

# CORNERSTONE

## Presbyterian Church



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time

25 September 2022

## Pastoral Notes

#### Dear Cornerstone Family,

If you are new to Cornerstone, maybe even visiting for the first time, I want you to know what a joy it is to have you with us. It can be intimidating visiting a new church where you don't know anyone and you're not sure what will happen. On that note, I want to thank you for not giving into feelings of fear but, instead, mustering the courage to be here and worship the Lord.

Further, we believe all things happen for a purpose (Proverbs 16:4), and so your presence with us today is no accident. Therefore, it is our earnest prayer that you will receive the blessing the Lord has planned for His people today in worship. If there's anything we can do to serve you, please let us know. After service, stop by and introduce yourself. I'll be at the back of the chapel. I'd love to meet you personally. I'm so glad you're here.

If you're a veteran Cornerstone member, you have an opportunity to share the welcome of Christ today (Romans 15:7). I want you to remember what it was like to first visit the church. Remember how awkward it felt to be in an unfamiliar place? Remember the nervousness about not knowing anyone? Now, take a quick look around. Are you sitting near someone you don't know? If so, recognize that as God's kind providence. The Lord is giving you an opportunity to serve! Go ahead and help ease the awkwardness and apprehension by introducing yourself and learning a bit about them. Let them know how glad you are that they are with us in worship. These simple kindnesses will go a long way in extending the welcome of Christ today.

Beyond welcoming, Cornerstone desires for all people to know the joy and peace of union with Jesus Christ. To that end, we strive to create ministry environments and initiatives where the means of God's grace are accessible to God's people and thus favorable for spiritual growth. One way this happens is through our Sunday School adult education classes, aptly named **The School of Discipleship**. Every term we offer two adult School of Discipleship classes during the Sunday School hour (9:45-10:30 a.m.). Beginning next Sunday (October 2nd) two more School of Discipleship classes will be offered. Please take time to read the descriptions of the two classes below and make plans now to join us next week as we commit to growing in grace together.

### Worship: In the Beauty of Holiness (Core Class, The Chapel)

The Psalmist instructs us to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. In this six-week course, Mr. Greg Wilbur will lead a class on congregational worship on the Lord's Day. You will learn the content and flow of our worship service, and how beauty and holiness influence the structure and purpose of our worship gathering.

## Technology and the Formation of Our Souls (Elective, Room 302-303)

Are you using your iPhone, or is your iPhone using you? In this six-week course, the Pastors of Cornerstone will explore technology as a biblical good, the dangers of technology in a post-fall world, and the formative power—for good and ill—that technology wields over our everyday lives. Join us as we seek wisdom for living faithfully in our increasingly technologized world.

Your servant,

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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.

## 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—Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart vs. I, 5



Text: E.H. Plumptre, 1865; Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1883.

## Call to Worship—from Psalm 121

Pastor: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

All: My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

All: Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Pastor: The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

All: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

Pastor: The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

All: The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

## Hymn of Praise—Come, Christians, Join to Sing



Text: Christian H. Bateman, 1843; Music: MADRID, Traditional Spanish Melody, Arr David Evans, 1927.

## New Testament Reading—Matthew 5:17-20

<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—Lord, Have Mercy



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

## Congregational Prayer of Confession—based on Isaiah 48:I-5, 9-II, I7-I8

Leader: Lord, we come to You confessing.

You speak to Your people who are called by Your name.

All: We confess you as God, but not in truth or rightly.

Leader: We call ourselves after Your name and declare that we are stayed on You.

O Lord, You have declared and announced what You would do and You did it.

All: But You knew we are obstinate, slow to submit, hard of heart.

Leader: You declared what You would do

so that we could not claim we made things happen in our own strength or by human means.

All: For the sake of Your name, You defer Your anger.

For the sake of Your praise, You restrain Your anger that we may not be cut off.

Leader: You have refined us in the furnace of affliction

so that Your name would not be profaned. Your glory You will not give to another.

All: By nature, we desire to steal glory for ourselves.

Leader: For You are our Redeemer and the Holy One of Israel, and You declare,

"I am the Lord your God who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go."

All: O that we would pay attention to Your commandments!

Then our peace would be like a river, and our righteousness like the waves of the sea.

## Silent Prayers of Confession

## Assurance of Pardon—based on Ephesians 2:8-I0

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

## Though the World and Many Idols



Text: Gina Tuck, 2010 Music: Sherdonna Denholm, 2010

# Sacrament of Baptism—Byron Matthew Weber, William Stuart Weber, & Kingsley Charles Weber Vows of Profession:

- I. Do you acknowledge that you are a sinner, deserving God's displeasure, and without hope except in His sovereign mercy?
- 2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
- 3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as a faithful follower of Christ?

