

CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal
Ordinary Time—The Sundays of Pentecost
02 August 2020

Pastoral Notes

At least three times a year, we offer the Exploring Cornerstone Class, which is our version of an Inquirer's or New Member's class. I'm leading an Exploring Cornerstone Class via Zoom on Monday nights right now for those who have been visiting with us in person or via livestream. As always, it's such a joy to hear the stories of the people God leads to us and reflect together on the history, vision, commitments, and ministries of Cornerstone Pres.

This past Monday we did a 30,000-foot flyover of Reformation and Presbyterian history. Starting in 1517 with Martin Luther's nailing of the 95 theses and ending with the founding of the Presbyterian Church in America in 1973, we spanned nearly five hundred years of history in 45 minutes. Given the constraints, it was a highly selective retelling of history. I limited us to key people, moments, and movements that deeply influenced the shape of Reformed and Presbyterian history.

At one point in the discussion, I noted how every era in church history has its blights, and that the men and movements within Reformed and Presbyterian history are no exception. I cited, for instance, the well documented anti-Semitism that shows up in the writings of Martin Luther and hinted at the questionable judgment of John Calvin in the death of Michael Servetus.

My purpose in briefly noting these difficult matters was not to condemn Luther or Calvin. Far from it! The historical record is clear: these men are champions of the Christian faith. They labored tirelessly for the glory of Jesus Christ and the good of His church in their generation. We stand on their shoulders and do well to follow their lead and example in so many ways.

My purpose in making the reference was to steer clear of two equal opposite tendencies in looking at historical figures. The first tendency is to idolize. We idolize a figure in history when we treat them as if they did no wrong. You know you're falling into idolization if you find yourself ignoring or trying to explain away any perceived character flaw or transgression because down deep inside, you can't stand the possibility that your hero is, at the end of the day, a fallen human being just like you (Romans 3:23).

The second tendency is to demonize. We demonize a figure in history when we treat them as if they can do no right—when we make their moral failings the whole story. We speak of them as if the only thing true about them is what they've done wrong, and we can't imagine there's anything redeemable about them (Matthew 7:II).

If we examine history with an honest eye, we won't be surprised to learn our enemies do things that are good and right from time to time. We also won't be surprised to see our hero goof up now and again. In the end, everyone is a mixed bag of original glory and original sin.

Let's learn from the men and women of history. Let's follow their example where we can. Let's give them the respect they're due. But let's not idolize them or demonize them. Let's let them be the humans they are.

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—Give Thanks to God the Lord, Vs I



Text: Susan H. Peterson, 1999; Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1868.

Call to Worship—Psalm 95:I-7

Pastor: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

All: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Pastor: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

All: In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his also.

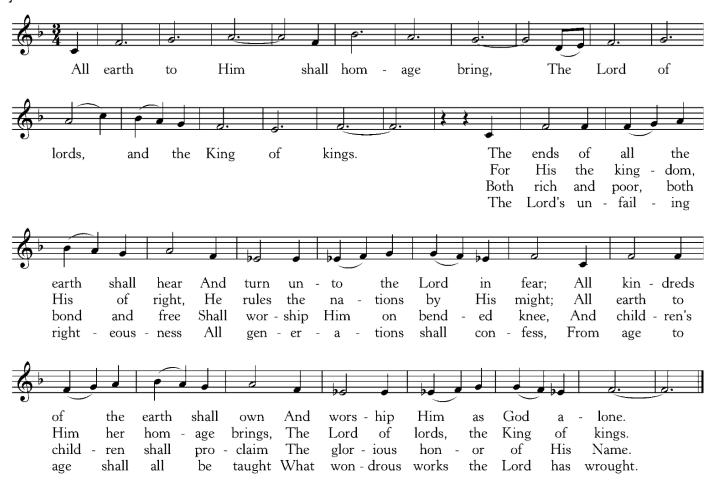
Pastor: The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

All: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

Pastor: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Hymn of Praise—Psalm 22:27-31 All Earth to Him



CCLI #2844402 Text: The Psalter, 1912; Music: HOMAGE, Gregory Wilbur, 2010.

