

CORNERSTONE

Presbyterian Church



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND GOSPEL RENEWAL

All Saints Day 05 November 2023

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

What a wonderful Reformation Sunday we enjoyed last week! From "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" to "A Mighty Fortress is our God" to exalting in the *sola Christus* theme from Acts 4, I Timothy 2, and many other New Testament texts—it was a rich morning of worship.

And boy oh boy, we were packed. We had over 60 people in overflow in the first service alone! Thanks to those of you who gave up seats and squeezed in tight to make sure everyone could worship. This "good problem" of growth is real at Cornerstone! It makes me eager for that greatly expanded and improved overflow room that is being constructed on the first floor.

Speaking of first floor construction, things are moving along! Each week a bit more progress is being made. We did run into a little snag two weeks ago with the duct work, which has delayed getting air conditioning and heat to the second and third floor (not the Chapel) back up and running. If you've wondered why it's been a little chillier or warmer on the second and third floors the last couple of weeks for Sunday School, that is why! Lord willing, the new duct work will be put in this week, and the air conditioning and heat will be back up and running. Apart from that hiccup, everything else has gone according to plan and is on time. We're still aiming to be in the new space by the end of the year or the first of next year. Please continue to pray to that end.

In addition to the first-floor renovation, there are a number of smaller but significant projects that remain *in process* including the finishing work in the chapel, projects at The Corner House, and audio and visual needs for in-person and livestream. I want to personally thank you for bearing with us as we are running down a number of different paths project-wise right now. The advances being made will help meet the challenges of our growing ministry, but the patience needed for remodeling and expansion are real \odot Over the next three months, these projects will draw to a close, and we will start enjoying the fruit of these labors (Lord willing).

Before I go, I want to share about an opportunity we have to reach the children and, through children, the families of our community with the gospel. Next week in worship we will be highlighting the wonderful ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF). Your Missions Committee in relationship with Suzanne Farris, a member at Cornerstone, have been prayerfully considering partnering with CEF for starting a Good News Club. We haven't committed to doing this yet. The last thing we want to do is make plans and then later ask God to bless them! No, we've just been thinking, talking, and praying, but we believe it's time to "go public," share about this opportunity, and see if the Lord sparks an interest in *you* to serve the children and families of our community through sharing the good news of the gospel. So, come back next week and learn more. In the meantime, pray that God would be pleased to use us—whether through CEF or some other means—as a gospel witness to the least of these (Matthew 19:14, 25:40).

Your servant.

Nate

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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.

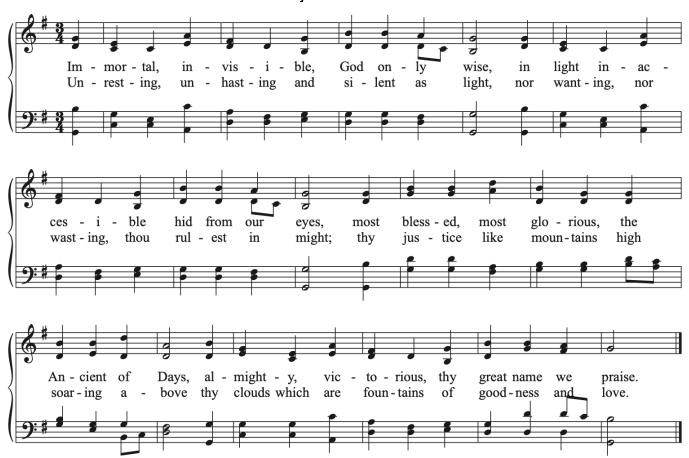
This is the pattern of his love in redeeming and saving his people.

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



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

Call to Worship—from Psalm 116:12-19

Pastor: What shall we render to the LORD for all his benefits to us?

All: We will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,

Pastor: We will pay our vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

All: Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

Pastor: O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.

You have loosed my bonds.

All: We will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.

Pastor: I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,

In the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

All: Praise the LORD!

Hymn of Praise—Come, Christians, Join to Sing



New Testament Reading—Luke 12:4-9

⁴ "I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. ⁵ But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him! ⁶ Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. ⁷ Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.

⁸ "And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God, ⁹ but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God.

