

CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

The Sundays of Pentecost—Ordinary Time

02 October 2022

Pastoral Notes

I asked Greg Wilbur to give a preview of the upcoming literature discussions as well as a very special opportunity for our next film discussion.

It is not unusual to hear the phrase that God is the Master Storyteller. The implications of God as author and narrator should encourage us to consider a number of patterns that apply to stories as a whole as well as all the world around us. Stories work as stories because they start somewhere and move through difficulties to a place of rest or resolution. In the simplest sense and in the broadest scope, THE story begins with a relationship with the Creator in the Garden of Eden which was broken by sin and followed by exile with a longing for a true home.

Or, the son of the King lost his bride who left home and is now hopelessly lost in the wilderness. The Prince enters into the wilderness to find his Beloved and to bring her home.

Or, the prodigal son leaves home for a life of dissipation and sin until he is covered by the mud and muck of the world. As he seeks out home, his father reaches out to bring him in and restore him to home with feasting.

Or, Hansel and Gretel, through the selfish sin of their mother, are forced from home into the wilds of the forest. They find a candy home and "mother," but it turns out to be a false home and a false mother/witch who seeks to devour them in fire. After killing death, they pass over the cleansing waters and return to the home of their father. The famine is over, and they now have great riches and no want or lack.

Through these examples, I hope you can see the pattern of the Gospel as it moves through these stories of restored home and rescued love. With the three stories from the Brothers Grimm, we will explore different symbols and signs in versions of fairy tales that look far different from the versions we most typically know—especially in the loss of the inherent Gospel imagery and purpose. We will be reading Cinderella, a version of Sleeping Beauty, and Beauty and the Beast. With only I4 pages to read, there is plenty of time to prepare and come to the discussion on Monday night at 7:00 p.m.

Our next film discussion will be a very special opportunity. On Monday evening, October 24, we will have a pre-release screening of the film *Surprised by Oxford*. This film is based on the award-winning memoir by Carolyn Weber—who is a member of Cornerstone and a professor at New College Franklin. As part of the evening, we will have a panel discussion with Cornerstone member Ken Carpenter (who produced the film), Ryan Whitaker (the Writer and Director), Rose Reid (the star of the film), and Carolyn (author of the book). Not only will this be a significant opportunity to see the film but also interact with the creative process by which the film came to be.

By understanding how stories work and how to follow the significance in stories, the desire is to increase our ability to read scripture, the narratives of the culture around us, and to ground us in the truth of the Gospel.

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—All Creatures of Our God and King, Vs 6



Text: Francis of Assisi, c. 1225, Tr William Draper, 1919; Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, Cologne, 1623.

Call to Worship—based on Psalm 119:169-176

Pastor: O LORD, You give us understanding according to Your word; Let our cry come before You,

All: You deliver us according to Your word; let our plea come before You.

Pastor: You teach us of Your statutes; our lips will pour forth praise.

All: All Your commands are right; our tongues sing of your word.

Pastor: Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts.

All: I long for your salvation, O LORD, and your law is my delight.

Pastor: Let my soul live and praise you, and let your rules help me.

All: I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

Hymn of Praise—Praise to the Lord



Text: Psalm 103, Joachim Neander, 1680, Tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863; Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Stralsund Gesangbuch*, 1665, Arr, in *Praxis Pietatis Melica*, 1668.

New Testament Reading—Galatians 3:7-14

⁷Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. ⁸And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." ⁹So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

¹⁰On works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." ¹¹Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." ¹²But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." ¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"— ¹⁴ so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith

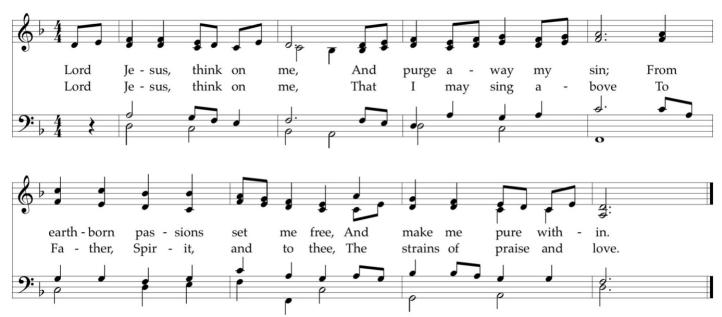
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

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 Jesus Think on Me vs I, 6



Text: Synesius of Cyrene, c. 375-430, Tr Allen William Charfield, 1808-96; Music: SOUTHWELL, Damon's *Psalmes*, 1579. Adapted 1997. © 1997 Greyfriars Press. Used by permission.