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 42:5-9

⁵ Thus 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:

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."

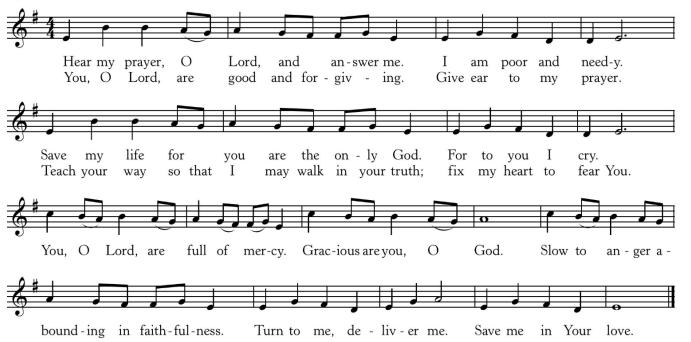
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

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 Preparation—Hear My Prayer (from Psalm 86)



Text & Music: Greyfriars Press, 2013. Used by permission.

Congregational Confession of Sin—based on Psalm 78:32-43

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing.

In spite of You revealing Yourself and despite Your wonders,

All: We still sin and we do not believe.

Pastor: You make our time and years vanish like a breath.

You allow terrors and adversity.

All: It is then that we repent and seek You earnestly.

Pastor: We remember that You, the Most High God,

are our rock and our redeemer.

All: But still, we flatter You with our mouths

and lie to You with our tongues.

Our hearts are not steadfast toward You and we are not faithful to Your covenant.

Pastor: Yet You, being compassionate, atoned for our iniquity;

You restrained Your anger and did not destroy us.

All: You remembered that we are but flesh.

Keep us from rebelling against You,

grieving You, testing and provoking You.

Pastor: For You have revealed Yourself in power,

performing signs and marvels and redeeming us.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—Ezekiel 36:25-28

²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you,

and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

²⁸ You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Hymn of Praise—Jesus Shall Reign



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

The Reading of the Word—Psalm 115

Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!

² Why should the nations say,

"Where is their God?"

³ Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.

⁴ Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands.

⁵ They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see.

⁶ They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell.

⁷ They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk; and they do not make a sound in their throat.

⁸ Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.

⁹ O Israel, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.

¹⁰ O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.

^{II} You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.

¹² The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron;

¹³ he will bless those who fear the LORD, both the small and the great.

¹⁴ May the LORD give you increase, you and your children!

¹⁵ May you be blessed by the LORD, who made heaven and earth!

¹⁶ The heavens are the LORD's heavens, but the earth he has given to the children of man.

¹⁷ The dead do not praise the LORD, nor do any who go down into silence.

18 But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore.

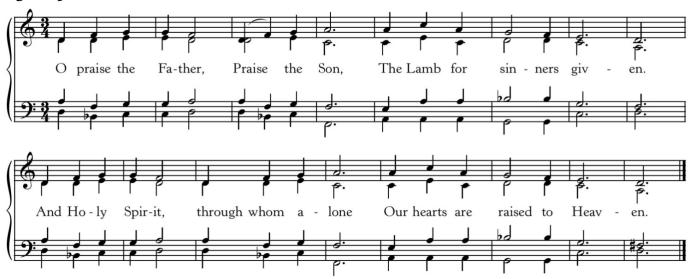
Praise the LORD!

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

—Ben Griffith, Pastor

Sung Response—O Praise the Father



Text: John Mason, 1683; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2011.

