

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

GATHERING GROWING GLORIFYING

Order Of Worship

October 1, 2023

*Call to Worship | 1 Peter 1:3 | Blake Arnoult

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

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to
a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

*Song of Adoration | Father, Long Before Creation

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

Father, long before creation, Thou hadst chosen us in love.
And that love so deep, so moving, draws us close to Christ above.
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us; firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion,
Yet our God is e'er the same;
His compassion and His covenant through all ages will remain.
God's own children, God's own children;
Must forever praise His name.

God's compassion is my story; is my boasting all the day.
Mercy free and never failing, moves my will, directs my way.
God so loved us, God so loved us; that His only Son He gave.

Loving Father now before Thee, We will ever praise Thy love.
And our songs will sound unceasing 'til we reach our home above.
Giving glory, giving glory; to our God and to the Lamb.
Giving glory, giving glory; to our God and to the Lamb.

Music and Lyrics: Andrew Osenga, Francis Johnson

*Confession of Faith | Hebrews 4:15-16

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

15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

*Song of Confession | I Surrender All

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

All to Jesus I surrender
All to Him I freely give
I will ever love and trust Him
In His presence daily live

**I surrender all
I surrender all
All to Thee my blessed Savior
I surrender all**

All to Jesus I surrender
Humbly at His feet I bow
Worldly pleasures all forsaken
Take me Jesus take me now

Chorus

All to Jesus I surrender
Now I feel the sacred flame
O the joy of full salvation
Glory glory to His name

Chorus

Music and Lyrics: Judson Wheeler Van DeVenter, Winfield Scott Weedon

Confession of Sin | Psalm 25:4-7; 11

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.

**4 Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.**

**5 Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.**

**6 Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**

**7 Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!**

**11 For your name's sake, O LORD,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.**

Assurance of Pardon | Revelation 21:4 | 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.

4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

*Song of Response | Jesus Loves Me

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

Jesus loves me, this I know.
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong.
They are weak, but He is strong.

**Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me.
The Bible tells me so.**

Jesus loves me, He who died.
Heaven's gates to open wide.
He will wash away my sin,
Let His little child come in.

Chorus

The Bible tells me so
The Bible tells me so.

Music and Lyrics: Anna Bartlett Warner, William Batchelder Bradbury

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 | In Christ Alone

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

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease!
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This Gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied –
For every sin on Him was laid:
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine –
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Music and Lyrics: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

Prayer for Christ's Church

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

***Reading of Scripture | Matthew 5:38-48 | Blake Arnoult**

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

38 You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' 39 But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. 40 And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. 41 And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. 42 Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? 48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Preaching of the Word | Rev. Blake Arnoult

"On Retaliation and Mercy"

Matthew: The Sermon on the Mount

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 | O Come to The Altar

We celebrate our communion in faith and song.

Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

**O come to the altar
The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ**

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling

/Chorus/

/ Oh what a Savior
Isn't He wonderful
Sing alleluia, Christ is risen
Bow down before Him
For He is Lord of all
Sing alleluia, Christ is risen /

/Chorus/

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

Music and Lyrics: Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Steven Furtick, Wade Joye

Departing Song | Jesus Paid It All

We begin to end in faith and song.

I hear the Savior say, "Thy strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray, Find in Me thine all in all."

**Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.**

Lord, now indeed I find Thy power and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots and melt the heart of stone.

Chorus

And when before the throne I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save" my lips shall still repeat

Chorus

Music and Lyrics: Elvina M. Hall

*Benediction | Jude 1:20-21 | 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 But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Studies

Women's Morning Study: Weekly on Wednesdays at 9:30am from August 23 - November 8 at the Wade home.

Men's Morning Study - This week!: Monthly on the first Friday of each month, 7am at Bean and Bottle. 9655 Katy Freeway Suite 100.

Women's Evening Study - This week!: Monthly at 7pm on the first Thursday of each month at the home of Susan and Jeff Arnoult.

Sunday School

We will be taking a break from Sunday school on October 8.

Sunday mornings at 9am from October 15 - November 5!

