

C O R N E R S T O N E
H O U S T O N

GATHERING GROWING GLORIFYING

Order Of Worship

August 10, 2025

*Call to Worship | Isaiah 45:18 | Rev. Blake Arnoult

God invites and calls us into his presence to worship him.

¹⁸ For thus says the Lord,
who created the heavens
 (he is God!),
who formed the earth and made it
 (he established it;
he did not create it empty,
 he formed it to be inhabited!):
"I am the Lord, and there is no other."

*Song of Adoration | All Creatures Of Our God And King

We begin by responding with praise to God for who he is and for what he does.

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise Him, Alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beams
Thou silver moon with softer gleam

**Oh praise him, Oh praise him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along
O praise Him, Alleluia
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice
Ye lights of evening, find a voice

Chorus

Thou flowing water pure and clear
Make music for Thy Lord to hear
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright
That givest man both warmth and light,

Chorus

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
Oh praise Him, Alleluia
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son
And praise the Spirit, Three in One

Chorus

Music and Lyrics: St. Francis of Assisi, William Henry Draper

***Confession of Faith | Psalm 118:24; Matthew 23:12**

With the church in history we confess a basic statement of what Christians believe.

Psalm 118:24

**This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Matthew 23:12

**Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles
himself will be exalted.**

***Song of Confession | Isaiah 43**

Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs are simply prayers that are sung. We respond in repentance and praise for God's redemptive work in Christ.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you,
And the waves will not overcome you.
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you,
I have called you by name, you are Mine.

**For I am the Lord your God (I am the Lord your God),
I am the Lord your God (I am)
The Holy One of Israel
Your Savior**

**I am the Lord (do not fear)
I am the Lord (do not fear)
I am the Lord (do not fear)
I am the Lord (do not fear)**

When you walk through the fire you'll not be burned,
And the flames will not consume you.
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you,
I have called you by name, you are Mine.

Chorus

I am the Lord

Music and Lyrics: Anonymous

Confession of Sin

We fight the temptation to hide our sin and instead acknowledge it openly to God, but we do so in light of the grace offered in Jesus.

O Father, we are gathered before you, the Maker of Heaven and Earth, whose chosen dwelling place is with the broken and contrite, to confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed; we have not loved you with all our heart and soul, we have not loved you with all our mind and strength; we have not even loved our neighbor as ourselves. In your mercy, deepen our sorrow for the wrong we have done and for the good we have left undone, so that we may hate our sin and turn from temptation. But, please Father, do not leave us in sorrow. With you, O Lord, there is forgiveness. In your mercy, restore the joy of our salvation; so that we may love you with a holy love and look with hope to the day of your coming again. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon | Ephesians 2:8-9 | Rev. Blake Arnoult

The good news of the gospel is that we are forgiven in Jesus Christ. This assurance is based on God's words of promise and it is therefore certain.

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

*Song of Response | Dear Refuge Of My Weary Soul

We respond in repentance and praise for God's redemptive work in Christ.

Dear refuge of my weary soul,
On Thee, when sorrows rise
On Thee, when waves of trouble roll,
My fainting hope relies
To Thee I tell each rising grief,
For Thou alone canst heal
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief,
For every pain I feel

But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail,
I fear to call Thee mine
The springs of comfort seem to fail,
And all my hopes decline
Yet gracious God, where shall I flee?
Thou art my only trust
And still my soul would cleave to Thee,
Though prostrate in the dust

Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face,
And shall I seek in vain?
And can the ear of sovereign grace,
Be deaf when I complain?
No still the ear of sovereign grace,
Attends the mourner's prayer
Oh may I ever find access,
To breathe my sorrows there

Thy mercy seat is open still,
Here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will,
And wait beneath Thy feet,
Thy mercy seat is open still,
Here let my soul retreat
With humble hope attend Thy will,
And wait beneath Thy feet

Music and Lyrics: Anne Steele, Kevin Twit

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We offer our gratitude to God in prayer in response to his gifts and blessings to his people and ask that he make us faithful managers of these gifts.