## The Reading of the Word—Exodus 20:1-21

And God spoke all these words, saying,

- <sup>2</sup> "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
- <sup>3</sup> "You shall have no other gods beforeme.
- <sup>4</sup> "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

<sup>8</sup> "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. <sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

<sup>12</sup> "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

13 "You shall not murder.

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

15 "You shall not steal.

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup> "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

<sup>18</sup> Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off <sup>19</sup> and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die." <sup>20</sup> Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin." <sup>21</sup> The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—Delivered: A Study in Exodus, part 26

The Law of Grace

—Nate Shurden, Pastor

## Sung Response—Song of Moses (Revelation 15:3-4)



Song of Moses (Revelation 15:3-4) Text: Nathan Johnson, 2022; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2022.

## 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—Glory Be to God the Father



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

God offers to His people the gift of communion with Him through the grace of the sacrament and we respond in thanksgiving.

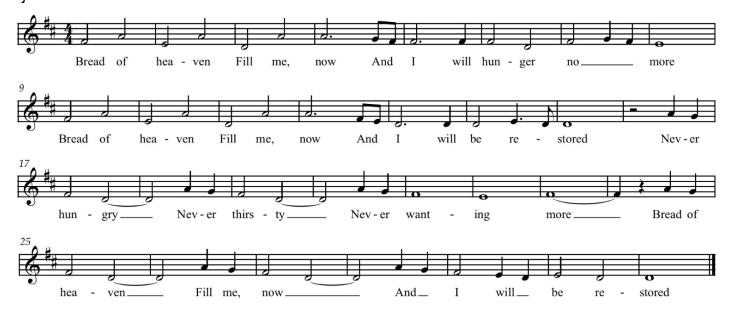
## Words of Institution and the Lord's Table Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

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 to partake of the bread, and then to the second tables to drink the cup of wine/juice.

## Hymn of Communion—Bread of Heaven



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#### 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

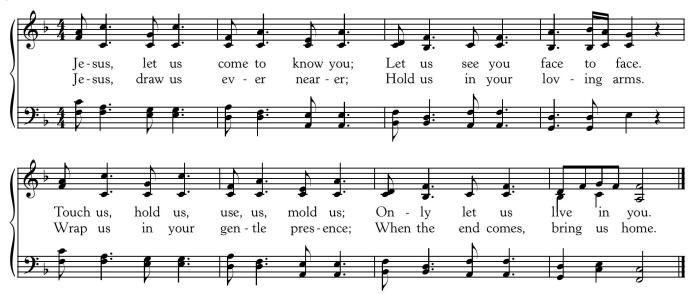
Prayer of Commitment. Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen

#### Psalm of the Month—Psalm 50



Text: The Scottish Psalter, 1650; Music: 17th c. Scottish Melody, Adapted GDW 1998.

## Hymn of Communion—Jesus Let Us Come to Know You



CCLI #11121087 ©1987 Mole End Music, Text and Music: Michael Card, 1987.

## 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 Ye Souls



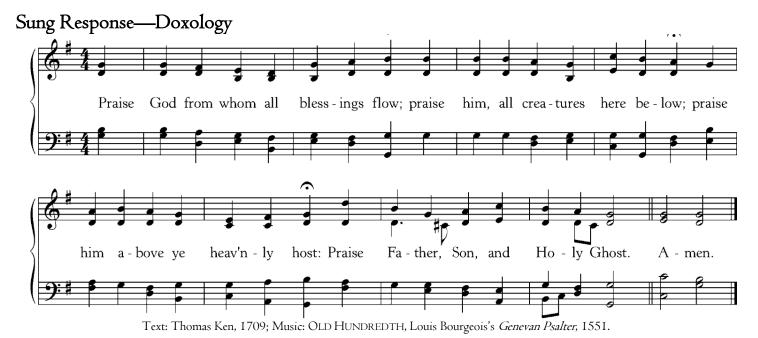
Text: Joseph Swain, 1792; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2005. © 2005 Greyfriars Press, Used Permission.

#### 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—from Hebrew 13:20-21

<sup>20</sup> Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, <sup>2I</sup> equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.



Missions Prayer Focus— 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).

#### Prayer Focus:

- Thanking our good God that to date he has answered our prayers and we are on track to acquiring permanent use of an historic church building in the very centre of Oxford! We recently won the bid for the building and we are currently agreeing 'heads of terms' with the City Council. Please pray this goes smoothly and that our application to change the use of the building back to a church will go ahead without delay. Please also pray that we will gain access to the building as soon as possible so we can accommodate our growing church numbers.
- For the Lord to open the hearts of the non-Christians who are regularly attending our services. 'A' recently asked how he could become a Christian, and 'P' and his girlfriend 'T' keep coming back to our worship services and church events. Please pray for the Lord to give them the gift of faith and for them to profess faith in Christ.
- For the new academic year that will start in a couple of weeks. Tens of thousands of students will descend on Oxford and many will either be Christians looking for a church or non-Christians interested in finding out about Christianity. Pray that we will be able to welcome them and integrate many of them into the life of our church. Pray also for strength this time of year can be exhausting!