Pre-K through 12th grades are invited to join us for Sunday school for an 8-week study in Eschatology! Children and youth will gather separately for age-appropriate lessons.

Women's Retreat - Sign up today!

Saturday, October 21

Women are invited to join us from 8:30am - 5:30pm on Saturday, October 21 for a day trip to the Plank's farm in New Ulm, TX. Please let us know you are coming by scanning the QR code or visiting our website to sign up!



Youth Gathering at Speedy's Fast Track!

Today, October 1, 12-2pm

All 5th-12th graders are invited to join us at Speedy's Fast Track for food and fun after the service next Sunday!

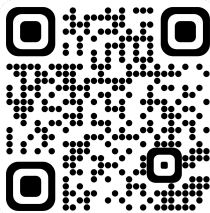
Picnic at the Park!

Sunday, October 15, 11:30am-2pm

Parents and all kids through 4th grade are invited to join us for a lunch provided by Cornerstone at a local park on October 15! More information coming soon!

RSVP and Announcements Page

Visit the website above or click the link below to view our comprehensive fall calendar and RSVP to available events!



Let Us Know You're Here!

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



Giving

Use the QR Code below to view 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 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 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?

KID'S CORNER



MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK

7 "Blessed are the merciful, for
they shall receive mercy."

Matthew 5:7



CATECHISM OF THE WEEK



Q. What is heaven?

A. A glorious and happy place, where the
righteous shall be forever with the Lord.



PRAYER REQUEST

"Father, help me to remember your mercy to me so
that when people wrong me I can be merciful to them."

KID'S CORNER

SERMON NOTES



Riddles!

"I may only be given but never bought. Sinners seek me but saints do not. What am I?"

Give, Give, Give, Give, Get, Get, Get, Get. What is the meaning?

There are 4 'Give' and 4 'Get'. So the answer is 'Forgive and Forget'.

When you make a mistake, when you hurt someone, when you've been bad, when you sin - do you ask God to forgive? Why? Why does God forgive you?

Because he's nice and says no big deal?

Because he's so busy he forgets?

Because you've been so good lately?

Because you promise to be on your best behavior?

Because you promise to never be bad again?

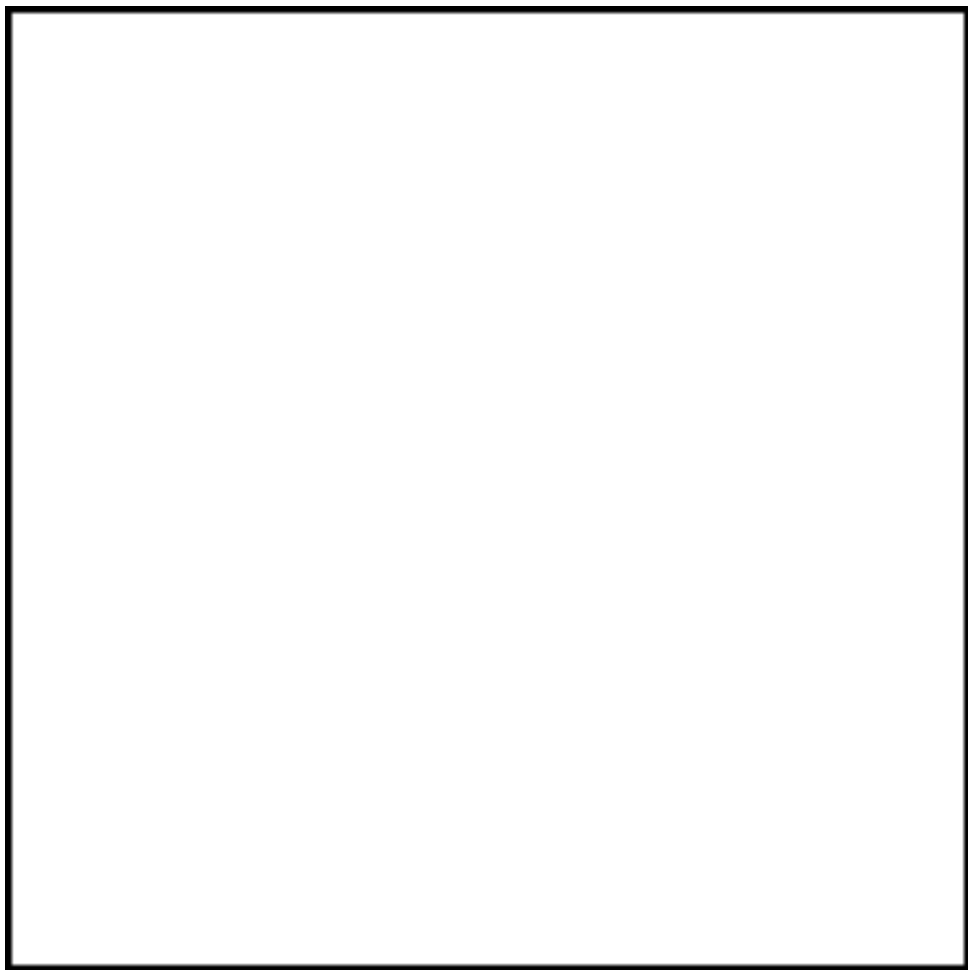
Because you're sorry?

