

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 6, 2023

*Call to Worship | Revelation 15:2-3 | Blake Arnoult

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

2 And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire—and also those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. 3 And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,

“Great and amazing are your deeds,

O Lord God the Almighty!

Just and true are your ways,

O King of the nations!”

*Song of Adoration | Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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

Come Thou Fount of every blessing

Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;

Streams of mercy, never ceasing,

Call for songs of loudest praise

Teach me some melodious sonnet,

Sung by flaming tongues above.

Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,

Mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;

Hither by Thy help I'm come;

And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,

Safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,

Wandering from the fold of God;

He, to rescue me from danger,

Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above

Music and Lyrics: Robert Robinson

*Confession of Faith | Job 1:21

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

**"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return.
The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the
name of the LORD."**

*Song of Confession | Gracious God

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

Gracious God, great is our sin
But Holy Lord Great is Your love

**The burden's too heavy to carry
The pain is too real to hide
The sin is too deep to undo
Lord hear our cry**

Forgive what our lips tremble to name
And take what our hearts can no longer bear

Chorus

Lord grant us grace to be more like you
Through Jesus Christ, the light of the world

Chorus

// Set us free from a past we can't change
Lord grant us grace
Give us a future where we can be changed
Lord grant us grace //

Gracious God, great is our sin
But Holy Lord Great is Your love

Chorus

The burden's too heavy to carry
It burns like a fire inside
The judgement is too much to bear
Lord hear our cry

Music and Lyrics: Rivan Bennevendo

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.

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon | Psalm 23:4 | 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 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

*Song of Response | More Love to Thee

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

More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee.
This is my earnest plea: More love, O Christ, to Thee;
More love (more love) More love (more love), More love to Thee,
More love (more love), more love (more love), to Thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I seek, give what is best.
This all my prayer shall be: More love, O Christ to Thee;
More love (more love), more love (more love), more love to Thee!
More love (more love), more love (more love), to Thee

Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise;
This be the parting cry my heart shall raise;
This still its prayer shall be: More love, O Christ to Thee;
More love (more love), More love (more love), more love to Thee!
More love (more love), More love (more love), more love to Thee!
More love (more love), More love (more love) to Thee

Music and Lyrics: Kevin Twit, Elizabeth Prentiss

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 | My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

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

My faith has found a resting place,
Not in device or creed;
I trust the ever living One,
His wounds for me shall plead.

**I need no other argument,
I need no other plea,
It is enough that Jesus died,
And that He died for me.**

Enough for me that Jesus saves,
This ends my fear and doubt;
A sinful soul I come to Him,
He'll never cast me out.

Chorus

My heart is leaning on the Word,
The living Word of God,
Salvation by my Savior's Name,
Salvation through His blood.

Chorus

Music and Lyrics: E. E. Hewitt

Prayer for Christ's Church

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

*Reading of Scripture | Lamentations 1:18; 2:8, 17; 3:19-24,
40-41, 55, 58; 5:19-22 | Blake Arnoult

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

1:18 The LORD is in the right,
for I have rebelled against his word;
but hear, all you peoples,
and see my suffering;
my young women and my young men
have gone into captivity.

2:8 The LORD determined to lay in ruins
the wall of the daughter of Zion;
he stretched out the measuring line;
he did not restrain his hand from destroying;
he caused rampart and wall to lament;
they languished together.

17 The LORD has done what he purposed;
he has carried out his word,
which he commanded long ago;
he has thrown down without pity;
he has made the enemy rejoice over you
and exalted the might of your foes.

3:19 Remember my affliction and my wanderings,
the wormwood and the gall!

20 My soul continually remembers it
and is bowed down within me.

21 But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:

22 The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;

23 they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

24 "The LORD is my portion," says my soul,
"therefore I will hope in him."

40 Let us test and examine our ways,
and return to the LORD!

41 Let us lift up our hearts and hands
to God in heaven:

55 "I called on your name, O LORD,
from the depths of the pit;

58 "You have taken up my cause, O Lord;
you have redeemed my life.

5:19 But you, O LORD, reign forever;
your throne endures to all generations.

20 Why do you forget us forever,
why do you forsake us for so many days?

21 Restore us to yourself, O LORD, that we may be restored!
Renew our days as of old—

22 unless you have utterly rejected us,
and you remain exceedingly angry with us.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Preaching of the Word | Rev. Blake Arnoult

"Lamentations, The Fall of Israel"

Lamentations: Christ 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 | Heal Us, Emmanuel

We celebrate our communion in faith and song.

