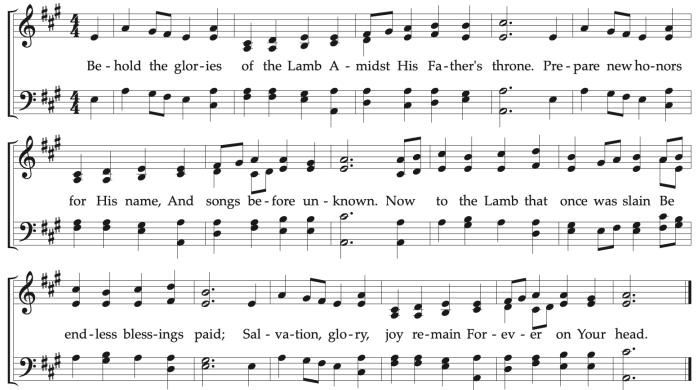
Worship Notes— The sermon passage from Isaiah 42 is the first servant song of Isaiah, which tells of the coming of the Lord's anointed servant who will be chosen by God and filled with the Spirit, who will bring justice to all nations and rule over them with righteousness. The Call to Worship from Psalm 96 tells us to "declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!" Our first hymn, "Jesus Shall Reign" (from Psalm 72), reminds us of the vast extent of the righteous reign of God's anointed King who brings blessings and rest and frees prisoners. The New Testament reading from Matthew 3 tells of the inauguration of Jesus' public ministry, in which the Spirit of God descends to rests on Christ. Continuing our reflections from the Lenten devotional, the Confession of Sin from Psalm 32 encourages us to confront and confess the sins we try to cover but which can only be covered by the "precious blood of Christ" who came to be a servant (Assurance of Pardon). We proclaim the greatness of God's mercy, the kindness of His justice, the depth of His love in our middle hymn, "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy." During Communion, we will sing "Psalm 38: Rebuke Me Not In Anger," in which we pray with the Psalmist that we would not receive the rebuke due to us from sin, but that God would instead look to the suffering of Christ who did not sin but was forsaken that we might be saved. "I Will Glory in our Redeemer," sings of crushing the "power of sin and death" through the faithfulness of the Servant. The final hymn, "Come, O Creator Spirit Blest," is a prayer for the Spirit to "take up" His rest in us, to fill us with His love that we may "pursue holy peace."

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—Behold the Glories of the Lamb



Text: Isaac Watts, 1668; Music: ELLACOMBE, Later form (1868) of a melody in Wüttemberger Gesangbuch (1784).

Call to Worship—from Psalm 96:1-6

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

All: Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

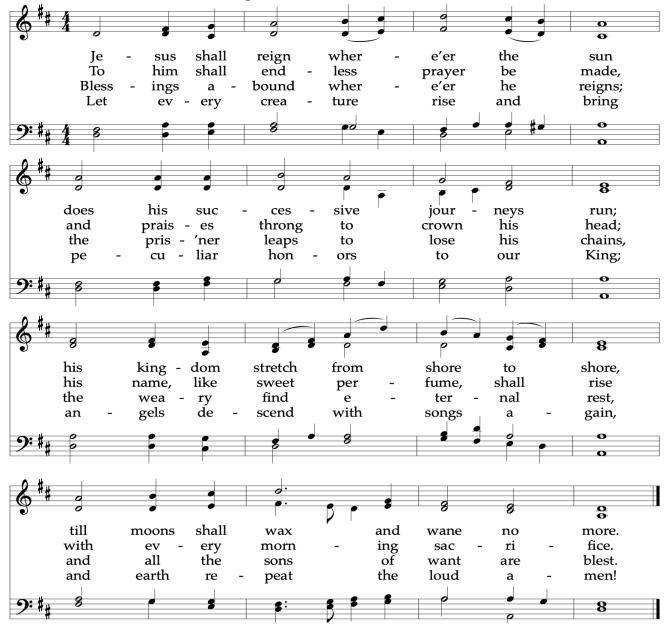
Pastor: Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

All: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.

Pastor: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

All: Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Hymn of Praise—Jesus Shall Reign



Text: Isaac Watts, 1719; Music: DUKE STREET, John Hatton, 1793.