Congregational Prayer of Confession—based on I Peter 4:7-II

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. For the sake of our prayers, You call us to be self-controlled and sober-minded.

All: Above all, we are to keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

Pastor: We confess that our love is rarely earnest

and we seek to uncover faults in one another.

All: Forgive us for not loving others as You have loved us.

Pastor: Let us show hospitality to one another without grumbling.

All: As good stewards of Your varied grace, may we use our gifts to serve one another instead of seeking to advance ourselves.

Pastor: Help us to speak Your words boldly.

All: Help us to serve as one who serves by Your strength in order that You might be glorified.

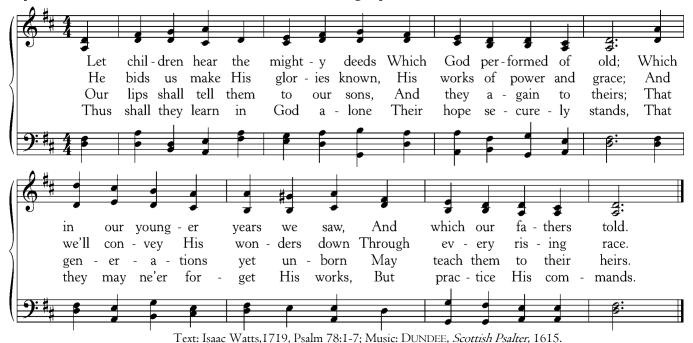
Pastor: To You belong glory and dominion forever and ever.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—from I Peter 1:22-23

Since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; your souls are purified for obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love—that you may love one another earnestly from a pure heart.

Hymn of Praise—Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds



The Reading of the Word—Exodus 20:22-22:15

²² And the LORD said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the people of Israel: 'You have seen for yourselves that I have talked with you from heaven.' You shall not make gods of silver to be with me, nor shall you make for yourselves gods of gold. ²⁴ An altar of earth you shall make for me and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I cause my name to be remembered I will come to you and bless you. ²⁵ If you make me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stones, for if you wield your tool on it you profane it. ²⁶ And you shall not go up by steps to my altar, that your nakedness be not exposed on it.'

¹ "Now these are the rules that you shall set before them. ² When you buy a Hebrew slave, he shall serve six years, and in the seventh he shall go out free, for nothing. ³ If he comes in single, he shall go out single; if he comes in married, then his wife shall go out with him. 4 If his master gives him a wife and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out alone. ⁵ But if the slave plainly says, 'I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free,'6 then his master shall bring him to God, and he shall bring him to the door or the doorpost. And his master shall bore his ear through with an awl, and he shall be his slave forever. 7"When a man sells his daughter as a slave, she shall not go out as the male slaves do. 8 If she does not please her master, who has designated her for himself, then he shall let her be redeemed. He shall have no right to sell her to a foreign people, since he has broken faith with her. ⁹If he designates her for his son, he shall deal with her as with a daughter. ¹⁰ If he takes another wife to himself, he shall not diminish her food, her clothing, or her marital rights. II And if he does not do these three things for her, she shall go out for nothing, without payment of money.

¹² "Whoever strikes a man so that he dies shall be put to death. ¹³ But if he did not lie in wait for him,

but God let him fall into his hand, then I will appoint for you a place to which he may flee. ¹⁴ But if a man willfully attacks another to kill him by cunning, you shall take him from my altar, that he may die.

¹⁵ "Whoever strikes his father or his mother shall be put to death.

¹⁶ "Whoever steals a man and sells him, and anyone found in possession of him, shall be put to death.

¹⁷ "Whoever curses his father or his mother shall be put to death.

When men quarrel and one strikes the other with a stone or with his fist and the man does not die but takes to his bed, ¹⁹ then if the man rises again and walks outdoors with his staff, he who struck him shall be clear; only he shall pay for the loss of his time, and shall have him thoroughly healed.