Sursum Corda

Elder: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

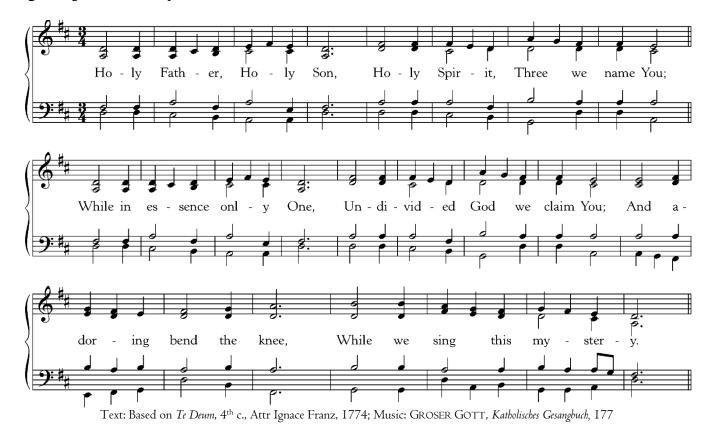
Elder: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Elder: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Elder: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You,

Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Sung Response—Holy God We Praise Your Name, Vs 4



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

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

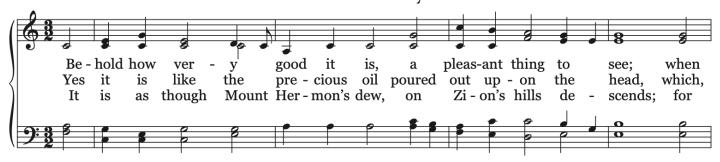
Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

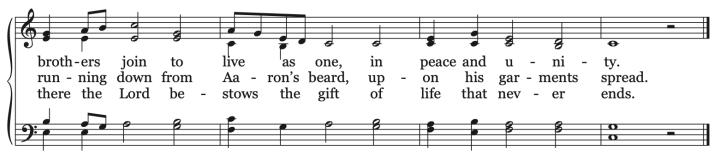
The Lord's Supper is the family meal for Christians. We invite all baptized Christians who are members of a congregation that proclaims the gospel, and who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ to join us.

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. You may take the bread at the first table and then proceed to either side for the wine/grape juice.

Psalm of the Month—Psalm 133: Behold How Very Good It Is





Text: Aaron Chapin, 1813; Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Southern Harmony.

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

Communion Hymn—Sing Praise to God, vs. 1,3,4



Text: Johann J. Schutz, 1675, trans. Francis E. Cox, 1864; Music: MIT FREUDEN ZART, Bohemian Brethren's Gesangbuch, 1566.

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—To Our Redeemer's Glorious Name



To our Re - deem - er's glor - ious name a - wake the sac - red song: His love, what mor - tal tongue can reach? What mor - tal tongue dis play? still with love Let won - der u - nite, gra - ti - tude and and joy; Dear Lord, while we a - dor - ing hum - ble thanks to Thee, pay the sweet, the bliss - ful theme fill ev - ery heart and tongue,



0 His love im - mor - tal flametune ery heartand tongue. ag na - tion's ut - most stretch in won - der dies a - way. His praise our best em-ploy. Be our su preme de - light, us May heart with glad - ness the Sav - ior died for me. ev - ery say, Till the sa - cred song. strang-ers love Thy charm - ing name, and join

Text: Anne Steel, 1760; Music: Traditional Irish Melody.

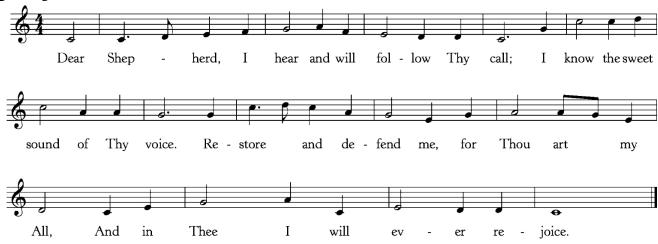
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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—II Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *Amen.*

Sung Response—O Thou In Whose Presence, Vs 11



Text: Joseph Swain, 1791; Music: DAVIS, 1813.

