

# CORNERSTONE

## P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

Second Sunday of Easter 07 April 2024

## Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

We have the privilege to welcome Dr. Irwyn Ince to the Cornerstone pulpit today. Dr. Ince is a Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church in America and is currently serving as the denomination's Coordinator of Mission to North America.

Dr. Ince was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. He is married to Kim, and together they are the proud parents of four wonderful children and two beautiful granddaughters. Following his graduation from City College of NY in Harlem with a Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering, he began his professional career as a systems engineer and project engineering manager in the Washington-Baltimore Metropolitan area.



Dr. Ince sensed a call to ministry and earned his Masters degree from Reformed Theological Seminary in Washington, DC on a part-time basis while continuing his engineering career. Following his graduation in 2006 Dr. Ince helped plant City of Hope Presbyterian Church in Columbia, MD.

In 2016, he received the Doctor of Ministry degree from Covenant Theological Seminary. His dissertation was on Identity Formation in Diverse Churches. He firmly believes that the ministry of reconciliation demonstrated in the local church by the gathering of people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and ethnicities is the natural outworking of a rich covenantal theological commitment.

In 2018, the 46th PCA General Assembly unanimously elected Dr. Ince to serve as moderator—the first African American elected to the position.

Dr. Ince is the author of *Hope Ain't a Hustle: Persevering by Faith in a Wearying World* published in February 2024 and *The Beautiful Community: Unity, Diversity, and the Church at Its Best* published in 2020.

In addition to his passion for his family and for ministry, Dr. Ince enjoys coffee and kettlebells. Connect with Irwyn at irwynince.com, on Twitter (@Irwyn), or on Instagram (@pastorirwyn).

In addition to preaching today's service, Dr. Ince will join me for a Q&A session during the Sunday School hour. During that time, we will have the privilege to get to know Dr. Ince personally while addressing a number of cultural and kingdom matters—most noteworthy, the work of Mission to North America. Please join us!

Your servant,

Sate

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.

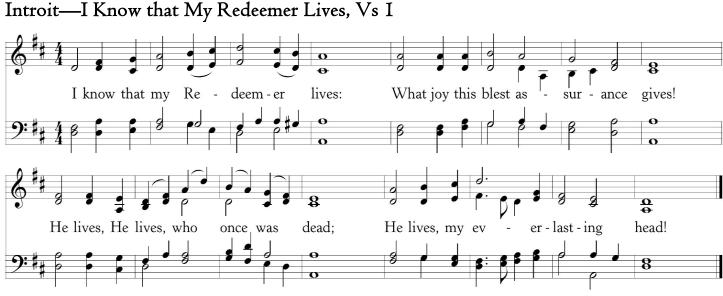
This is the pattern of his love in redeeming and saving his people.

Worship Notes— This Sunday is one of our Mission Initiative Sundays, in which the service examines the aspects of the mission that our resurrected Christ sent his church out to accomplish in the world by His Spirit: particularly to proclaim Christ's victory over sin and death before all peoples. The Call to Worship from Isaiah 25 is a proclamation of God's plan of old to "swallow up death forever" and to "wipe away the reproach of His people" which was accomplished on the Cross. Through our opening hymn, Glory Be to God the Father, we offer the fitting glory and honor to "the king of nations" whom all of Heaven and earth will praise. The New Testament Reading from Romans 15 calls us to the mission Christ has given each of us: "to be a minister of Christ Jesus." We then repent of our failings to hold fast to that mission using 2 Timothy as our confession. Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer then becomes our prayer of hope: that He will draw us near through these labors even though we are worn and that He will supply our strength. Jesus Paid it All, following Dr. Ince's sermon from Hebrews 12:1-3, is a profession of what our Savior has accomplished for us and will accomplish through us, even though our "strength indeed is small." Our Psalm of the month for April is Psalm 40, a profession of reliance upon the Word of the Lord and a vow to "spread His works of grace abroad." The service then concludes with How Sweet and Awesome, in which we proclaim the great love of God which has drawn us in and we pray that He will bring many more to know His great love, through His power which makes us strong and joyful in the service of our God and King. —Maxwill Shell

## 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.



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

## Call to Worship—Isaiah 25:1, 6-8

Pastor: O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name,

- All: for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
- Pastor: On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,

### All: of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

- Pastor: And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.
- All: He will swallow up death forever;

Pastor: and the LORD God will wipe away tears from all faces,

All: and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

Hymn of Praise—Glory be to God the Father



Text: Horatius Bonar, 1868; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2011. ©2011 Greyfriars Press. Used by Permission.