**Heal us, Emmanuel, here we are
We long to feel Thy touch
Deep wounded souls to Thee we fly
O Savior hear our cry**

Our faith is feeble, we confess.
We faintly trust Thy Word.
But, will You pity us the less?
Be that far from You Lord!

Chorus

Remember him who once applied,
With trembling for relief.
"Lord, I believe," with tears he cried,
"O help my unbelief!"

Chorus

She, too, who touched you in the press,
And healing virtue stole,
Was answered, "Daughter, go in peace;
Thy faith has made thee whole."

Chorus

Like her, with hopes and fears we come,
To touch You if we may.
O, send us not despairing home;
Send none unhealed away!

//Chorus//

Music and Lyrics: William Cowper, Kevin Twit, Lucas Morton

Departing Song | The Old Rugged Cross

We begin to end in faith and song.

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suff'ring and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross.
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.**

Oh that old rugged cross, so despised by the world.
Has a wondrous attraction for me,
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above,
To bear it to dark Calvary.

Chorus

In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see.
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me.

Chorus

To the old rugged cross, I will ever be true,
Its shame and reproach gladly bear,
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share.

Chorus

Music and Lyrics: George Bennard

***Benediction** | Psalm 23:5-6 | 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.

5 You prepare a table before me
 in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
 my cup overflows.
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
 all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
 forever.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sign up for Supper Clubs!

Supper clubs will be starting again this fall! Scan the QR code, email emily.mcewin@cornerstonehouston.com, or sign up through our weekly email if you would like to participate!



Bible Studies

Beginning August 23, September 1, and September 7

Bible studies for men and women are beginning soon!

Women's Morning Study: Weekly on Wednesdays at 9:30am beginning August 23 at the Wade home

Men's Morning Study: Monthly on the first Friday of each month, beginning on September 1 at 7am. Location to be announced soon!

Women's Evening Study: Monthly at 7pm on the first Thursday of each month, beginning on September 7 at the home of Susan and Jeff Arnoult

Sunday School

Beginning September 10 at 9am

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 - Save the Date!

Saturday, October 21

More information to come!

Fall Kick-Off Pool Party

Sunday, August 27, 11:30am-1:30pm

Everyone is invited to join us at the Byrd home on August 27 for our annual fall gathering! This is a BYOB event. Lunch will be provided!

Cornerstone's 5th Anniversary Celebration

Friday, September 15, 7-9pm

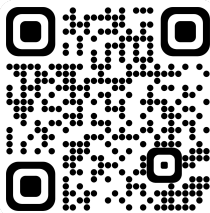
Cornerstone is celebrating it's 5th year anniversary this September! Adults are invited to the home of Blake and Ryan Arnoult to celebrate 5 years of ministry and fellowship!

Cornerstone is updating it's member directory!

Members! Please email emily.mcewin@cornerstonehouston.com with a family photo for our member directory! Our goal is to complete the directory this summer!

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

22 The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
23 they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
Lamentations 3:22-23



CATECHISM OF THE WEEK



What does every sin deserve?

The wrath and curse of God.

How did Adam and Eve change when they sinned?

Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable.

What effect did the sin of Adam have on all people?

We are all born guilty and sinful.

How, then, can you be saved?

By the Lord Jesus Christ through the covenant of grace.



PRAYER REQUEST

"Father, please help me to keep trusting that you are good, and that because of Jesus you're not far off, you're near to me."

KID'S CORNER

SERMON NOTES



We don't understand grief very well. Can being sad ever be a good thing? Yes, actually. Charlie Brown and his friends in the Peanuts comic are famous for saying, "Good grief." One comic strip focuses on Lucy and her younger brother, Linus. Lucy bullies Linus all the time. She calls him "blockhead" and frequently pummels him. It's probably why Linus holds onto that security blanket. And in this one strip Lucy complains about the hard stuff in her life. She's feeling sorry for herself.

And Linus gives her a good word, "Maybe you should be thankful for the blessings you have?" And she snaps back like she's gonna pummel him, "What blessings, huh?" And Linus says, "Well, for one thing, you have a brother who loves you." And then, Lucy bursts into tears and she grabs and melts in his arms, hugging him. And then Linus says, "Every now and then I say the right thing."

At first Lucy feels sorry for herself and that is not a good sadness, it is not a good grief. But then, her brother comes along and tells Lucy that even though she's terrible to him he loves her. Then she bursts into tears because she's treated her loving brother so bad and she realizes it and she's sorry for it. That is a GOOD GRIEF.