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

New Testament Reading—Matthew 3:13-17

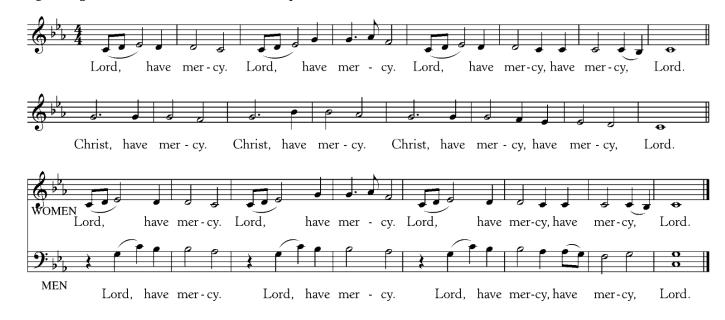
¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

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—Lord, Have Mercy

Text: Luke 18:13; Music: FRANKLIN KYRIE, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

Congregational Confession of Sin-Based upon Psalm 32:1-8

Leader: Lord, we come to you in prayer and confession. You call him blessed whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed also is the one whom You do not count their iniquities against them.

All: We desire to be those who have no deceit in their spirit.

Leader: When we keep silent about confessing our sin, it is as if our bones are wasting away through misery.

All: In Your kindness, Your hand lies heavy upon us when we do not confess our sins and it wears us out.

Leader: Lord, we long to acknowledge our sin to You and not cover our iniquity.

All: We will confess our transgressions to You, O Lord, and You forgive the iniquity of our sin.

Leader: Therefore we offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found; before the rush of great waters reaches us.

All: You are a hiding place for us; You preserve us from trouble; You surround us with shouts of deliverance.

Leader: Instruct us and teach us in the way we should go.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—from Matthew 20:28 & I Peter 1:18-19

Christ came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many. Know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

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

Hymn of Praise—There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1854; Music: HOLY MANNA, Attr. To William Moore, 1825.

The Reading of the Word—Isaiah 42:1-9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ²He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. ⁵Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶ "I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. ⁹Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them."

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

Sermon—The Servant Songs of Isaiah, Pt 2

The Servant of the Lord: Chosen by God and Filled with the Spirit —Nate Shurden, Pastor



Sung Response—Let Glory Be to God on High

CCLI #11121087 Text: From the Liturgy of St. James & an 8th Century manuscript (Gloria in excelsis Deo); Music: Gregory D. Wilbur, 2018.

Profession of Faith—The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered, died, and was buried. On the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven, and now sits on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And we believe in one holy and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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 the Month-Psalm 38: Rebuke Me Not in Anger, LORD

CCLI #11121087 Text: Psalm 38 Psalter Hymnal; Music: BOURBON, Columbian Harmony. ©1987 Helen Otte and CRC Publications.

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—I Will Glory in My Redeemer



CCLI #11121087 ©2001 Sovereign Grace Worship (ASCAP). Text and Music: Steve and Vikki Cook, 2001.

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—Come, O Creator Spirit Blest, Vs 1,2,4,7



Text: Rhabanus Maurus, circa 800, Trans by Edward Caswall, 1849; Music: TRURO, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789.

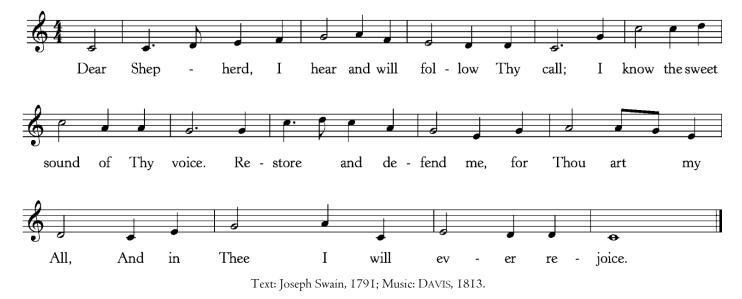
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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—Numbers 6:24-26

May the LORD bless you and keep you; may the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. *Amen.*

Sung Response—O Thou In Whose Presence, Vs II



Missions Prayer—Andrew Young is the church planting Minister of Oxford Evangelical Presbyterian Church, UK. This involves me preaching twice a week, leading regular Bible studies, speaking at evangelistic events, doing all the administration for the church, pastoring the church members, doing various forms of outreach, meeting for one-on-one Bible studies with young Christians, and serving in various capacities in the Presbytery of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of England and Wales (which Oxford EPC is a church plant of).

Please Pray:

- Give thanks that we are continuing to settle into our new building the North Gate Hall. Our location in the very centre of Oxford means we get frequent visitors to our worship services. Please pray that non-Christians would respond in faith to the gospel and be added to the church.
- Specifically, for 'A' who recently professed faith, that he would grow in knowledge and understanding of God's word. Please also pray for another 'A' who attended church for the first time last Sunday and professed faith after the service(!) We have several other non-Christians regularly attending services and events please pray they would come to a clear understanding of the gospel and commit themselves to following the Lord Jesus Christ.
- For new families to join our church. We recently lost some families as they moved on to other jobs around the word and we would love to see more join us to make up that loss.

