

CORNERSTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal

Reformation Sunday

29 October 2023

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

On October 31, 1517, an Augustinian monk by the name of Martin Luther took a hammer and nail and posted his now famous 95 Theses on the Wittenberg church door in Germany. That courageous action sparked one of the greatest movements of God's Spirit in human history. And it all began on... Halloween? That's right. The launch of what would become known as the Protestant Reformation began on the one night of the year where ghosts and goblins rule the streets. If you think that's merely a coincidence, you're likely mistaken.

Halloween is short for All Hallows Eve. The word "hallow" is the word for "holy." You know this because you say it every week in worship when we pray the Lord's Prayer, "Our Father, who art in heaven, *hallowed* be thy name" (Matthew 6:9). All Hallows' Eve was the name given to the night before the Christian feast, All Saint's Day, which was celebrated on November I. All Saint's Day is the annual remembrance of those who have died in Christ and gone before us into heaven.

Now, it has been suggested that Martin Luther chose to nail his 95 Theses on All Hallows Eve in anticipation of All Saints Day, because his protest sought to expose the corruption of the church in his day and call it back to the faith once for all entrusted to God's holy people (Jude I:3). Luther believed the late medieval church was, in many ways, held captive by a "doctrine of demons" (I Timothy 4:I), and that the time had come for a return to the historic orthodox belief and practice held by the church throughout the ages. To borrow another phrase from the Lord's Prayer, Luther wanted to see God's will done on earth as it is in heaven.

Rehearsing the legacy of faith passed down through the generations is a critical Christian discipline (Hebrews 12:1). Though often neglected today, it was common historically for the church to pause during this season and remember those who have passed into glory, giving thanks to God for their lives.

As a way of stepping into that discipline, next Sunday, November 5, we're going take time to hear testimonies from Cornerstone members regarding those who have died in Christ Jesus. In preparation for next week's service, please take few minutes to remember a person or two—a grandmother, a coach, a teacher, a missionary, a historical figure, a writer—who died in Christ and offer thanksgiving for their life.

As a precursor to next week's service, today we recognize and rejoice in a particular movement of God in church history, the Protestant Reformation. Or, properly speaking, we recognize and rejoice in the recovery of the gospel of Jesus Christ that took place during the Protestant Reformation. On that note, look for themes related to the gospel and the precious doctrine of justification by faith as we offer to God worship with reverence and awe.

Your servant,

Nate

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—Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, Vs I & 2



Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867; Music: ST. DENIO, Traditional Welsh Melody.

Call to Worship—Psalm 27:I-4, 6

Pastor: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

All: The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Pastor: When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh,

my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

All: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

Pastor: One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,

All: to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

Pastor: And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,

and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

All: I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Hymn of Praise—All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name



New Testament Reading—I Peter 2:4-I0

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,

a cornerstone chosen and precious,

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone,"

8 and

"A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

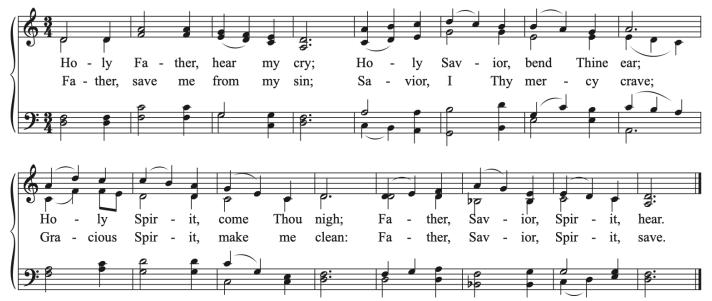
Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

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—Holy Father, Hear My Cry, vs I & 2



Text: Horatius Bonar, 1843; Music: Gregory Wilbur, 2010. Used by permission.

Congregational Confession of Sin—Malachi 3:6-7

Leader: "For I the LORD do not change;

All: therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

Leader: From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes

All: and have not kept them.

Leader: Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD of hosts.

And so we pray together:

Heavenly Father,

We once walked in the path of this world following the pattern of it and the spirit of the age.

And we were dead in trespasses and sins.

We all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the desires of the mind.

We were by nature children of wrath like the rest of mankind.

But You, being rich in mercy,

because of the great love with which You loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses,

You made us alive together with Christ.

By grace You saved us and raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Him.

In the coming ages You will show the immeasurable riches of Your grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus.

Give us the grace and faith to not let sin reign in our mortal bodies, to not obey its passions.