Song of Thanks | This Is My Father's World

As we offer our prayers so we also offer up our thanks in song.

This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass;
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world, from the shining courts above,
The Beloved One, His Only Son,
Was giv'n to show God's love.
This is my Father's world: why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King; let the heavens ring!
God reigns; let earth be glad!

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world: The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and heav'n be one.

Music and Lyrics: Franklin Lawrence Sheppard, John Ribble, Maltbie Babcock

Prayer for Christ's Church

We lift up our requests to God knowing that he hears us when we pray.

*Reading of Scripture | Zephaniah 1:1-4, 7-9, 12, 14-16; 3:8-9,
11-17 | Rev. Blake Arnoult

God reveals himself and his work and speaks to us his people through his Word.

¹ The word of the Lord that came to Zephaniah the son of Cushi,
son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah, son of Hezekiah, in the days of
Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah.

² "I will utterly sweep away everything
from the face of the earth," declares the Lord.

³ "I will sweep away man and beast;
I will sweep away the birds of the heavens
and the fish of the sea,
and the rubble with the wicked.

I will cut off mankind
from the face of the earth," declares the Lord.

⁴ "I will stretch out my hand against Judah
and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem;
and I will cut off from this place the remnant of Baal
and the name of the idolatrous priests along with the priests,

⁷ Be silent before the Lord God!

For the day of the Lord is near;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.

⁸ And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—

"I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

⁹ On that day I will punish

everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.

¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the men

who are complacent,
those who say in their hearts,
'The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do ill.'

¹⁴ The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud there.

¹⁵ A day of wrath is that day,
a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,

¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

³⁸ "Therefore wait for me," declares the Lord,
"for the day when I rise up to seize the prey.

For my decision is to gather nations,
to assemble kingdoms,
to pour out upon them my indignation,
all my burning anger;
for in the fire of my jealousy
all the earth shall be consumed.

⁹ "For at that time I will change the speech of the peoples
to a pure speech,
that all of them may call upon the name of the Lord
and serve him with one accord.

¹¹ "On that day you shall not be put to shame
because of the deeds by which you have rebelled against me;
for then I will remove from your midst
your proudly exultant ones,
and you shall no longer be haughty
in my holy mountain.

¹² But I will leave in your midst
a people humble and lowly.
They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord,

¹³ those who are left in Israel;
they shall do no injustice
and speak no lies,
nor shall there be found in their mouth
a deceitful tongue.

For they shall graze and lie down,
and none shall make them afraid."

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The Lord has taken away the judgments against you;
he has cleared away your enemies.
The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
"Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ The Lord your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Preaching of the Word | Rev. Blake Arnoult

"Zephaniah: The Day of the LORD"

Jesus in the Old Testament

Pastoral Prayer

Sacrament of Communion

Sacraments are visible signs of the invisible grace of God - what Christ does by his Holy Spirit within us. Communion (also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist), as the distribution of the elements of bread and wine, symbolizes a meal. Communion is a sign of fellowship. That sign signifies more than just the future heavenly fellowship that is to come. The outward sign signifies the inner reality that sinners already experience fellowship with God in the Spirit because of Jesus. Communion is not a meal for good people. It functions as a renewing seal to desperate sinners of that fellowship we have with our holy and gracious God.

You will be invited to come forward. If you are not a Christian we encourage you to spend this time in reflection on what you've seen and heard in the worship. Children who have not received their first communion are welcome and encouraged to come forward with their families to witness their partaking. We invite children who are ready to make a public profession of faith in Christ to arrange a meeting with the elders, and thus become "communicants" at the Lord's Table.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Hallelujah!

Pastor: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us. Hallelujah!

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Please let an usher know if it is difficult for you to come forward. We would be happy to serve you at your seat. All communion bread is gluten-free. All communion wine is made from grape juice.

