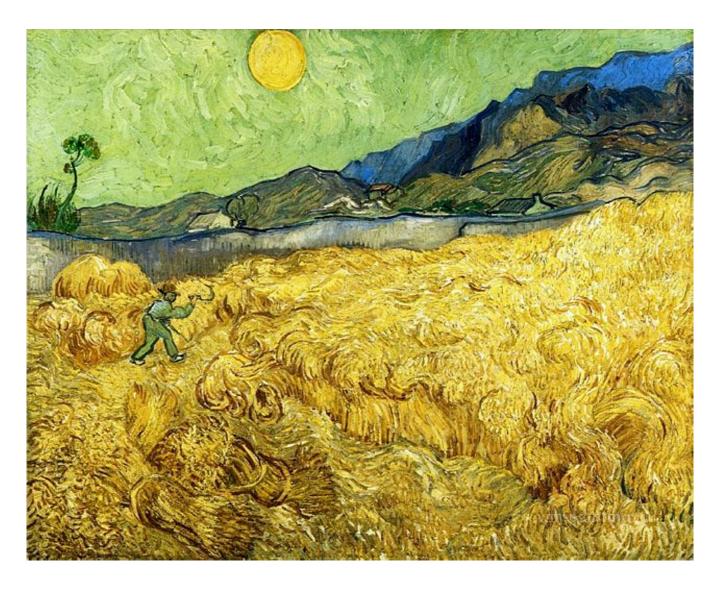


CORNERSTONE Presbyterian Church



Service of Celebration and Gospel Renewal The Last Sunday of Pentecost—Thanksgiving 26 November 2023

Pastoral Notes

Dear Cornerstone Family,

Today we celebrate the twelfth anniversary of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church. On November 20, 2011, Cornerstone was received as a member church into the fellowship of the Presbyterian Church in America. Over the last twelve years, it's been a privilege to sit on the front row in this theater of God's grace and behold the gospel advancing in and through you. All praise to God for the great things he has done in our midst!

On a personal note, let me say what an honor it is to be your pastor. Thank you for allowing me the special joy to serve in this way, and for bearing with me all these years. You are a longsuffering people! My family and I are sincerely grateful to call Cornerstone our church home—to have our lots thrown in with all of you. As we look to the years ahead, our hearts are filled with gospel hope and expectation.

Speaking of gospel hope and expectation, next week we begin a six-week Advent and Christmas sermon series. In light of our recent study of Malachi, the end of the Old Testament, it seemed appropriate to turn the page, so to speak, to Matthew and spend a few weeks reflecting on the beginning of the New Testament. If you would, please pray each week for the Lord to use our time in Matthew to renew our love and commitment to Jesus Christ and his kingdom.

The Name Above All Names

- December 3 Matthew I:I-6 "Jesus Christ, Son of Abraham"
- December 10 Matthew 1:1-11 "Jesus Christ, Son of David"
- December 24 Lessons & Carols Service
- December 31 Matthew 2:1-18 "Jesus Christ, A Threat to Kings"
- January 7 Matthew 2:1-18 "Jesus Christ, A Savior for Wise Men"

Your servant,

Sate

Christmas at Cornerstone – At a Glance

CHRISTMAS AT CORNERSTONE service Times

December 24: 8:00am; 10:45am December 31: 8:00am; 10:45am

sunday school

December 3: Family Meeting for adults; no changes for Youth & Kids.
 December 10: Elder election Q&A for adults; no changes for Kids; Youth will meet on the Third Floor due to the Dickens Festival.
 December 17: Everyone is invited to the Children's Choir performance in the Chapel!
 December 24: No Sunday School.
 December 31: Officer Election during Sunday School hour.

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—Psalm 100: All Earth With Joy



Text: Psalm 100; Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665, Arr, in Praxis Pietatis Melica, 1668

Call to Worship—from Psalm 111:1-5, 7-9

Pastor: Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

All: Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

Pastor: Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever. He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered;

All: The LORD is gracious and merciful.

Pastor: He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever.

All: The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy;

Pastor: They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

All: He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name!

Psalm of the Month—Psalm 105:1-11 O Thank the Lord



Text: Psalm 105:1–11 Book of Psalms for Singing, 1973; Music: Tennessee Harmony, 1818; adapted Greg Wilbur 2012, Arr Thomas Grassi

Hymn of Praise—O God Beyond All Praising

God 0 be-yond all prais - ing, we wor-ship you to day and The flower of earth - ly splen-dor time must sure - ly in die, its Then hear, grac - ious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love bring, that 0 we 0 the love that songs can - not for sing a - maz - ing re pay; fra gile bloom su - rren - der to you the Lord most high; but _ who know your fa - vor we may serve you our king; and as we can on - ly won - der at ev ery gift you send, at hid den from all na ture the e - ter nal seed is sown though _ whe ther our to - mor-rows be filled with good or ill, we'll with - out num - ber mer-cies with bless end: ings and out we in hea-ven's gar small mor tal sta ture, to den grown: for tri umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still: to lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on word, we your Christ the Man from hea ven from death has set us free, and mar vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry ways, and in your _ ho nor and a - dore you, our great and might Lord. ---У we through him are giv en the fi - nal vic to ry! _ sac - ri - fice make a joy ful du ty our of praise.