²⁰ "When a man strikes his slave, male or female, with a rod and the slave dies under his hand, he shall be avenged. ²¹ But if the slave survives a day or two, he is not to be avenged, for the slave is his money.

²² "When men strive together and hit a pregnant woman, so that her children come out, but there is no harm, the one who hit her shall surely be fined, as the woman's husband shall impose on him, and he shall pay as the judges determine. ²³ But if there is harm, then you shall pay life for life, ²⁴ eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, ²⁵ burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe.

²⁶ "When a man strikes the eye of his slave, male or female, and destroys it, he shall let the slave go free because of his eye. ²⁷ If he knocks out the tooth of his slave, male or female, he shall let the slave go free because of his tooth.

²⁸ "When an ox gores a man or a woman to death, the ox shall be stoned, and its flesh shall not be eaten, but the owner of the ox shall not be liable.²⁹ But if the ox has been accustomed to gore in the past, and its owner has been warned but has not kept it in, and it kills a man or a woman, the ox shall be stoned, and

its owner also shall be put to death. ³⁰ If a ransom is imposed on him, then he shall give for the redemption of his life whatever is imposed on him. ³¹ If it gores a man's son or daughter, he shall be dealt with according to this same rule. ³² If the ox gores a slave, male or female, the owner shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.

³³ "When a man opens a pit, or when a man digs a pit and does not cover it, and an ox or a donkey falls into it, ³⁴ the owner of the pit shall make restoration. He shall give money to its owner, and the dead beast shall be his.

³⁵ "When one man's ox butts another's, so that it dies, then they shall sell the live ox and share its price, and the dead beast also they shall share.³⁶ Or if it is known that the ox has been accustomed to gore in the past, and its owner has not kept it in, he shall repay ox for ox, and the dead beast shall be his.

sells it, he shall repay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep. ² If a thief is found breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there shall be no bloodguilt for him, ³ but if the sun has risen on him, there shall be bloodguilt for him. He shall surely pay. If he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft. ⁴ If the stolen beast is found alive in his possession, whether it is an ox or a donkey or a sheep, he shall pay double.

⁵ "If a man causes a field or vineyard to be grazed over, or lets his beast loose and it feeds in another man's field, he shall make restitution from the best in his own field and in his own vineyard.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—Delivered: A Study in Exodus, part 27

The Book of the Covenant

6"If fire breaks out and catches in thorns so that the stacked grain or the standing grain or the field is consumed, he who started the fire shall make full restitution.

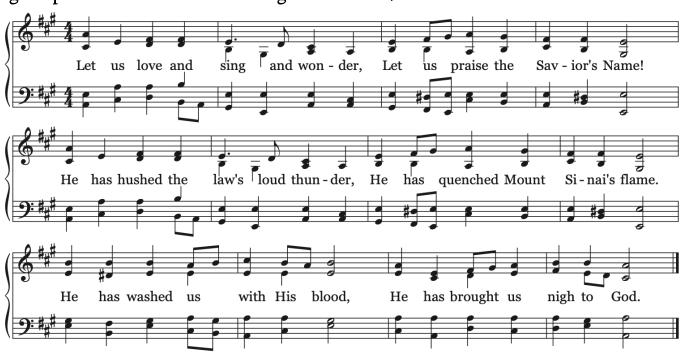
⁷"If a man gives to his neighbor money or goods to keep safe, and it is stolen from the man's house, then, if the thief is found, he shall pay double.⁸ If the thief is not found, the owner of the house shall come near to God to show whether or not he has put his hand to his neighbor's property. ⁹For every breach of trust, whether it is for an ox, for a donkey, for a sheep, for a cloak, or for any kind of lost thing, of which one says, 'This is it,' the case of both parties shall come before God. The one whom God condemns shall pay double to his neighbor.

ox or a sheep or any beast to keep safe, and it dies or is injured or is driven away, without anyone seeing it, ¹¹ an oath by the LORD shall be between them both to see whether or not he has put his hand to his neighbor's property. The owner shall accept the oath, and he shall not make restitution. ¹² But if it is stolen from him, he shall make restitution to its owner. ¹³ If it is torn by beasts, let him bring it as evidence. He shall not make restitution for what has been torn.

