

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 9, 2026

*Call to Worship | Psalm 48:1-3 | Rev. Blake Arnoult

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

¹ Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God!

His holy mountain, ² beautiful in elevation,
is the joy of all the earth,
Mount Zion, in the far north,
the city of the great King.

³ Within her citadels God
has made himself known as a fortress.

*Song of Adoration | Hail To The Lord's Anointed

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

**Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
/ His reign on earth begun! /**

He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free;
To take away transgression
And rule in equity.

Chorus

He comes with comfort speedy
To those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong;

To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Are precious in His sight.

Chorus

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in His path to birth.

Chorus

The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever,
That Name to us is Love.

Chorus

Music and Lyrics: James Montgomery, Sandra McCracken

***Confession of Faith | Heidelberg Catechism Q.1**

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

What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.

***Song of Confession | Afflicted Saint To Christ Draw Near**

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

Afflicted saint, to Christ draw near,
Your Savior's gracious promise hear;
His faithful Word you can believe:
That as your days your strength shall be.

Your faith is weak, your foes are strong
And if the conflict should be long,
The Lord will make the tempter flee
That as your days your strength shall be.

**So, sing with joy, afflicted one;
The battle's fierce, but the victory's won!
God shall supply all that you need;
Yes, as your days your strength shall be**

Should persecution rage and flame,
Still trust in your Redeemer's name.
In fiery trials you shall see
That as your days your strength shall be.

Chorus

When called to bear your weighty cross
Or sore affliction, pain, or loss,
Or deep distress or poverty,
Still as your days your strength shall be.

Chorus

Music and Lyrics: Constance Dever

Confession of Sin | 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.

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 | 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

Music and Lyrics: Anna Bartlett Warner, Philip Percival, 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 | A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

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

A mighty fortress is our God,
A bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood
Of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
Doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great;
And armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side,
The man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he,
Lord Sabaoth his name,
From age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph thru us.
The prince of darkness grim,
We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
For lo! his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly pow'rs,
No thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
Through Him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
This mortal life also;
The body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever.

Music and Lyrics: Frederick Hedge, Martin Luther

Prayer for Christ's Church

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

*Reading of Scripture | Psalm 46 | Rev. Blake Arnoult

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

⁰ To the choirmaster. Of the Sons of Korah. According to Alamoth. A Song.

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

⁸ Come, behold the works of the Lord,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.

⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.

¹⁰ "Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!"

¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Preaching of the Word | Rev. Blake Arnoult

"A Song of Sending"

Psalms: Songs of "Amen"

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 | Jesus I My Cross Have Taken

We celebrate our communion in faith and song.

Jesus, I my cross have taken,
All to leave and follow Thee.
Destitute, despised, forsaken,
Thou from hence my all shall be.
Perish every fond ambition,
All I've sought or hoped or known.
Yet how rich is my condition!
God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me,
They have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me;
Thou art not, like them, untrue.
O while Thou dost smile upon me,
God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends disown me,
Show Thy face and all is bright.

Man may trouble and distress me,
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast.
Life with trials hard may press me;
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.
Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me
While Thy love is left to me;
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me,
Were that joy unmixed with Thee.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,
Come disaster, scorn and pain
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,
With Thy favor, loss is gain
I have called Thee Abba Father,
I have stayed my heart on Thee
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;
All must work for good to me.

Soul, then know thy full salvation
Rise o'er sin and fear and care
Joy to find in every station,
Something still to do or bear.
Think what Spirit dwells within thee,
Think what Father's smiles are thine,
Think that Jesus died to win thee,
Child of heaven, canst thou repine.

Haste thee on from grace to glory,
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer.
Heaven's eternal days before thee,
God's own hand shall guide us there.
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,
Hope shall change to glad fruition,
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

Music and Lyrics: Henry Francis Lyte, Billy Foote

Departing Song | Amazing Grace

We begin to end in faith and song.

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Music and Lyrics: John P. Rees, Edwin Othello Excell, John Newton

*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.

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

Monthly Bible Studies

Our new Bible studies in Judges begin this week!

Women's Monthly Bible Study

Tuesday, August 11, 7pm

The Home of Susan Arnoult

Men's Monthly Bible Study

Friday, August 14, 7am

Bean and Bottle

The Book of Judges

What do the Old Testament judges have to do with us today? They were unlikely heroes that God raised up to deliver his forgetful people from idols of the world. Through this study, we'll expose the danger of history repeating itself in the church and remember how the ultimate Judge was sent to deliver his church.

Fall Kick-Off

Sunday, August 23, 11:30am

Pickleball Social

Cornerstone's Fall Kick-Off and third annual pickleball tournament is just around the corner! For players and non-players alike, this is a fun event for all ages to fellowship and enjoy time with one another. Lunch is provided! View the tournament details and sign up by scanning the code below!



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

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Psalm 46:1

? 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

"Father I pray you would help me to always talk about grace when I get to talk to other people about Jesus."

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?

KIDS' LESSON

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.

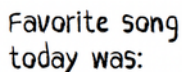
If you asked the lying guard, that guard will point toward the door to hell, because he knows the honest guard would point to the door to heaven.

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.

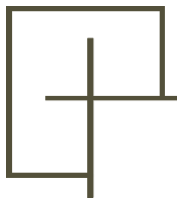
Is that going to happen when you die?

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

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

A large, blank scroll with a black outline. At the top, the text "WHAT ARE WE LEARNING ABOUT GOD FROM THIS PASSAGE?" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The scroll is unrolled, showing a large blank space for writing.



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