Welcome to Cornerstone! We're glad you're visiting with us today, and would love the opportunity to welcome you personally. We invite you to fill out our visitor card by following this link. https://cornerstonepresbyterianchurch.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/40/responses/new



Focus on Church Ministry

Women at the Merc at Biscuit Love

Please join us Thursday, August 6, at 6:00 p.m. on the back patio at Biscuit Love to enjoy a delicious meal from the Franklin Mercantile with your Cornerstone sisters. Please bring your mask to help ensure everyone's health and safety during the serving of food. \$5 suggested donation. Register by Monday at 5 p.m. women@cstonepres.org or on CCB forms

Men's Ministry – Bible Study

Set aside Thursday mornings for our Bible Study series, Coffee with Calvin (& Friends)—True Prayer, True Power. We are studying Charles Spurgeon's sermons on prayer via Zoom. There are two meetings left in this series on August 6 and 20. We hope you'll join us to study the teaching of this powerful 19th century pastor. Contact: men@stonepres.org

Prayer

Our prayer team would be honored to pray with and for you. Join the team and submit requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

The Bookshelf

If you're looking to while away an afternoon during these dog days of summer, check out the bookshelf directly outside the church office. There are carefully chosen books available for all ages. Payment is on your honor, on the top shelf.

Giving

There are boxes for giving tithes and alms at both entrances to the chapel. You can also securely give online through the church website.

Nursery

Beginning today, Sunday, August 2, nursery will be available during the 8 a.m. service. You must register your child for nursery when you register for the service. Parents of nursery-aged children should have received an email with the new guidelines. Please let Christy know if you if you have questions or didn't receive the email: cjshurden@yahoo.com/615-720-8054

New College Franklin

NCF is seeking housing for college students for the 2020/2I school year beginning in August. If you are interested in housing students or finding out more, contact Tammy McCoy: office@newcollegefranklin.org

Come Learn to Pray

If you struggle with prayer—or struggle to pray—you are not alone. And not without help. Please join us for a prayer summit (via Zoom) on how to pray for an unbeliever. Tuesday, August 4, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Prayer summits are held the first Tuesday of each month and are a once-a-month part of the weekly Tuesday night prayer meetings. Email Tony by noon on Tuesday to request an invitation to the Zoom. tonygiles@me.com

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Pastor: Nate Shurden (618-4707 Office) or nate@cstonepres.org
Assistant Pastor: Ben Griffith (601-606-2687) at ben@cstonepres.org
Assistant Pastor: Tony Giles (430-8801) or tony@cstonepres.org
Worship and Chief Musician: Greg Wilbur (512-4156) or greg@cstonepres.org
Office Administrator: Susan Bumpus (618-4707) or office@cstonepres.org
Administrative Assistant for Discipleship: Martha Brooks martha@cstonepres.org
Home Fellowship Information: HFG@cstonepres.org
Women's Ministry: Martha Brooks and Julie Kesler at women@cstonepres.org
Men's Ministry: Ron Moffat or men@cstonepres.org
Acting Youth Director: Taylor Thompson (717-371-0848) or youth@cstonepres.org
Children's Director: Meredith Suits (865-250-3579) or elementary@cstonepres.org

n's Director: Meredith Suits (865-250-3579) or elementary@cstonepres.o Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org

Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

Ruling Elders

Randy Allen (260-1884) Chuck Emerson: *Émeritus* (943-8443) Terry Cheney (579-7089) Joe Haworth (289-7543)

Deacons

Jim Robinson (587-0442) Todd Russell (319-4803) David Steffens (557-5316) Jim Payne (497-0613) Jim Smith (347-4188)

Larry Thompson (901-734-1520) Bob Vermilye (599-9577)

Kevin McClung (243-9228) Mike Payne (579-6453)

Mark Elliott (477-I04I)

*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version