Because you love him?

To sin against God is a great injustice, it is a great wrong. For our sin we deserve God's justice and punishment. Nothing we do can change that. But what Jesus has done does change that. God is merciful to us even though we have wronged him with our sin because of Jesus. Because Jesus lived a perfect life for us and because Jesus paid the punishment for our sins on the cross God can respond to sinners with mercy and forgiveness. That mercy came at the greatest cost - the cost of the cross. And through faith in Jesus his costly, awesome mercy makes us merciful to those who wrong us.

A Drawing

Show off your artistic talents below!



Word Search

Find these words from the sermon!

J	L	P	O	O	N	E	V	A	E	H	N	R	U	T
O	Y	B	G	N	Z	B	V	I	S	E	W	U	E	B
E	F	H	N	Z	A	G	T	O	I	K	O	R	K	I
T	X	P	V	I	U	B	C	G	L	G	M	D	U	N
N	W	Q	P	X	Z	B	H	X	Z	O	C	A	G	R
B	U	I	Z	V	H	B	W	A	R	P	R	A	Y	V
W	Q	A	D	Z	O	X	N	E	E	X	C	T	D	J
V	N	L	A	R	P	Y	P	G	T	G	C	Y	E	P
V	Y	N	O	O	A	C	E	Z	Y	E	I	M	E	F
R	T	C	H	A	E	W	Q	M	F	V	A	X	Y	K
Y	Y	G	H	L	C	V	E	R	V	B	B	I	E	P
B	F	W	D	D	Z	N	E	R	N	V	D	P	Q	T
O	G	M	H	O	E	P	K	K	L	I	H	R	A	S
U	A	N	P	F	R	W	Q	Z	W	I	F	V	M	E
J	O	N	O	S	I	U	U	D	Z	B	L	F	X	J

ENEMY, EYE, HEAVEN, LOVE, MORE, NEIGHBOR,
PERFECT, PRAY, REWARD, TURN

Unscramble the Verse!

Unscramble the verse from today's passage!

B T U I A S Y O T O U Y'

O D O T N E I R S S T E H T

E N O H O W S I E I L V.

T U B F I A E N N O Y

A L P S S U Y O N O H T E

G H I R T C E E H K' N R T U

O T I M H T E H E H O R T

A L O S.

A E H M T T W 3 5 9

The Sermon and Your A-Z's!

Each time you hear a word during the sermon that begins with one of the letters listed below, fill it in.

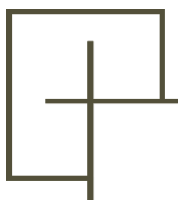
A	N
B	O
C	P
D	Q
E	R
F	S
G	T
H	U
I	V
J	W
K	X
L	Y
M	Z

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.

GATHERING GROWING GLORIFYING



SUNDAYS, 10 AM

A.D. PLAYERS AT THE GEORGE THEATER
5420 Westheimer Rd, Houston, TX 77056

www.cornerstonehouston.com