(cf Ephesians 2:1-7 & Romans 6:12)

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—Titus 3:4-7

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Hymn of Praise—A Mighty Fortress



Text: Psalm 46, Martin Luther, 1529, trans Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; Music: EIN'FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1529.

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

The Reading of the Word—Acts 4:11-12, I Timothy 2:5-6

¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹² And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

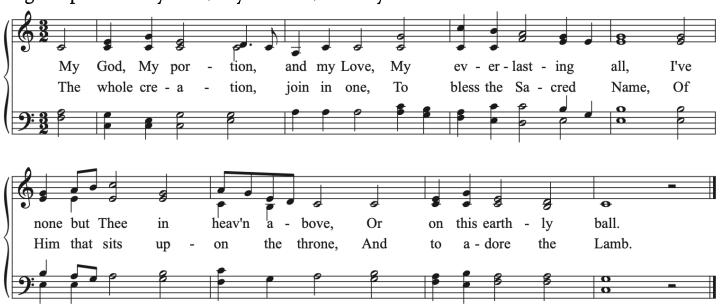
Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

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

Sermon—No Other Name: Salvation is in Christ Alone

—Nate Shurden, Pastor

Sung Response—My God, My Portion, and My Love vs I & 5



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, from Southern Harmony.

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

Sung Response—Sanctus

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



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

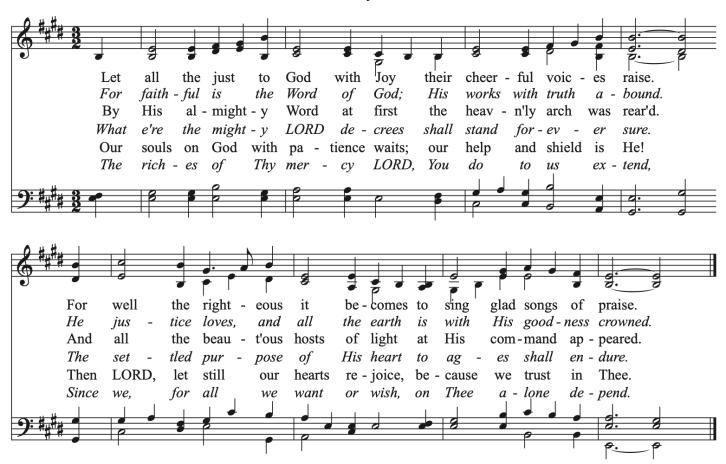
Guidelines for the Lord's Supper

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 to the second for wine/juice.

Psalm of the Month—Psalm 33: Let All the Just



Words: Psalm 33, Tate and Brady's New Versions 1696, alt. 2022 Music: LAND OF REST, American Folk Melody

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

Hymn of Communion—Rock of Ages







CCLI #11121087 © 1985, Music Anno Domini. Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1776, Alt Thomas Cotterill, 1815; Music: NEW CITY FELLOWSHIP, James Ward. 1984.

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—My Hope is Built on Nothing Less



Text: Edward Mote, 1834: Music: SOLID ROCK, 1992. © 1992 Greyfriars Press. Used by Permission.

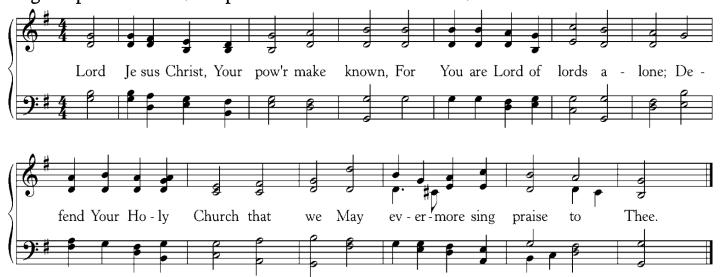
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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—Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Sung Response—Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word, Vs 2



Text: Martin, Luther, 1541, Trans Catherine Winkworth, 1863, Alt. 2007; Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Genevan Psalter, 1551.

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

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. We'd love to have you offer friendship to the residents and lend your voice to the singing of hymns. Please join us after the service next week from I:30-2:15 p.m. Contact Ethan Vroom for more information: ethan@cstonepres.org.

Bookshelf Flash Sale!

Today only! In honor of Reformation Day, we are running a 50% off sale for every book on the Bookshelf. The Bookshelf is located on the second-floor landing. Take 50% off the price on the back of the book. Stop by today before the books are gone!