Welcome to Cornerstone! If you are visiting with us today, we are glad you're here and would love the opportunity to welcome you personally. We invite you to fill out the visitor card available in the pew in front of you.

Please drop it in the offering boxes at either chapel entrance as you leave.

## Focus on Church Ministry

#### Cornerstone Ministry Expansion Team

The Cornerstone Ministry Expansion Team would love to hear your thoughts and be encouraged by your prayers as we continue to seek the Lord's will in the expansion of Cornerstone's ministries. Feel free to drop us a line there: expansion@cstonepres.org

#### Young Adults Picnic Rescheduled

We will fellowship together next week, October 2, after second service at Pinkerton Park. Bring your lunch, blanket, and/or chairs. See you at I:00ish! youngadults@cstonepres.org

#### The Cornerstone School of Discipleship

Our current classes, *The Christian Hope in a Secular Age: Engaging Unbelief with the Hope of the Gospel* and *A Match Made in Heaven: Pursuing a Lifetime of Love,* are finishing up this morning, and new classes will begin next week. Read today's Pastoral Notes to get the details, and please make time in your Sunday mornings to attend one of the classes.

## Thanksgiving and Advent Choir

Our choir needs more voices! We are rehearsing Wednesday evenings after Vespers in preparation for a Community Thanksgiving Service with surrounding PCA churches as well as our typical Lessons & Carols service in December. Choir is a wonderful opportunity to meet others in the church while we prepare music to lead God's people in worship. Contact: Greg Wilbur at greg@cstonepres.org

#### Midweek at Cornerstone

Midweek at Cornerstone is in full swing! Please join us this week as we gather for a catered dinner followed by Kids Club, Youth Group, Vespers, and Choir. Dinner registration for this week is open online and will close Monday at noon.

#### Seeing the Gospel in Stories

Monday, October 3, 7:00 p.m.

Using the Grimm's Fairy Tales "Cinderella" and two others, we will talk about how to read for symbols in a story, how that helps us to understand Scripture, and how these stories intentionally tell the story of the Gospel and redemption. There are free copies available on The Bookshelf, or look for the downloadable pdf in Life at Cornerstone, on the website, and on the app.

#### Fall Devotional

This devotional will guide us all the way to Advent and is available at both chapel entrances. It includes scripture passages to read for Sunday through Friday and suggestions for morning and evening prayer. It is also available as a downloadable PDF on the church website and app.

## Evenings of Encouragement for Moms

All moms of young children are encouraged to join in these once-a-month gatherings where you will learn from and be encouraged by moms a little further along the parenting path. Our next gathering is October 4, 6:45-8:30 p.m., at the home of Suzann Allen. We will be discussing children in worship – why we include them, and strategies for drawing them into worship. Email women@cstonepres.org for more details.

#### Fire Drill

The children will have a fire drill today during the Sunday School hour. If you have questions, please go by the children's check-in table in the basement.

## Loving Franklin's Elderly

On the first Sunday of each month one of your Cornerstone leaders offers a brief worship service at Morning Pointe of Franklin. We'd love for you to come and lend your voice to the singing and offer friendship to the residents. Join us October 2 from I:30-2:15 p.m. Contact: ethanvroom99@gmail.com

## Taking the Message Home

Today's message, "The Law of Grace," is taken from Exodus 20:1-21. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group (HFG).

- Why is the first commandment *first*?
- How is the tenth commandment different from the rest?
- How do the first and tenth commandments tie all the commandments together?
- There are two ways we tend to misuse the law. What are those two ways?
- Are you able to keep the law of God? (Don't answer too quickly.)
- Did your love and appreciation for Jesus Christ increase today?

## CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

#### Presbyterian Church in America

Pastor: Nate Shurden (615-618-4707 Office) or nate@cstonepres.org
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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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Administrative Assistant for Discipleship: Martha Brooks martha@cstonepres.org

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Men's Ministry: men@cstonepres.org

Young Adult Ministry: Nathan Johnson (423) 285-9099 or youngadults@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
Nursery Coordinator: Christy Shurden or nursery@cstonepres.org

Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

#### Ruling Elders

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Will Kesler (423-313-7493) John Millard (423-443-8852) Ron Moffat (629-215-5135)

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\*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version