Text: Michael Perry (1942-1996) ©by Jubilate Hymns, Ltd.; Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934.

New Testament Reading—John 17:13-23

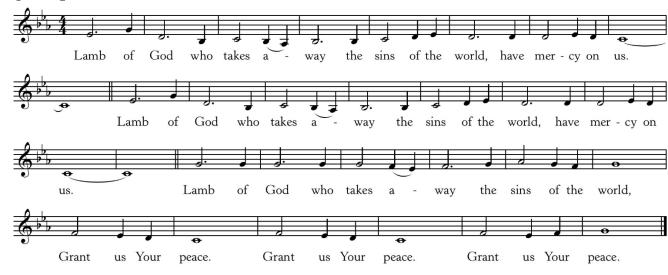
But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

²⁰ "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

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—Lamb of God

Text: John I:29; Music: FRANKLIN AGNUS DEI, Gregory D Wilbur, 2009. ©2009 Greyfriars Press.

Congregational Confession of Sin—based on Colossians 3:12-17

Leader: Lord, we come confessing. As your chosen ones, we have not always put on compassionate hearts, kindness, or humility.

All: You have called us holy and beloved, but yet we fail to be meek and patient, nor do we bear with one another.

Leader: As You have forgiven us, so we also must forgive.

All: We neglect to put on love which should bind everything together in perfect harmony. Leader: Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts-for to this we have been called as one body.

All: Help us shift the gaze from our own lives, and be thankful.

Leader: May Your Word dwell in us richly

that we may teach and admonish one another in all wisdom as we sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs.

All: Let these melodies fill us with thankfulness in our hearts to You.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon—from Colossians I:16-17, 19-20

By Christ, all things were created in heaven and on earth—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

Hymn of Praise—The Church's One Foundation vs 1,2,5,6



Text: Samuel Stone, 1866; Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1864.

GOD TEACHES US THROUGH HIS WORD

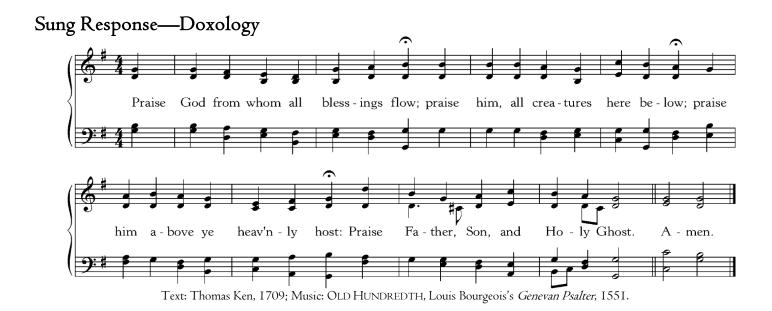
The Reading of the Word—Psalm 133

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!
² It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!
³ It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades; All: But the Word of our God will stand forever.

Sermon—*Unity from Above: Celebrating Cornerstone's 12th Anniversary*

-Nate Shurden, Pastor



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—Sanctus



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

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.

Hymn of Communion—Christ is Our Cornerstone



Text: Unknown author, 6th or 7th Century (Angularis fundamentum lapis); Translation John Chandler, 1837. Music: Gregory D Wilbur, 2011

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-We Will Feast in the House of Zion



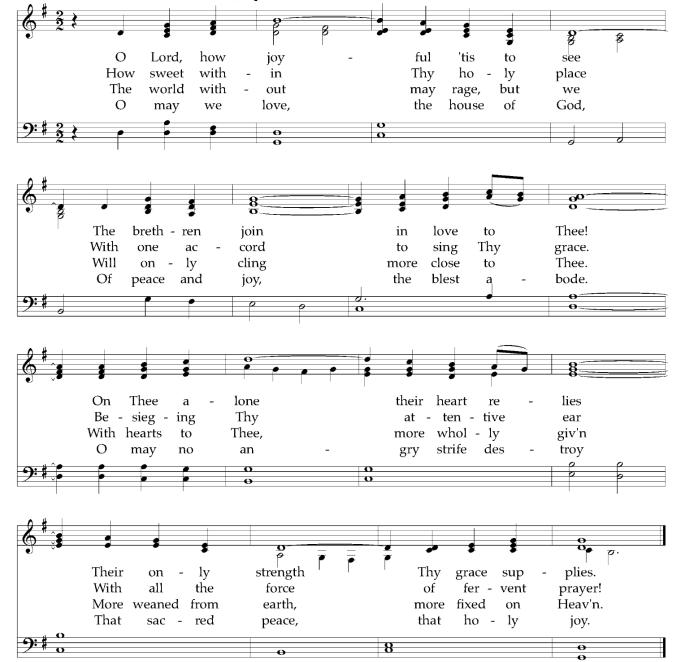
CCLI #11121087 Used by Permission. Text and Music: Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore, 2015