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:

Faithful God,

You are unchanging and patient towards your people; We too easily turn aside from your commands.

You are the source of every blessing: teach us to love our enemies,

to bless those who curse us,

to pray for those who persecute us,

to turn the other cheek,

to share our possessions,

to give to those who are in need,

and to do to others as we would have them do to us,

so that by your grace we may join that company of blessed saints who feast with you in heaven;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(c.f. Luke 6:20-31)

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—from Joel 2:12-13

The LORD declares, "Return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments."

Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

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

And he will forgive us from our sins.

Hymn of Praise—Sing Ye Saints



Text: John Ryland, 1775, alt. 2022, 1861; Music: Gregory Wilbur 2022

Testimonies of the Saints

The Reading of the Word—Malachi 3:13-18

¹³ "Your words have been hard against me, says the LORD. But you say, 'How have we spoken against you?' ¹⁴ You have said, 'It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the LORD of hosts? ¹⁵ And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape."

¹⁶ Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name. ¹⁷ "They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. ¹⁸ Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades;

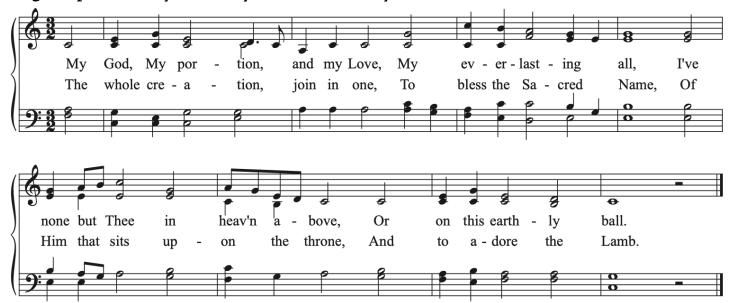
All: But the Word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon—Malachi: God's Unchanging Love, part 5

Are You in the Book of Remembrance?

—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

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



CCLI #11121087 Text: Is 6:3, Rev 4:8, Mt 21:9; Music: FRANKLIN SANCTUS, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009.

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.

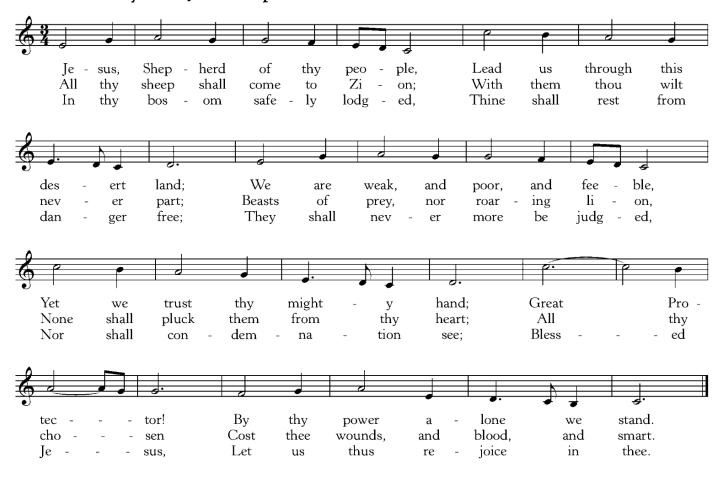
At Cornerstone, we come forward to receive communion. Proceed to the first table for the bread, and then to the second for wine/juice.

Psalm of the Month—Psalm 105:I-10: O Thank the Lord



Text: Book of Psalms for Singing, 1973; based on Psalm 105:I–II © 2009 Crown & Covenant Publications; Music: Johnson's *Tennessee Harmony*, 1818; adapted & harmonized by Greg Wilbur 2012, 4-Part by Thomas Grassi

Communion Hymn—Jesus Shepherd



Text: J. Adams; Music: Cathy Steere, ©2008 www.restassuredhymns.com

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—For All the Saints



Text: William W. How, 1864; Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906.