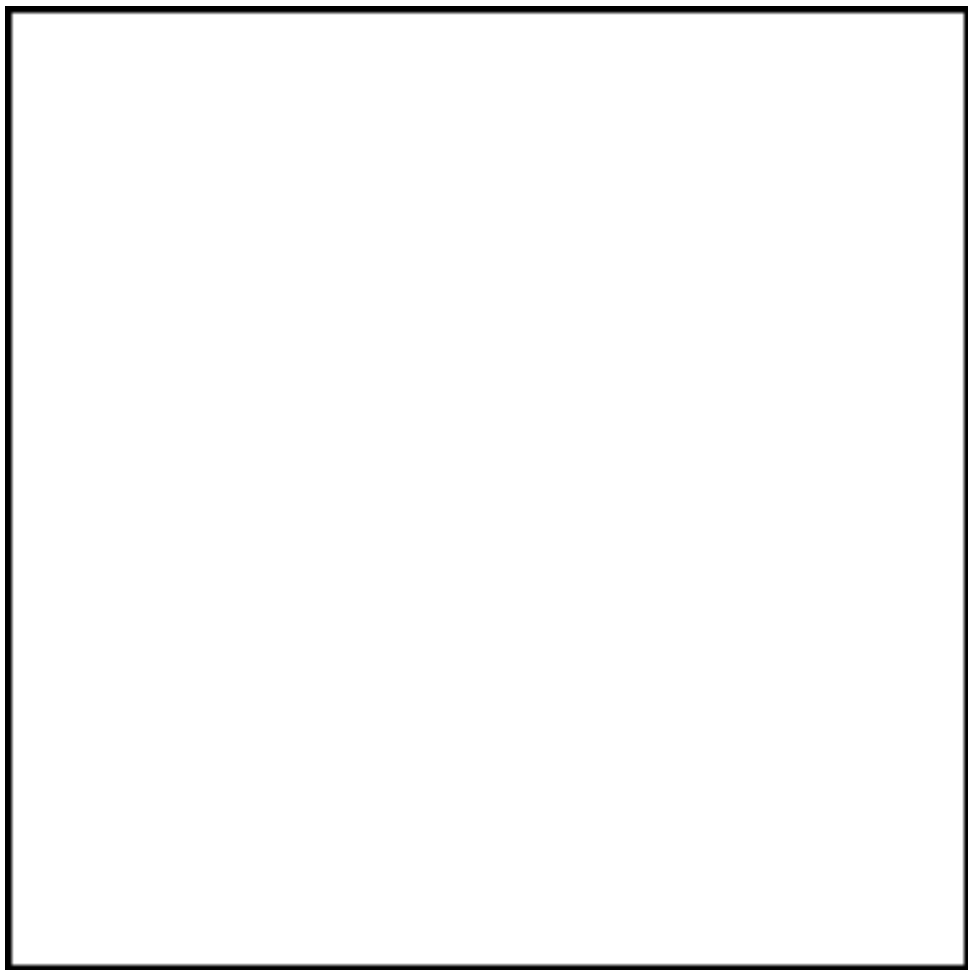
What changes her heart, from bad grief to good grief?

Love. Grace.

We will feel sad in this life because this life is hard and bad things happen to us. But feeling sorry for ourselves when we hurt others is not a good way of being sad. Good grief is being sad for our sin when it hurts others. Good grief is being sad for our sin when it hurts our relationship with Jesus. That good grief will always lead us back to Jesus because even when we treat Jesus badly with our sin, he is looking at us saying, "I still love you." And when you remember that Jesus still loves you even when you sin and treat him badly, that he loves you so much he died to save you from your sin - that will change your self-pity to good grief and lead you back to him again and again. And then you'll remember his great salvation that one day all our suffering will end and even though we don't deserve it we will get heaven forever with Jesus.

A Drawing

Show off your artistic talents below!



Word Search

Find these words from the sermon!

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

AFFLICTION, COMMANDED, EXALTED, LAMENT, MERCIES,
REBELLED, RESTORE, STEADFAST, SUFFERING, ZION

Unscramble the Verse!

Unscramble the verse from today's passage!

E L T S U E S T T A D N

A E E I M N X O R U A S W Y,

D N A E N R R T U O T

E H T D L O R ! L T E S U

F I L T P U R U O

A E H R S T N A D A D H N S

O T D G O N I A E E H N V ...

A A E I L M N N O S T T

: -
0 1 3 4 4

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.

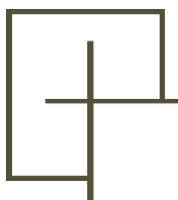
A	N
B	O
C	P
D	Q
E	R
F	S
G	T
H	U
I	V
J	W
K	X
L	Y
M	Z

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