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—O Lord, How Joyful Tis to See



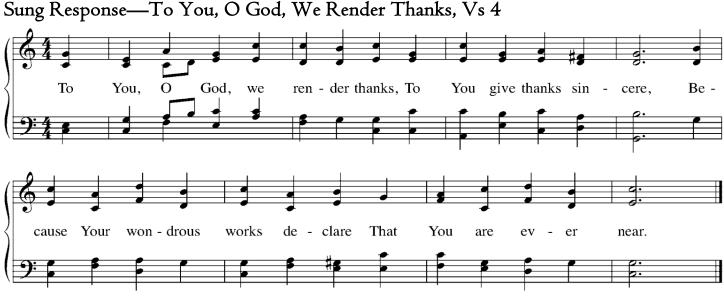
Text: Charles Coffin, 1736, Tr by John Chandler, 1837, based on Psalm 133; Music: American Folk Melody

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—I Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Amen.



Text: Psalm 75; Music: ST, ANNE, William Croft, 1678-1727.

Missions Prayer Focus— Rev. Chase Daws is the RUF campus minister at Vanderbilt University. RUF exists to reach students for Christ and equip them to serve their classmates, campuses, and churches. As a campus minister, Chase pastors students through a weekly large group, small groups, and one-on-one meetings.

Please Pray:

- We had a wonderful fall of ministry. First annual "RUF Block Party," where we met 150 new students. A great fall conference, with 70 students learning, exploring, and growing in their faith. We've had rich conversations with students exploring the faith, growing ever so closer to the Kingdom. Please join us in giving thanks for all of these and more.
- For our year-end support raising efforts. We are nearing a deficit, so we need to raise 50k this year end, both to meet our budget and to enter the spring healthy and ready for ministry!
- For our time at RUF training here in a few weeks. This is a wonderful time for campus ministers and staff to grow and reflect and refuel after a busy fall.

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

Nursery Ministry

You have the opportunity to serve the tiniest covenant members of your Cornerstone family each Sunday by caring for them in the nursery. Don't miss this blessing! Let Christy Shurden know if you would like to volunteer. Contact: nursery@cstonepres.org (You must have been a member of Cornerstone for a minimum of six months to serve in the nursery, children's, or youth ministries.)

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 Vroom for more information: ethan@cstonepres.org.

New Titles on the Bookshelf

Stop by the Bookshelf on the second-floor landing today and check out a host of new books, including hot-off-thepress Advent and Christmas titles. You won't find better prices anywhere!

Christmas Concert

Mark your calendars! Cornerstone will celebrate this upcoming season with a Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m. 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.



Women's Christmas Party

Cornerstone Women are invited to kick off the season with our annual Christmas party at the home of Julie Kesler (1106 Gray Fox Lane) at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 27. We will be collecting gifts for 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 Christmas Party

The youth are having a Christmas party on December 6 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. We will gather at the Allen's house (2940 McLemore Circle) to have food, Christmas games, and a white elephant gift exchange. Come wearing an ugly Christmas sweater, bearing a favorite Christmas treat (one per family) and a \$10-\$15 gift for the exchange. We expect to have a laugh-filled evening together as we enjoy the season and one another.

Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Team meets on the first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. to lift the needs of the congregation to the throne of grace. You can submit prayer requests to prayer@cstonepres.org or come to the church to be prayed for in person. We invite everyone at Cornerstone to join us in prayer.

New Home Fellowship Groups

Here at Cornerstone, we want every member to be actively engaged with other believers in fellowship, communion, and prayer. Part of the way this happens is through Home Fellowship Groups. Contact Tony (tony@cstonepres.org) for more information regarding HFGs forming in Franklin and Spring Hill.

Giving

There are boxes for tithes and alms at both entrances to the Chapel, or you may give safely and securely online through the website and app.

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) Chuck Emerson: *Emeritus* (615-943-8443) Joe Haworth (615-289-7543)

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

Jim Payne (615-497-0613) Jim Smith (615-347-4188)

Mark Elliott (615-477-1041) Matt Faulk (714-801-7596) Dan Fiedler (615-812-4032) Mark Mitchell (630-835-7754)

Deacons

Mike Payne (615-579-6453) Wes Pittman (615-406-6209) Brent Roberts (615-394-0662) Jim Robinson (615-587-0442) *Todd Russell (615-319-4803) Matt Suits (706-218-2823) Casey Taggart (662-813-3563) Larry Thompson (901-734-1520) Bob Vermilye (615-943-8139)



*On Sabbatical

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All Scripture quotations from the English Standard Version