

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 24, 2025

### \*Call to Worship | Psalm 42:7-8 | Rev. Blake Arnoult

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

<sup>7</sup> Deep calls to deep

at the roar of your waterfalls;  
all your breakers and your waves  
have gone over me.

<sup>8</sup> By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,  
and at night his song is with me,  
a prayer to the God of my life.

### \*Song of Adoration | Holy, Holy, Holy

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

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who wert and art and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth, and sky, and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

*Music and Lyrics: ohn Bacchus Dykes, Reginald Heber*

## \*Confession of Faith | Matthew 28:18-20

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

**<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."**

## \*Song of Confession | Be Thou My Vision

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

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart.  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word;  
I ever with Thee, and Thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my great Father and I, Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always.  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

True Light of heaven, when victory is won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

*Music and Lyrics: Eleanor Henrietta Hull, Mary Elizabeth Byrne*

## Confession of Sin | Psalm 69:1-2; 51:1-4

*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.*

**69<sup>1</sup>      Save me, O God!**

**For the waters have come up to my neck.**

**2      I sink in deep mire,  
         where there is no foothold;  
I have come into deep waters,  
         and the flood sweeps over me.**

**51<sup>1</sup>      Have mercy on me, O God,  
         according to your steadfast love;  
         according to your abundant mercy  
         blot out my transgressions.**

**2      Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
         and cleanse me from my sin!**

**3      For I know my transgressions,  
         and my sin is ever before me.**

**4      Against you, you only, have I sinned  
         and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you may be justified in your words  
         and blameless in your judgment.**

## Assurance of Pardon | Romans 6:4 | 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.*

**<sup>4</sup> We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.**

## \*Song of Response | O The Deep Deep Love Of Jesus

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

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,  
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!  
Rolling as a mighty ocean  
In its fullness o—ver me!  
Underneath me, all around me,  
Is the current of Thy love  
Leading onward, leading homeward  
To Thy glorious rest above!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,  
Spread His praise from shore to shore!  
How He loveth, ever loveth,  
Changeth never, nevermore!  
How He watches o'er His loved ones,  
Died to call them all His own;  
How for them He intercedeth,  
Watcheth o'er them from the throne!

O the deep, deep love of Jesus,  
Love of every love the best!  
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,  
'Tis a haven sweet of rest!  
O the deep, deep love of Jesus,  
'Tis a heaven of heavens to me;  
And it lifts me up to glory,  
For it lifts me up to Thee!

*Music and Lyrics: Samuel Trevor Francis, Thomas J. Williams*

## 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 | Grace And Peace

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

Grace and peace, oh how can this be  
For lawbreakers and thieves, for the worthless, the least  
You have said that our judgment is death  
For all eternity without hope, without rest

**Oh, what an amazing mystery, what an amazing mystery  
That Your grace has come to me**

Grace and peace, oh how can this be?  
The matchless King of all paid the blood price for me  
Slaughtered lamb, what atonement You bring!  
The vilest sinner's heart can be cleansed, can be free

### **Chorus**

Grace and peace, oh how can this be?  
Let songs of gratefulness ever rise, never cease  
Loved by God and called as a saint  
My heart is satisfied in the riches of Christ

### **Chorus**

Oh, what an amazing love I see, what an amazing love I see  
That Your grace has come to me

*Music and Lyrics: Joel Sczebel*

## Prayer for Christ's Church

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

**\*Reading of Scripture | Matthew 3:1-17 | Rev. Blake Arnoult**

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

3<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup> "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." <sup>3</sup> For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.'"

<sup>4</sup> Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" <sup>8</sup> Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup> And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup> "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; <sup>17</sup> and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

The Preaching of the Word | Rev. Blake Arnoult

"The Last Prophet"

*Matthew: The Gospel to the Church*

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 | All Glory Be Forever

*We celebrate our communion in faith and song.*

We had turned from God to sin's disgrace, we chose the path to hell  
Perfect law of God condemned our race, for all in Adam fell  
But the righteousness of God appeared  
and the world found hope again  
For the Righteous One has come down to bear  
all the curse of sin and death

**Now to Him Who's seated on the throne,  
All glory be forever  
Oh, the depths of wisdom, grace, and power,  
All glory be forever  
All glory be forever**

Every bond of sin that held us fast is left in Jesus' grave  
We've been freed from all that gripped our past  
from Satan's rule and reign  
We've been raised to life to breathe His grace  
As captives now reclaimed  
All our guilt is gone, all our strivings ceased,  
We're alive to seek His fame

### **Chorus**

Now our future's fixed, our journey clear; God will not let us go  
Every trial that tempts our hearts to fear He'll use to give us hope  
All creation groans as we await what our eyes have longed to see  
Every pain and evil we've long endured  
will be crushed by Christ our King

### **Chorus**

*Music and Lyrics: Jordan Kauflin*

## Departing Song | Doxology

*We begin to end in faith and song.*

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen

*Lyrics & Music: Thomas Ken*

## \*Benediction | Isaiah 43:1-2 | 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.*

<sup>1</sup> But now thus says the Lord,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.

<sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.

## Announcements

### **Fall Kick-Off - TODAY!!**

*Sunday, August 24, 11:30am*

*Pickleball Social 1055 Conrad Saur Dr.*

Join us today at Pickleball Social for our Fall Kick-Off! All are welcome, even if you're not competing in the tournament! Lunch and air conditioning are provided and a bar is available for drink purchases.

### **Men's Bible Study - Date Change!**

*Friday, August 29, 7am*

*Bean and Bottle*

The men's Bible study will NOT be meeting on September 5, but will instead be gathering on August 29 at Bean and Bottle.

