

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

GATHERING GROWING GLORIFYING

Order Of Worship

April 12, 2026

*Call to Worship | Romans 1:16 | Rev. Blake Arnoult

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

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

*Song of Adoration | How Great Thou Art

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

O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made
I see the stars I hear the mighty thunder
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed

**Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art
Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art**

And when I think that God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in
That on the Cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

Chorus

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim my God how great Thou art

Chorus

Music and Lyrics: Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

***Confession of Faith | Westminster Shorter Catechism Q.1**

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

What is the chief end of man?

Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

***Song of Confession | Before The Throne Of God Above**

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

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong, a perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart.
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me.
To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! the risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless Righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God
With Christ, my Savior and my God

Music and Lyrics: Charitie Lees Bancroft, Vikki Cook

Confession of Sin | Based on Psalm 51

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.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquities, and cleanse us from our sins. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against you, you alone, have we sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. Indeed, we were born guilty, sinners when our mothers conceived us. Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put new and right spirits within us. Do not cast us away from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from us, we pray through him who loved us and gave Himself for us, even our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon | Isaiah 53:3-5 | 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.

- ³ He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
- ⁴ Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
- ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.

*Song of Response | Father Long Before Creation

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

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

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 Greater Than Our Sin

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

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilled

Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within
Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that is greater than all our sin

Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold
Threaten the soul with infinite loss
Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold
Points to the refuge, the mighty cross

Chorus

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide
What can avail to wash it away?
Look, There is flowing a crimson tide
Brighter than snow you may be today

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace
Freely bestowed on all who believe!
You that are longing to see His face
Will you this moment His grace receive

Chorus

Music and Lyrics: Julia Harriette Johnston, Daniel Brink Towner

Prayer for Christ's Church

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

*Reading of Scripture | Colossians 2:16-23 | Rev. Blake Arnoult

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

¹⁶ Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath.

¹⁷ These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. ¹⁸ Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, ¹⁹ and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

²⁰ If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations—

²¹ “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” ²² (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings? ²³ These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Preaching of the Word | Rev. Blake Arnoult

“Old Testament Shadows, New Testament Substance”

Colossians: Praying and Witnessing

Pastoral Prayer | Rev. Blake Arnoult

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: Mack Brock, Wade Joye, Christopher Brown, Steven Furtick

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 Mabel Hall, John Thomas Grape, Lari Goss

*Benediction | 2 Corinthians 13:14 | 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.

¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Let Us Know You're Here!

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



Calendar and Announcements Page

We encourage you to visit Church Center or our website to view our calendar of gatherings and events! You can also find us on the Church Center app to stay up to date with our weekly and monthly events!



Serving

We rely on the willing hearts and bodies of our members to be the hands and feet of Christ for his church on Sunday mornings. Please take the time to sign up to serve this spring through Church Center! We need volunteers for all positions from setup, to nursery, to breakdown each Sunday in the coming months.

All positions for February-April are available for sign up!



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 standing on chairs | No stage access |
Use only the writing utensils provided in the Lobby by Cornerstone

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.

Announcements

Kids and Youth Bible Studies

Sunday, April 19, 9am

A.D. Players

Kids and youth, join us on Sunday mornings as we continue learning all about the Church each week!

Women's Gathering

Tuesday, April 21, 7pm

The Home of Susan Arnoult

Ladies — gather with us on April 21st for a time of fellowship and discussion at Susan Arnoult's home. Zoe Bennevendo will be sharing thoughts on faithful stewardship and rest.

Church Center Directory Update!

By default, contact details in our Church Center directory are set to private. If you would like your information to appear in the directory, please log in to Church Center and complete the following steps:

1. Select your initials in the top, right corner of the page
2. Select "My Profile and Settings"
3. Select "My Directory Profile"
4. Select the desired contact methods and addresses
5. Select "Update"

We strongly encourage all members to complete this update as soon as possible so our directory can serve our church family well. Please reach out to Emily McEwin for assistance or with any questions!

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

Jesus Christ is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

Colossians 1:18

? CATECHISM OF THE WEEK ?

What do you believe concerning “the holy catholic church”?

I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.



PRAYER REQUEST

“God, change me. Obeying your rules doesn’t change me. You change me. So help me to trust in Jesus today and that your Spirit lives in me and is helping me to love Jesus more and more and changing me more and more to look like him.”

KIDS' LESSON

Do you want to meet God? Our knee jerk reaction is probably to say, "Yes, of course I want to meet God!" Did you know that the people in the Bible who did meet God were absolutely terrified!!!!?? Because God is so completely holy. But, we are not. That's scary.

Think of getting too close to a fire. Think of trying to stand up in the ocean in front of a huge wave. You get too close to a fire and it will burn you. You try to stand up to a big wave it will knock you down, swirl you around, and bury you. That's nothing compared to what it would be like for a sinner to come into the presence of God.

The New Testament book of Colossians 2:16-23 tells us that's what all the weird ceremonies in the Old Testament is about. All the ceremonies and rituals and festivals in the Old Testament are about Israel's need for holiness to come into God's presence. The problem is nobody is holy!! But that's the good news of the gospel which is what that Old Testament stuff ultimately points us to. To Jesus!

It's Jesus who has freed you from the power of sin and the power of death by taking your sin and your death on the cross in your place. It's Jesus who sends his Holy Spirit to live in you. You're like a living temple now with the Spirit living in you. Jesus is at work inside you changing you. Making you more and more holy, bit by bit. It's Jesus who will finally and fully glorify you and rid you of all sin and suffering when he brings you into heaven to be with him forever!

KIDS' CORNER

WRITE OR DRAW SOMETHING YOU HEARD IN THE SERMON

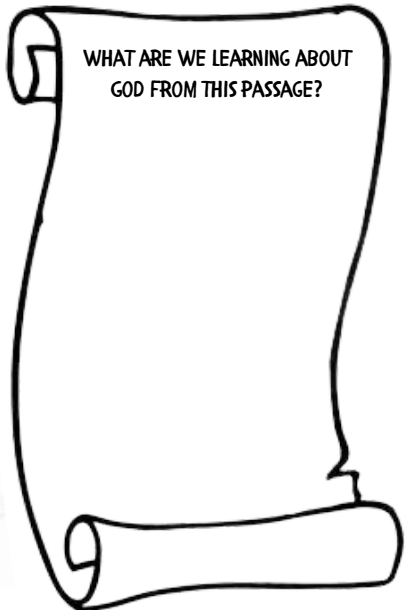


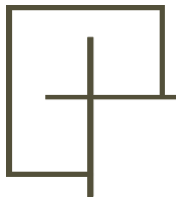
Favorite song
today was:

NEW WORDS I HEARD TODAY



WHAT ARE WE LEARNING ABOUT
GOD FROM THIS PASSAGE?





SUNDAYS, 10 AM

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