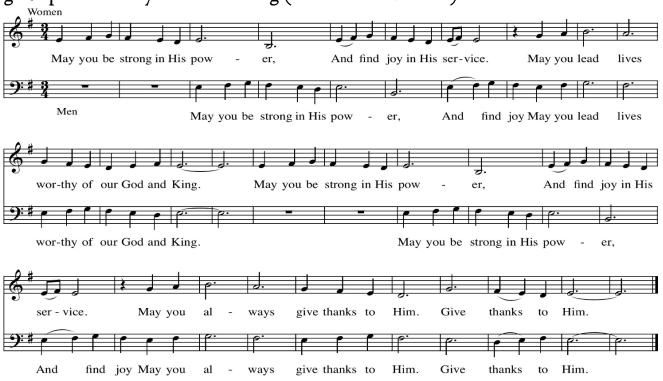
GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT TO BE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

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—May You Be Strong (Colossians I:10-II)



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Missions Prayer Focus—Tim Tan is a church planter for the Nashville Presbytery and senior pastor at Crossroads of the Nations. His wife Phemie directs their evening ESL and children's programs.

Please Pray

- In thanksgiving to God for building His church and allowing us to express His goodness to us in a local expression of His body.
- That God would continue to bind us as an intimate body, especially with the new inclusions to our body.
- That the leaders in training would develop a deeper desire for God as they learned to lead the church.
- That God would open the hearts of the many students who attend our ESL programs from countries around the world to His grace that lays before them.

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

Life at the Corner Podcast

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

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 25 pages) reminds us of the role of food in Scripture and the redemptive power of sharing a table, and ourselves, with others. *There are free copies on the Bookshelf.* Come discuss with us on Monday, November 13, at 7:00 p.m. Contact: greg@cstonepres.org

Children's Sunday School Assistant Needed!

The children's ministry has a pressing need for an assistant in our $3^{rd}/4^{th}$ grade Sunday School class. Consider if you can serve the kids of our congregation in this season. Please contact Meredith: meredithsuits@gmail.com

Christmas Concert

Mark your calendars! Cornerstone will celebrate this upcoming season with a Christmas Concert on Thursday evening, December 7. The choir will perform a number of wonderful historical and contemporary pieces to help us prepare our hearts and rejoice in the coming of the Lord.

Young Adults Thanksgiving Potluck

Join the Young Adults for a Thanksgiving potluck on Friday, November 17, at 6:00 p.m. at the Allen's house (2940 McLemore Cir)! Sign up online to bring a side dish or dessert and let us know you're coming. Contact Taylor with questions: taylorbradyt@gmail.com.

A Sacrifice of Praise

Thanksgiving is on the horizon. Is your heart ready for the season? Join us at Midweek on Wednesday evening, November 15, at 6:15 p.m. as together we enter into the presence of the Lord for an informal time of offering thanksgiving, praise, and prayer to the Lord. Come and be encouraged by the stories of God's work in our midst.

Cornerstone Anniversary Service

We will celebrate the 12th anniversary of Cornerstone on Sunday, November 26. On that Sunday, we will take time in worship to remember God's faithfulness to us and enjoy a church-wide fellowship on the grounds between services in lieu of Sunday School. Please make plans to participate in this joyous occasion!

Women's Christmas Party

Cornerstone Women are invited to kick off the season with our annual Christmas party at the home of Julie Kesler (I106 Gray Fox Lane) at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 27. We will be collecting gifts for the GraceWorks Manger again this year—you can read all about this wonderful ministry at graceworkstn.org, as well as see a list of most needed items. Please bring an appetizer and/or dessert to share. Let us know you're planning to come by signing up on the website or in the app!

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

Today's message, "Are You in the Book of Remembrance?" is taken from Malachi 3:13-18. Please take time to discuss the questions below with your family, friends, or Home Fellowship Group (HFG).

- Who are the two different groups of people addressed in this passage, and what distinguishes them?
- In your own words, what does it mean to fear the Lord?
- What is written in the book of remembrance, and what's its significance?
- What from today's message ministered to you?
- Identify one specific way the truth from today's passage applies to your life and share with those around you.

CORNERSTONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

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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
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)
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Mark Mitchell (630-835-7754)	Jim Robinson (615-587-0442)	Bob Vermilye (615-943-8139)
,	*Todd Russell (615-319-4803)	, ,



*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version