### **Church Center Q&A**

*Sunday, August 31, 11:30am*

Find Emily in the lobby by the coffee table next Sunday to get all your Church Center questions answered! She will be available to walk you through the app features, show you how to sign up to serve, and get you set up to receive important communications.

### **Kids and Youth Bible Studies**

*Sunday, September 7, 9am*

Bible studies for all ages up to 12<sup>th</sup> grade begin on Sunday, September 7! K-4<sup>th</sup>, 5-8<sup>th</sup>, and 9-12<sup>th</sup> graders will be studying the canon, divine inspiration, inerrancy, infallibility, truth, authority, and sufficiency of the Scriptures this fall!

## **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](http://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.



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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

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,  
2 Timothy 3:16

## ? CATECHISM OF THE WEEK ?

**How is the word to be read and heard, that it may become effectual to salvation?**

That the word may become effectual to salvation, we must attend thereunto with diligence, preparation and prayer; receive it with faith and love, lay it up in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.



## PRAYER REQUEST

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

# KIDS' LESSON

Kids, can y'all think of something bad being good?

- Going to dentist, getting braces
- The click click click of a roller coaster as it climbs up the track
- Just roller coasters = seem like a terrible idea but they're awesome
- Relocating a dislocated shoulder, setting a broken bone, getting a shot
- Having surgery and the doctor has to cut into you

When I was in kindergarten I was running through the hallway to the playground outside and on the door the latch was broken and it sliced open my leg and had to get stitches. My dad is a doctor so he was giving me stitches and I thought it hurt worse than the cut and I was screaming at my dad to stop!!! "You're killing me!!" But the cut was much worse! Those stitches even though they seemed bad were good!

How about meeting God? Do you think that would be a good thing or a bad thing?

What if I told you that God was right behind this curtain and he wants you, just you to come up stage and meet him? I don't know if that scares you a bit but if you would have asked God's people in the Old Testament if they wanted to meet God they would have said, YES but NO WAY!

Why?

Because God is so good and holy and we are not good and holy and God can't be around things that are not good and holy.

It's like God is like fire. Can you put your hand in fire without getting burned? Who wants to stand before God for judgment when they die?

No way! Because none of us love God perfectly, none of us love other people perfectly. Well, so how then do we get to be with God? How can anyone be with God in heaven?

Because of Jesus. In the Gospel of Matthew we're going to read about John the Baptist talking about judgment which is what baptism is really all about. And Jesus is going to come along and get baptized by John to say that he, Jesus, takes our baptism judgment for us. We can be with God in heaven because Jesus took our judgment for all our sin and all our failures for us on the cross which Jesus calls his real baptism. Jesus took the flood of fire of judgment for us!

So another thing that sounds bad but is actually really good is to go through judgment with Jesus. Everyone has to be judged by God but if you believe in Jesus then you go through the judgment water and fire with Jesus but you don't drown, you don't get burned because he takes your punishment for your sin and you get his reward for his goodness!

The gospel of Matthew tells us about the good news of this promise that Jesus saved us and we can now live with God who is so holy and good forever!



# SERMON NOTES



A series of horizontal lines for writing notes, spanning the width of the page below the title.

# KIDS' CORNER

WRITE OR DRAW SOMETHING YOU HEARD IN THE SERMON



Favorite song  
today was:

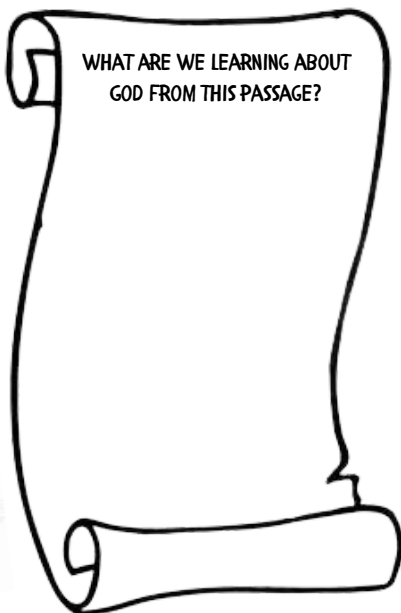
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NEW WORDS I HEARD TODAY



WHAT ARE WE LEARNING ABOUT  
GOD FROM THIS PASSAGE?



# KIDS' CORNER

Use this grid to fill in the blanks.

	5	6	7	8	9
4	N	E	L	W	F
3	M	S	A	Q	C
2	H	Y	D	U	I
1	P	T	J	R	O

“

3,7 4,9 1,6 4,6 1,8 3,5 4,6 4,8 2,9 4,7 4,7

3,9 1,9 3,5 4,6 1,9 4,5 4,6 4,8 2,5 1,9

2,9 3,6 3,5 1,9 1,8 4,6

1,5 1,9 4,8 4,6 1,8 4,9 2,8 4,7 1,6 2,5 3,7 4,5

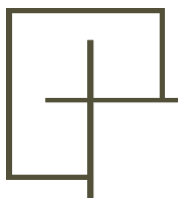
2,9 4,8 2,5 1,9 3,6 4,6

3,6 3,7 4,5 2,7 3,7 4,7 3,6 2,9 3,7 3,5

4,5 1,9 1,6 4,9 2,9 1,6 1,6 1,9

3,9 3,7 1,8 1,8 2,6”

He meant 1,7 4,6 3,6 2,8 3,6.



SUNDAYS, 10 AM  
A.D. PLAYERS AT THE GEORGE THEATER  
5420 Westheimer Rd, Houston, TX 77056  
[www.cornerstonehouston.com](http://www.cornerstonehouston.com)