¹⁴ "If a man borrows anything of his neighbor, and it is injured or dies, the owner not being with it, he shall make full restitution. ¹⁵ If the owner was with it, he shall not make restitution; if it was hired, it came for its hiring fee.

—Nate Shurden, Pastor

Sung Response—Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder, Vs I



Text: John Newton, 1774; Music: ALL SAINTS OLD, Darmstadt Gesangbuch, 1698.

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



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

Celebration of First Communion

—Ezekiel Richard Elliot, son of Mark & Lindsey Elliott —Audrey Elizabeth Smith & Cody Jennings Smith, children of Eric & Lauren Smith

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 Praise—Jesus, I Come



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Psalm of the Month—Psalm 106 O Render Thanks to God Above



Text: Psalm 106, Tate and Brady's New Versions, 1696, 1698; Music: Greyfriars Press, 2022

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

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—There is a Fountain Filled with Blood



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—2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word. *Amen.*

Sung Response—May the Grace of Christ Our Savior



Text: John Newton, 1779; Music: BENEDICTION, Gregory Wilbur, 1993. ©1993 Greyfriars Press, Used by Permission.

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

The Cornerstone School of Discipleship

Please join one of these new adult Sunday School classes beginning today.

Worship: In the Beauty of Holiness

Core Class, Room 303

The Psalmist instructs us to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. In this course, Greg Wilbur will lead a class on congregational worship on the Lord's Day. Over the course of seven weeks, 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 on the Lord's Day.

Technology and the Formation of Our Souls

Elective, The Chapel

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

Young Adults Picnic Today

We will fellowship together today after second service at Pinkerton Park. Bring your lunch, blanket, and/or chairs.

Midweek at Cornerstone

Midweek at Cornerstone is in full swing! Dinner registration 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.

Loving Franklin's Elderly

Please join us this afternoon from I:30-2:15 p.m. for 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. Contact: ethanvroom99@gmail.com

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. Contact: Greg Wilbur at greg@cstonepres.org

Spiritual Retreat: Building Intimacy with God

Saturday, October 22, 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Retreat is one of the practices of the Cornerstone Christian Formation Plan. We retreat in order to reflect on our relationship with God and then re-enter life. This is a chance to step away with a few others to examine Scripture together and spend guided time alone for personal reflection and prayer. No cost. Lunch is provided. Space is limited. Register online through the website and app.

Deeper Together: in Scripture

All women are invited to join your Cornerstone sisters on October 18 at 6:00 p.m. at The Franklin Mercantile for an evening of food, fun, and hearing from two of our own dear sisters about the importance of planting the Word of God deep in our hearts. You will leave with some tips and tools you can immediately put into practice. Please register online through the 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. More details on the website.

Cornerstone Men: Fall Classic

Brothers, join us October 29, 4:00-8:00 p.m., at the home of Randy Allen for the Cornerstone Fall Classic—Cornhole Tournament, Chili Cook-off, and Firepit Fellowship. Please sign-up for the Cornhole tournament in advance so we can have a proper bracket. Prizes will be awarded, and bragging rights will be included! If you don't have a cornhole teammate, go ahead and register and you'll be paired with a teammate. For more information on the Chili Cook-off see the registration form. Sign up today!

Today's message, "The Book of the Covenant," is taken from Exodus 20:22-22:15. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group (HFG).

- How do the ten commandments relate to the 600+ laws in the book of the covenant?
- The three-fold division of the law in the Old Testament is moral, ceremonial, and civil. How are the ceremonial and civil laws different from the moral law?
- When we say we should maintain the "general equity" of civil and ceremonial laws today, what do we mean? Can you give an example?
- What stood out to you about the laws regarding altars today? What about the laws concerning slaves?
- When and how was the gospel made clear to your heart today?

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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Acting Youth Director: Taylor Thompson (717-371-0848) or youth@cstonepres.org
Children's Director: Meredith Suits (865-250-3579) or elementary@cstonepres.org
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Prayer Requests: prayer@cstonepres.org

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version