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

Adult Sunday School Today

Join us for a special Sunday School class today to celebrate Greg Wilbur's new album, *Securely I Will Dwell*.

Book Discussion Tomorrow

Come to The Corner House this Monday from 7:00-8:30 p.m. to discuss *Everything Sad is Untrue* by Daniel Nayeri. Register online to let us know you're coming. Contact: greg@cstonepres.org

Lent Devotional: Learning to Love like Christ

Our devotional booklet walks through the weeks of Lent with daily liturgies and brief reflections on the Psalms of Lament from many of your fellow Cornerstone members. Copies are available at either entrance to the Chapel.

Cornerstone Youth—Spring Retreat

Registration is open for our youth Spring Retreat at Deer Run from April 26-28. Join us for a weekend of fun, food, fellowship, campfires, and games, all while drawing near to one another and our good and gracious God! Register online to reserve your spot. Contact: drew@cstonepres.org

Midweek at Cornerstone

Every Wednesday leading up to Holy Week we are gathering for Midweek. Join us for a fellowship dinner (starting at 5:15 p.m.) and stay for Youth Group, Kid's Club, Choir, and Vespers. Get more information and register for meals by joining our email list.

Golf Tournament Fundraiser: May 13

Mark your calendars for a Golf Tournament at the Franklin Bridge Golf Club on Monday, May 13, to support our youth mission team heading to Belize this summer.

Scan this QR code to sponsor a hole, play in the tournament, or simply donate. Thank you for helping our youth get to Belize!



Rekindled Fellowship

The Rekindled Ministry (ladies 55ish+ who live alone) is hosting a fellowship at the home of Laurie Mee on March 16 at 2:00 p.m. Join us for tea and coffee—and bring a dozen small treats (muffins, cookies, candies, etc.) to swap and share if you are able! Get more details and sign up through the website or app.

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 on March 3 from I:30-2:15 p.m. Contact: ethan@cstonepres.org

Upcoming Adult Sunday School Classes

Exploring the Mystery: The Person and Work of Jesus Christ

Have you ever been puzzled by the idea that Jesus is both God and man? How can that be? Or, how about Jesus being tempted as we are? How does that work if he's God? In preparation for Good Friday and Easter, Pastors Nate and Tony as well as Nathan Johnson will lead this fourweek course exploring the rich theological truths surrounding Christ's person and work. Come and be freshly astonished at the beautiful mystery of Jesus. This class will begin on March 3 in the Chapel.

For Glory and for Beauty

Despite the fact that art, music, architecture, textile arts, sculpture, and more are central in the redemptive story, we often do not know how to think about such things biblically. In this four-week class, Greg Wilbur will provide a biblically grounded understanding of and purpose for the arts as one the ways we "adorn sound doctrine" for the glory of God in the world. Come explore how we can enjoy art for God's sake and let the arts inform our understanding of the gospel. Class begins on March 3 on the Third Floor.

Taking the Message Home

Today's message, "Servant of the Lord: Chosen by God and Filled with the Spirit," is taken from Isaiah 42:1-9. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group (HFG).

- Why is the language of servant both ironic and fitting?
- This song summarizes the servant's ministry by the word justice. Why would this have been important to the original recipients of Isaiah's prophecy? Why is it important to us today?
- What descriptions in Isaiah 42:1-9 of the servant do you see fulfilled in Jesus Christ?
- What was your biggest takeaway from today's message?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Pastor: Nate Shurden (615-618-4707 Office) or nate@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: Robin Spychalski (615-618-4707) or office@cstonepres.org Church Life Coordinator: Dan Fiedler (615-812-4032) or dan@cstonepres.org Women's Ministry Director: Martha Brooks (615-591-1683) or women@cstonepres.org Men's Ministry: men@cstonepres.org

Young Adult Ministry: Taylor Thompson (717-371-0848) or youngadults@cstonepres.org Director of Youth and Families: Drew Abercrombie (407-489-1724) or drew@cstonepres.org Children's Director: Meredith Suits (865-250-3579) or elementary@cstonepres.org Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org Administrative Assistant for Discipleship: Kelley Shell (662-231-9814) or kelley@cstonepres.org Home Fellowship Information: HFG@cstonepres.org Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

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

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version