

CORNERSTONE

Presbyterian Church



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal Resurrection Sunday

31 March 2024

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

Holy week is the crescendo of the Christian calendar, because the crucifixion and resurrection are the center of the Christian faith. Without the shedding of blood, as Paul reminds us, "there is no forgiveness of sins" (Hebrews 9:22), and if Christ has never been raised from the dead, then our "faith is futile and we're still in our sins...and we of all people are most to be pitied." (I Corinthians 15:17, 19)

However, because Jesus died for us, and rose again from the grave, we are the most blessed! For Jesus disarmed the rulers and authorities (Colossians 2:I5) and put to death the last enemy, death (I Corinthians I5:54). He became the first fruits from the dead (I Corinthians I5:20), and by that same power—Christ's resurrection power—the grave will not hold us either. Listen and believe.

- "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." 2 Corinthians 5:17
- "We will not all die, but we will all be changed...in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed." I Corinthians 15:51-52

Herein is hope, friends. Hope for the world. Hope for eternity. Hope for us...Hope for you.

The quality of our celebration today should match the importance of what we are celebrating—the most important reality of life and eternity, the death and resurrection of Christ. There is simply no risk of overdoing the celebration. If there was ever a time for worshipful abandon, for giving yourself to wonder, love, and praise, that time is now. Join with the angels in heaven, and the saints from all the ages, and worship the risen Christ in Spirit and in truth. The tomb is empty, and the gospel is true. Let the celebration begin!

"Christianity is in its very essence a resurrection religion."—John Stott

"The Christian story is precisely the story of one grand miracle, the Christian assertion being that what is beyond all space and time, what is uncreated, eternal, came into nature, in human nature descended into His own universe and rose again, bringing nature up with Him. It is precisely one great miracle."—C. S. Lewis

"The whole gospel is encapsulated in the proclamation of the resurrection of Jesus Christ."—George Eldon Ladd

"The resurrection of Christ is the seal of the great work that He came on earth to do. It was the crowning proof that the ransom He paid for sinners was accepted, the atonement for sin accomplished, the head of him who had the power of death bruised, and the victory won."—J. C. Ryle

"Grant me more and more of the resurrection life:
may it rule me,
may I walk in its power,
and be strengthened through its influence."
—The Valley of Vision

Your servant.

Nate

Worship Notes— Christ is risen indeed! The days of mourning and sorrow are past for Christ has risen from the grave. Great exuberance is expressed in the songs and readings of Resurrection Sunday. Some traditions refrain from the use of the word "Alleluia!" during the season of Lent, which is one reason why so many of the carols and songs of Easter make use of "Alleluia!" as a joyous refrain. We start the service with the bold assertion that "I Know that My Redeemer Lives." Christ the Lord is Risen Today continues the statement of our hope and confidence in the risen Lord that is stated the Call to Worship from Romans I & Job 19. The sung preparation for Confession, "Lamb of God," lead us to I Corinthians I5 which reminds us that even though we speak of the resurrection of Christ, we often live our lives as if we did not truly believe it. Our next hymn, Christ the Lord Is Risen Again, is an energetic 12th century German Carol rejoicing in the ransom and restoration found in the cross and the "breaking of every chain" in Christ's resurrection. The Communion Hymns, How Deep the Father's Love for Us and What Wondrous Love is This, both draw our attention to the cross and the sufficiency of the work of salvation that Christ accomplished and the power of living in light of the resurrection. Our final hymn, Christ Is Risen! Hallelujah, continues the resurrection themes and we conclude with When I Survey focusing on our response to the gift of salvation. —Greg Wilbur

Choral Prelude—Christ is Risen

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

©2013, by Musica Russica; Text: Troparion of Pascha; Music: Vladamir Morosan (b. 1951)

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—I Know that My Redeemer Lives, Vs I



Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-99; Music: DUKE STREET, John Hatton, 1793.

Call to Worship—Romans I:3-5; Job 19:25

Pastor: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

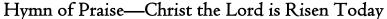
Pastor: For Jesus Christ our Lord is declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit

of holiness by His resurrection from the dead—through whom we have received grace.

All: I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth.

Pastor: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!





Text: Charles Wesley, 1739; Music: EASTER HYMN, Lyra Davidica, 1708.