A communion prayer for those searching for the truth:

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me the ability to follow you no matter what it might cost me. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Communion Song | He Who Is Mighty

We celebrate our communion in faith and song.

Oh, the mercy our God has shown
To those who sit in death's shadow
The sun on high, pierced the night
Born was the Cornerstone
Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is born

**He Who is mighty has done a great thing
Taken on flesh, conquered death's sting
Shattered the darkness and lifted our shame
Holy is His name**

Oh, the freedom our Savior won
The yoke of sin has been broken
Once a slave, now by grace
No more condemnation
Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is born

Chorus

Now my soul magnifies the Lord
I rejoice in the God Who saves
I will trust His unfailing love
I will sing His praises all my days

Chorus

Music and Lyrics: Kate DeGraide, Rebecca Elliott

Departing Song | Cornerstone

We begin to end in faith and song.

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name

**Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm
He is Lord, Lord of all**

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

Chorus

He is Lord
Lord of all

Chorus

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless, stand before the throne

Lyrics & Music: Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, William Batchelder Bradbury

*Benediction | Revelation 22:20-21 | Rev. Blake Arnoult

God sends us out with his blessing. A benediction is not a prayer. We don't bow our heads. We lift them up and even lift up our hands to receive his blessing as we are sent out as participants in his mission to the city of man.

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

Announcements

Sign up for text updates!

Scan the QR code below to get text updates for emergency communications and special announcements! We highly recommend getting on Cornerstone's text list to receive the most up-to-date communications!



Introducing Church Center

Cornerstone is making the transition from Breeze, our recent church database, to Church Center! This robust system is a great tool for our members to connect with Cornerstone ministries and each other! We encourage everyone to download the app and familiarize yourself with Church Center. This is a great opportunity to confirm your contact information and to update your profile photo! If you haven't already downloaded the app, scan the QR code below!



Fall Kick-Off

August 24, 11:30am, Pickleball Social

Our Fall Kick-Off gathering is coming up soon! Join us on August 24 at Pickleball Social for a fun afternoon of good food and fellowship and our 2nd annual pickleball tournament! Scan the QR code below to sign up for the pickleball tournament!



RSVP and Announcements Page

Visit the website to view our calendar and RSVP to events!



Let Us Know You're Here!

Welcome, visitors! We are so glad to have you with us this morning! Please scan the QR code to let us know you're here, or visit our website at cornerstonehouston.com.



Serving

Scan the QR code below to sign up to serve at Cornerstone!



Giving

Scan the QR code below to see different ways to give!

*Please Note: An additional fee is charged per transaction for online giving. Please consider adding this fee to your total contribution in order to help us cover it: Credit/Debit Cards: 2.9% + \$0.30/transaction; American Express: 4% + \$0.30/transaction; and Bank Transfer (ACH): 1% + \$0.30/transaction.



Cornerstone asks its members and visitors to observe the following guidelines set forth by A.D. Players while in the auditorium space:

- no food or drink other than water
- no writing utensils other than those provided in the Lobby by Cornerstone
- no coming on stage
- no standing on chairs

Cornerstone loves our children, and we encourage parents to bring children of all ages into the worship service. We do ask for your help to ensure children observe these guidelines. Special A.D. Players approved dry erase crayons are available in the Lobby for our children to use during the worship service.

Cornerstone Kids

What in the world is...?

Hymns, Praise Songs?

Singing loudly is not just something we do in the shower. God gave us voices to sing about how awesome he is!

Confession?

God wants to hear what we did wrong. Tell him! He not only listens, he also forgives.

Prayer?

God cares so much for us that he taught us to pray. He wants us to know what to pray for and also how to pray. How amazing is that? Take a look in your parents' bulletin to check it out!

The Offering?

Ever wonder why we put money in that basket being passed around? God wants us to give to him and his church in joy as an act of worship!

The Sermon?

This is when the pastor helps us understand what God is telling us in the Bible. And the Bible is God's word!