Rekindled

We are excited to invite Cornerstone women, ages 55ish and up and single, to a brunch and fellowship with other ladies in our body who are in a similar season of life. We will gather on November II at 10:00 a.m. at The Corner House. Please let Martha know you are coming! martha@cstonepres.org

Arts Discussion: Babette's Feast by Isak Dinesen

As we prepare for holiday food and feasts, this short work (about 50 pages) reminds us of the role of food in Scripture and the redemptive power of sharing a table, and ourselves, with others. You can find free copies on the bookshelf. Come discuss with us on Monday, November 13, at 7:00 p.m. Contact: greg@cstonepres.org

Youth Service Day

On Saturday, November 18, Cornerstone Youth students are invited to come and serve with GraceWorks Ministries. We will be working with the food pantry to make meal bags for students in need in Williamson County from 8:00-10:00 a.m. Sign up for emails for our Youth Ministry for more details and to register.

Cornerstone Devotional

The devotional for our sermon series on Malachi is available at either entrance to the Chapel. Take one home and read along with your Cornerstone family.

Men's Fall Classic

Brothers, please join us this Saturday, November 4, from 3:00-7:30 p.m. for the Cornerstone Fall Classic—Cornhole Tournament, Chili Cook-off, and Fire-pit Fellowship at Preston Brooks' home (1020 Lumsden Ln, Franklin). If you don't have a cornhole teammate but would like to participate, simply register and you'll be paired with a teammate. If you'd like to be a judge for the Chili Cook-off, or have any other questions, contact Mark Mitchell at markdanielmitchell@gmail.com. Register now on the homepage of the website.

Life at the Corner Podcast

Mark your calendars! On Monday, November 6th, the first episode of the brand-new Cornerstone podcast, *Life at the Corner*, will be live! Hosted by Pastor Nate, this new ministry will aim to address a wide range of matters related to the intersection of life at faith. We hope you'll listen in on Apple Podcasts or Spotify and come back each Monday for a new episode.

Seminary on Saturday

When life has become unbearable how does God's Word support us? What can we say to those who are in desperate need when we ourselves are hurting? How can we grow through hard times? On November 4, from 8:30 a.m.-I:30 p.m., Dr. Scott Oliphint and Dr. Stafford Carson of Westminster Theological Seminary are tackling the topic of Scripture and its reliability in this event titled: "A Word for All Seasons." Come join members of the Nashville Presbytery at Covenant Presbyterian Church for a morning of rich teaching. Tickets are available at wts.edu/sos or through the Cornerstone website.

Midweek at Cornerstone

There's something for everyone at Midweek! Join us on Wednesdays for dinner and stay for Kids Club, Youth Group, Vespers, and Choir. Dinner registration opens each Thursday morning and remains open until Monday at noon. Make sure you're subscribed to our emails so you don't miss any details!

Today's message, "No Other Name: Salvation in Christ Alone," is taken from Acts 4:II-I2 and I Timothy 2:5-6. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group (HFG).

- What are some benefits we gain from studying God's work in history?
- Martin Luther once wrote, "Jesus Christ is the center and circumference of the Bible." What does that mean? Where would you turn in the Bible to defend this idea?
- What's so special about Jesus Christ that qualifies him *alone* to be the mediator between God and man?
- In the message, Pastor Nate said, "Living a Christ centered life means that Christ is the foundation, source, and goal of your life." Take a few minutes to discuss this with those around you. Then, consider practical, day-to-day helps for living a Christ centered life.

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

Randy Allen (615-260-1884)	Will Kesler (423-313-7493)	Jim Payne (615-497-0613)
Chuck Emerson: Emeritus (615-943-8443)	John Millard (423-443-8852)	Jim Smith (615-347-4188)
Joe Haworth (615-289-7543)	Ron Moffat (629-215-5135)	

Deacons

Mark Elliott (615-477-1041)	Mike Payne (615-579-6453)	Matt Suits (706-218-2823)
Matt Faulk (714-801-7596)	Wes Pittman (615-406-6209)	Casey Taggart (662-813-3563)
Dan Fiedler (615-812-4032)	Brent Roberts (615-394-0662)	Larry Thompson (901-734-1520)
Mark Mitchell (630-835-7754)	Jim Robinson (615-587-0442)	Bob Vermilye (615-943-8139)
·	*Todd Russell (615-319-4803)	, ,



*On Sabbatical

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

All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version