New Testament Reading—Luke 24:I-I2

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ² And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. ⁵ And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷ that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." ⁸ And they remembered his words, ⁹ and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, ¹¹ but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

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—Lamb of God



Text: John I:29; Music: Franklin Agnus Dei, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

Congregational Prayer of Confession—based on I Corinthians 15:12-20

Leader: Lord, we come in prayer confessing.

Christ is proclaimed as risen from the dead.

All: But we act as if there was no resurrection of the dead.

Leader: But if there is no resurrection of the dead then not even Christ has been raised.

All: Our faith is in vain

because we act as if Christ has not been raised.

Leader: We misrepresent God because we testify that He raised Christ from the grave,

All: But we live functionally like there is no resurrection.

Leader: For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised.

All: And if Christ has not been raised,

our faith is futile and we are still in our sins.

Leader: If in Christ we have hope in life only,

All: We are of all people most to be pitied.

Leader: But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of them who have fallen asleep.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—II Corinthians 5:14-15

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

Hymn of Praise—Christ the Lord Is Risen Again



Text: Michael Weisse, c. 1480-1534, Tr Catherine Winkworth, 1829-78; Music: CHRIST IST ERSTANDEN, German Carol, 12th century.

The Reading of the Word—I Corinthians 15:51-58

⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

"Death is swallowed up in victory."

55 "O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?"

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—Victory In Jesus

—Nate Shurden, Pastor

Sung Response—Let Glory Be to God



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

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



CCLI #11121087 Text: Is 6:3, Rev 4:8, Mt 21:9; Music: Franklin Sanctus, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

Pascha Nostrum—I Corinthians 5:7-8, Romans 6:9-II

Pastor: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;

All: therefore let us keep the feast.

Pastor: We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again;

All: death no longer has dominion over him.

Pastor: For the death he died he died to sin, once for all,

All: but the life he lives he lives to God.

Pastor: So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin

All: and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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.

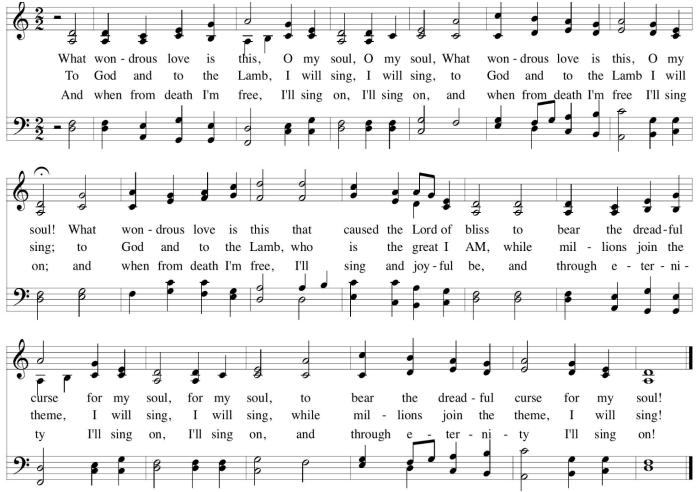
If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. You can find some sample prayers on the next page. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the church.

At Cornerstone, we come forward to receive communion. Proceed to the first table for the bread, and then on the second for wine/juice.

Hymn of Reflection—How Deep the Father's Love for Us



Hymn of Promise—What Wondrous Love is This



Text: American Folk Hymn; Music: WONDROUS LOVE, Southern Harmony, 1835.

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.

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—Christ Is Risen! Hallelujah!



Text: James S.B. Monsell, 1863; Music: FOUNT OF GLORY, R.W. Thompson, 1864, Adapted GDW. ©2010 Greyfriars Press

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 5:11-12

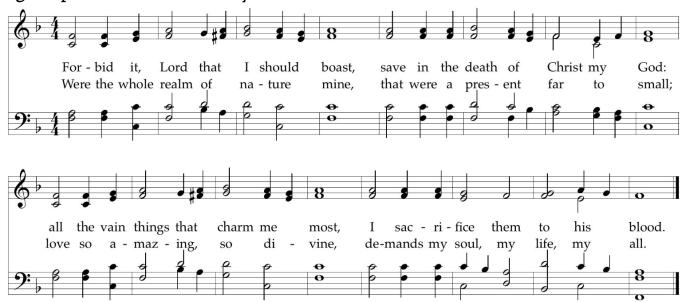
Pastor:

I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

Sung Response—When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, Vs 2 & 4



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

Missions Prayer—Robin Dillard works with Servant Group International (SGI), leading women's outreach programs and serving as Administrator for the ministry. The heartbeat of SGI continues to be training Christians and encouraging them as they befriend Muslims and share the gospel in their journey — locally and overseas. Current estimates tell us there are 9I different people groups in a few mile radius of our Headquarters in Nashville. Middle TN is the classroom!