Communion?

Communion is when we celebrate what Jesus did for us on the cross. We say the bread represents Jesus' body and the wine represents Jesus' blood. Weird huh? And awesome. It means Jesus is really spiritually present with us in the Lord's Supper by the power of the Holy Spirit. And when we eat the bread and drink the wine God nourishes our spirits!!! Who gets to take communion? Those who believe in Jesus and have shared their faith with the leaders in the church.

Benediction?

This is the end of the church service where everyone receives God's blessing. Isn't it awesome that God shares this blessing with us?

KIDS' CORNER



MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK

20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen.
Come, Lord Jesus!

21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

Revelation 22:20-21

? CATECHISM OF THE WEEK ?

Where is Christ now?

In heaven, ruling his kingdom and interceding for us.

Will the Lord Jesus come again?

Yes! He will return to judge the world on the last day.



PRAYER REQUEST

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come."

KIDS' LESSON

Riddles about the final day of judgment!

I come in all shapes and sizes,
open me up to find many surprises.

From fiction to reference,
choose your preference.

I ask one small favor,
do not judge me,
by my cover.

Big question, are we going to be judged at the end of the world?
Who is going to judge us?

Work

I have four legs, but no hair. People ride me for hours, but I don't go anywhere. I have no power button, I have no on switch but I am always ready to work. What am I?

Some call me busy, and it's easy to see why. I help fill the world with more flowers the further I fly. What am I?

All 5 sisters are busy. Ann is reading, Rose is cooking, Katie is playing chess and Mary is doing laundry. What is the fifth sister doing?

Busy busy busy. Work work work. Does God expect you to work hard enough to earn your way to heaven? Is that how he'll judge you?

Door to Heaven and Hell

You're standing between the door to heaven and the door to hell. A guard stands by each door. One guard always tells the truth, and the other always lies. You don't know which guard is which. What one question can you ask a guard to find out which door leads to heaven?

You would ask this question: Which door would the other guard say goes to heaven? And then go to the opposite door.

If you asked the honest guard, that guard will point toward the door to hell, because the other guard would lie.

If you asked the lying guard, that guard will point toward the door to hell, because he knows the honest guard would point to the door to heaven.

Either way, you will be directed to the door to hell, so you know the one that the guard does not point to is the door to heaven.

Is that going to happen when you die?

So if you can't earn your way to heaven, how do you get to heaven?

Does God want you to work though even though that's not how you get to heaven? Why?

SERMON NOTES



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KIDS' CORNER

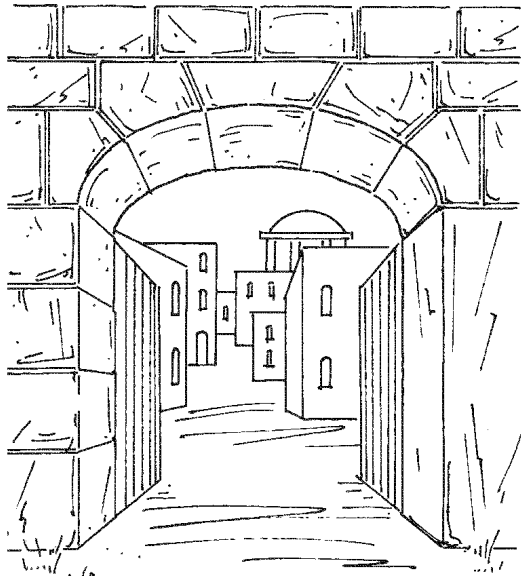
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Then write the remaining letters in order on the blanks below.

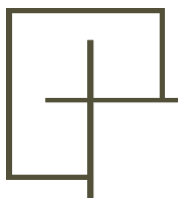
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That day will be ...

a d _____

the fortified cities.





SUNDAYS, 10 AM
A.D. PLAYERS AT THE GEORGE THEATER
5420 Westheimer Rd, Houston, TX 77056
www.cornerstonehouston.com