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

### New Testament Reading—Romans 15:14-21

<sup>14</sup>I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another. <sup>15</sup>But on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God <sup>16</sup> to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit. <sup>17</sup>In Christ Jesus, then, I have reason to be proud of my work for God. <sup>18</sup>For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed, <sup>19</sup>by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ; <sup>20</sup> and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else's foundation, <sup>21</sup> but as it is written,

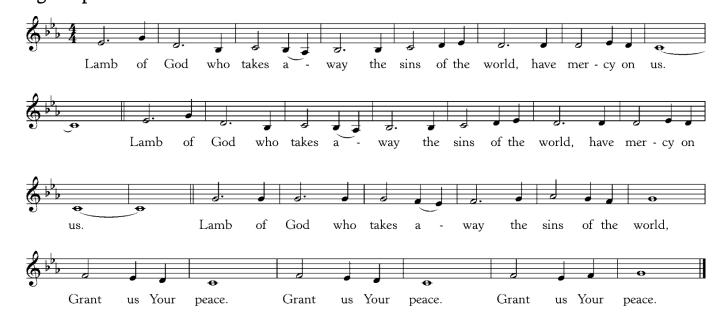
"Those who have never been told of him will see, and those who have never heard will understand."

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 Confession of Sin-based on 2 Timothy 4:1-8

Leader: Lord, we come in prayer and confession. Before Your presence and of Christ Jesus who will judge the living and the dead and by His appearing and His kingdom, we are called to proclaim the Word.

## All: We confess that we are not prepared and ready to do so in season and out of season.

Leader: Instead of reproving, rebuking, and exhorting with patience, too often we are tempted to excuse, ignore or avoid bringing Your Word to bear in our lives and other's lives.

## All: Too often we do not want to endure sound teaching, but would rather satisfy our itching ears with teachers that suit our own passions.

Leader: Instead of listening to the truth, we turn away and wander into myths instead of being challenged by Your Word.

## All: Give us a heart to be sober-minded, to endure suffering, to work towards proclaiming the truth of the Gospel and to fulfill our calling.

Leader: May we give our lives away-being poured out like a drink offering.

## All: Give us the grace to be able to say that we have fought the good fight, we have finished the race, and we have kept the faith.

Leader: Henceforth, we know that You have laid up a crown of righteousness to be awarded on that Day to all who have loved Your appearing.

## Silent Prayers of Confession

## Assurance of Pardon—I John 3:4-5

Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. Know that Christ appeared in order to take away sins,

and in him there is no sin.

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

## Hymn of Praise—Jesus, Draw Me Ever Nearer



CCLI #11121087 ©2002 Thankyou Music, Text: Margaret Becker, 2002; Music: Keith Getty, 2002

## Introduction of New Members

#### First Service:

Brandon & Sarah Bingham with children Grace, Abigail, Hannah; Phil & Whitney Hunt, with children Noah, Mia, Gabe; Caleb Stroven; Everett Vencel

#### Second Service:

Ben Byler; Shelley Duryee; Joseph & Ragan Fry; John Mark Gulliver; Emma Hicks; Dan & Margaret Kramer; Dan & Deena Russell; Matthew & Lisa McConnell with children Liam, Patrick, Claire, Sean Kramer

## The Reading of the Word—Hebrews 12:1-3

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,<sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—Run Through Exhaustion

-Dr. Irwin Ince, Coordinator of Mission to North America



Text: Eric Schumacher, 2004; Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Cologne, 1623.

## 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



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 6:9-11

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.



Communion Hymn—Jesus Paid It All

Text: Elvina M. Hall, 1865; Music: ALL TO CHRIST, John T. Grape, 1865. Alt. Maxwill Shell & Gregory Wilbur 2023

#### 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* 

## Psalm of the Month—Psalm 40: I Waited Patient For The Lord



Text: Based on Psalm 40; Music: FINGALL Traditional Irish Melody, adapt. Gregory Wilbur & Jeremiah Small, 2008.