Please Pray:

- For our ESL and Sew for Hope programs: I have several refugees that are Jesus followers in my class this year. I want to encourage them in their walk—some are facing incredible hardships.
- Connecting Christian women with refugees in new ways (Another on-ramp activity is needed to connect Christians and Muslims), particularly in the Nashville/Franklin.
- Sharing my own journey with Christian women's gatherings to spur interest
- For our recruitment efforts to serve in Iraq and Kazakhstan. The next several months are critical to receive applications before summer training
- World missions: of the 8 billion people alive in the world today, 3.40 billion of them live in unreached people groups with little or no access to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

Men's Breakfast

Calling all men! Join us at the chapel this Saturday, April 6, at 7:30 a.m. for a delicious meal from Big Bad Breakfast, fellowship, and a panel discussion on the timely theme of *Facing Faith Challenges in the Workplace*. Please register online.

Adult Sunday School: Q&A with Irwyn Ince

During the Sunday School hour on April 7, please join Pastor Nate and Dr. Irwyn Ince, Director of Mission to North America, in the Chapel as they share stories and discuss mission efforts in the PCA throughout North America.

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. Please join us after the service on April 7 from I:30-2:15 p.m. Contact: ethan@cstonepres.org

Literature Discussion

Join Pastor Nate and Greg Wilbur at The Corner House on Monday, April 8, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *Jayber Crow* by Wendell Berry. Contact: greg@cstonepres.org

Children's Ministry Summer Volunteer Needs

We need teachers and assistants for the summer Sunday School session! This is a six-week commitment (June 9-July 14), and it's a great way to serve the kids of Cornerstone. Don't let summer travel stop you from signing up to serve! We always have volunteers willing to sub for teachers who are out of town. Contact: meredithsuits@gmail.com

Christianity Explored at Cornerstone

CE Training is coming to Cornerstone *this week!* CE is an "off the shelf" evangelistic resource to help further equip our church to share the gospel. We will meet on the four Wednesday nights in April at Cornerstone (6:00-8:00 p.m.). Contact Liz Taylor with any questions: etaylor78@icloud.com or 615-424-5946. Visit CE's site to learn more: christiantyexlpored.us.

Easter Fellowship

We will enjoy a time of fellowship outside in the churchyard today from 8:45-10:45 a.m. We have much to celebrate!

Women: Gathered In for Trivia and Tacos

Cornerstone Women are invited to a night of pure fun and fellowship! We will gather in the new fellowship hall on Thursday, April 18, at 6:00 p.m. for a taco bar and a trivia game—complete with prizes! All women, including youth, are encouraged to make sure to attend. In addition to all the fun, we will be talking All Things Summer and making some exciting announcements about the fall. Reserve your spot by signing up online!

Cornerstone Youth

Our Youth Spring Retreat is coming up April 26-28 at Deer Run. Registration closes next Sunday—sign up this week to join us. Contact: drew@cstonepres.org
Regular youth group will be back this Wednesday, April 3, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Golf Tournament Fundraiser: May 13

Make plans to join us for a Golf Tournament at the Franklin Bridge Golf Club on Monday, May 13, to support our youth mission team heading to Belize. For more information, visit the Cornerstone website and click on the Golf Tournament image.

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, April 2, 6:45-8:30 p.m.

New College Franklin Host Housing

NCF is looking for families or couples interested in boarding incoming students for the 2024-2025 school year. If you are interested in the opportunity to board a student or two in your home from August through May, or just have questions, please contact Tammy McCoy (615-815-8360), Faith Crampton (321-558-4981), or email office@newcollegefranklin.edu.

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Assistant Pastor: Tony Giles (615-430-8801) or tony@cstonepres.org
Worship and Chief Musician: Greg Wilbur (615-512-4156) or greg@cstonepres.org
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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

Ruling Elders

Randy Allen (615-260-1884) Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (615-943-8443) Ron Moffat (629-215-5135)
Preston Brooks (615-838-0359) Joe Haworth (615-289-7543) Jim Payne (615-497-0613)
Terry Cheney (615-579-7089) Will Kesler (423-313-7493) Jim Smith (615-347-4188)
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 Matt Faulk (714-801-7596)
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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