## 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—How Sweet and Awesome



Text: Isaac Watts, 1707; Music: ST. COLUMBA, Old Irish Tune.

## 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—I Thessalonians 5:23-24

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. *Amen*.

#### Sung Response—May You Be Strong (Colossians I:10-11) 1 May you be strong in His pow er, And find joy in His ser-vice. May you lead lives Men May you be strong in His pow find joy May you lead er. And lives wor-thy of our God and King. May you be strong in His pow And find joy in His er, wor-thy of our God and King. May you be strong in His pow er. ٦. May you give thanks Him. Give thanks to Him. ser - vice. al ways to f. find give thanks to Him. Give thanks Him. And joy May you al ways to © Copyright 2013 Allen House Productions (ASCAP) www.songsforthechurchyear.com and Greyfriars Press.

Text: Nan Allen, 2013; Music: Greyfriars Press, 2013

**Missions Prayer**—Jim Whittle is the India Director for Equipping Leaders International (ELI). Since 2012 he has managed an ELI India team of five staff who coordinate with ten national partners to India. He served as a pastor and church planter for 20 years prior to taking this role. His wife, Shari is a retired hospice nurse, and they have been married over 40 years with 5 children and 13 grandchildren. They live in Douglasville, Georgia, and are active members of King's Chapel Presbyterian Church.

#### Please Pray:

- That their grandchildren would all love Christ and His Church
- For discipline to walk together regularly
- For outreach opportunities in their city of Douglasville
- For a successful database build and updates of all the training and church planting in India
- For 2 new ELI India staff
- For the capacity to support and send all their India "Timothy" opportunities

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: Q&A with Irwyn Ince

During the Sunday School hour today, 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.

#### Cornerstone Youth

Youth Group is meeting on Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Dinner provided!

Our Youth Spring Retreat is April 26-28 at Deer Run. *Registration closes today.* Contact: drew@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

#### 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!

#### Vacation Bible School—Torchbearers

Mark your calendars for May 28-31 for VBS! We will gather in the evenings (5:30-7:30 p.m.) at Jim Warren Park. And we need all of our Cornerstone family to help before, during, and after VBS! Scan this QR code or visit the church website to register your children (rising K-rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade) and view all the

ways you can serve, from praying to dropping off snacks to leading a group of our covenant kids that week.



#### 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 today from I:30-2:15 p.m. Contact: ethan@cstonepres.org

#### Literature Discussion

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

#### 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.

#### 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, please contact office@newcollegefranklin.edu.

#### Adult Sunday School: April 14-May 19

#### Gospel-Centered Parenting

Parenting is one of life's great challenges. What we need is, as Paul Tripp puts it, "a big picture parenting worldview that can explain, guide, and motivate all the things God calls us to do as parents." Join us for this six-week series in the Chapel as we explore foundational principles centered on the gospel of Jesus Christ, our most reliable parenting guide.

#### Classics of Personal Devotion

In this six-week course in the Fellowship Hall, we will be introduced to a selection of the greatest devotional literature in Christian history. Exploring the lives of the authors and spiritual benefit of these classics, we will be encouraged to experience a deeper communion with Christ through the devotional classics.

## 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

**Ruling Elders** 

Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (615-943-8443) Joe Haworth (615-289-7543) Will Kesler (423-313-7493) John Millard (423-443-8852) Ron Moffat (629-215-5135) Jim Payne (615-497-0613) Jim Smith (615-347-4188)

Mark Elliott (615-477-1041) Matt Faulk (714-801-7596) Dan Fiedler (615-812-4032) Mark Mitchell (630-835-7754)

Randy Allen (615-260-1884)

Preston Brooks (615-838-0359)

Terry Cheney (615-579-7089)



Deacons

Mike Payne (615-579-6453) Wes Pittman (615-406-6209) Brent Roberts (615-394-0662) Jim Robinson (615-587-0442) \*Todd Russell (615-319-4803) Matt Suits (706-218-2823) Casey Taggart (662-813-3563) Larry Thompson (901-734-1520) Bob Vermilye (615-943-8139)

\*On Sabbatical

136 Third Ave S, Franklin, Tennessee 37064 www.cornerstonepresfranklin.org (615) 618-4707

All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version