

#### PURPOSE

(the why of the church)

Gather people in Houston and grow together in life in order to glorify Jesus Christ.

#### **PLAN**

(the what, so what, how, when, where, and who of the church)

#### Means (What will accomplish our purpose?)

- -Word (the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament)
- -Fellowship
- -Prayer
- -Sacrament

#### Goals (So what do we see if we are accomplishing our purpose?)

- -Fruitfulness: conversions, Christian character, good deeds
- -Biblical world and life view
- -Fellowship and Service
- -Evangelism and Missions
- -Worship: corporate and individual

## <u>Presuppositions</u> (How will we approach accomplishing our purpose?)

- -Individual: there is both great commonality and diversity among individuals
- -Demographical: our ability to minister is affected by the character of the city
- -Pedagogical: there is a common learning process among all peoples
- -Theological: ministry is carried out from a specific perspective that is for all peoples
- -Providential: God is at work accomplishing his purpose of the church

#### <u>Times</u> (When will we accomplish our purpose?)

- -Sunday: corporate worship, when the church gathers, grows, and glorifies weekly
- -Monday to Saturday: pilgrim life, when the church lives out of and up to Sunday

## <u>Places</u> (Where will we accomplish our purpose?)

- -Large Groups: community; gathering and binding the whole group together-
- -Small Groups: friendship; relating an individual to other individuals
- -One on Ones: intimacy; personal conversation where ministry happens organically

## <u>Participants</u> (Who is accomplishing our purpose?)

- -God the Father the Architect-Builder, the Son the Cornerstone, the Spirit the Paradigm Power
- -God's People-House the Church

## Order Of Worship February 7, 2021

## \*Call to Worship | 2 Peter 1:19-21 | Rev. Blake Arnoult

God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him.

19 We have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

#### \*Prayer of Adoration | Psalm 23

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

1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

3 He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

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.

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.

## \*Confession of Faith | 2 Timothy 3:16-17

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

16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

## \*Song of Confession | Psalm 130

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

From the depths of woe I raise to Thee the voice of lamentation; Lord, turn a gracious ear to me and hear my supplication; If Thou iniquities dost mark our secret sins and misdeeds dark, O who shall stand before Thee? (Who shall stand before Thee?) O who shall stand before Thee?)

To wash away the crimson stain, grace, grace alone availeth; Our works, alas! Are all in vain; in much the best life faileth; No man can glory in Thy sight, all must alike confess Thy might, And live alone by mercy (Live alone by mercy) And live alone by mercy (Live alone by mercy)

Therefore my trust is in the Lord, and not in mine own merit; On Him my soul shall rest, His word upholds my fainting spirit; His promised mercy is my fort, my comfort and my sweet support; I wait for it with patience (Wait for it with patience) I wait for it with patience (Wait for it with patience)

Though great our sins and sore our woes,
His grace much more aboundeth;
His helping love no limit knows, our upmost need it soundeth.
Our Shepherd good and true is He, who will at last His Israel free
From all their sin and sorrow (All their sin and sorrow)
From all their sin and sorrow (All their sin and sorrow)

Lyrics and Music: Martin Luther, Christopher Miner

## 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.

## Lament | Psalm 119:10-107

A lament is our expression of grief and frustration at the brokenness of the world. This is an act of faith as we turn to God as our only source of hope and comfort.

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. 106 I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to keep your righteous rules.
107 I am severely afflicted; give me life, O LORD, according to your word!

#### 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.

Holy Lord, we are guilty of pride and unbelief, of failure to find your mind in your Word, of neglect to see you in our daily lives. Our violations and shortcomings present our consciences with a long list of accusations, but they shall not stand! For we lay them all now on Christ, our sacrifice and advocate. Go on now, Lord, to subdue our weaknesses, granting us grace to live above them. Let us not be mastered by them, but now rule over us in liberty and power. We praise and thank you for your wisdom and love, for sometimes putting us into the furnace to refine our gold and remove our dross. Deliver us from every evil habit, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in us, everything that prevents us from taking our deepest delight in you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon | Hebrews 1:1-3

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.

1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

## Prayer for Christ's Church

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

\*Reading of Scripture | 1Thessalonians 2:13-16 | Blake Arnoult God reveals himself and his work and speaks to us his people through his Word.

13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers. 14 For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea. For you suffered the same things from your own countrymen as they did from the Jews, 15 who killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out, and displease God and oppose all mankind 16 by hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles that they might be saved-so as always to fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them at last!

Pastor: The Word of the Lord People: Thanks be to God

The Preaching of the Word | Rev. Blake Arnoult

"The Word of God, Not of Man"
1, 2 Thessalonians - Struggle Unto Triumph

<u>Pastoral Prayer</u>

## 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 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 | Let Us Love And Sing And Wonder We celebrate our communion in faith and song.

Let us love and sing and wonder Let us praise the Savior's name He has hushed the law's loud thunder He has avenched Mount Sinai's flame // He has washed us with His blood // He has brought us night o God

Let us sing though fierce temptation Threatens hard to bear us down For the Lord, our strong salvation, Holds in view the conqu'ror's crown // He, Who washed us with His blood, // Soon will bring us home to God

Let us praise and join the chorus Of the saints enthroned on high Here they trusted Him before us Now their praises fill the sky // Thou hast washed us with Thy blood // Thou art worthy Lamb of God

Music and Lyrics: John Newton, Laura Taylor

# \*Departing Song | Revelation Song

We begin to end in faith and song.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain. Holy, holy is He. Sing a new song to Him who sits on Heaven's Mercy Seat.

> Holy, Holy, Holy is The Lord, God Almighty. Who was and is and is to come. With all creation I sing, "Praise to The King of Kings, You are my everything. And I will adore You"

Clothed in rainbows, of living color. Flashes of lightening, rolls of thunder. Blessing and honor, strength and Glory and power be, to You, the only wise King.

Chorus

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder, At the mention of Your Name. Jesus, Your Name is power, breath and living water. Such a marvelous mystery.

/ Chorus /

Lyrics and Music: Jennie Lee Riddle

## \*Benediction | 2 Corinthians 9:8 | 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.

God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### Spring Bible Studies - Adults

Women's Zoom Bible Study: every other Tuesday night @7:30pm, https://www.cornerstonehouston.com/women

Men's Zoom Bible Study: every other Tuesday night @7:30pm, https://www.cornerstonehouston.com/men

#### Spring Middle School (5th-8th)

Monthly Zoom meeting Bible study with Blake from 2-2:30pm on Feb 21 & Mar 21.

#### **Weekly Prayer**

Church-wide Zoom Prayer Meeting: every Wednesday @11:30am, starting January 6th led by Blake.

Weekly Prayer Guide: Make sure to follow us on Facebook: <a href="Months: QcornerstoneHOU">@CornerstoneHOU</a> and Instagram: <a href="Months: Qcornerstonehou">@cornerstonehou</a> for Amy's prayer guide posted every Wednesday.

## **INFORMATION**

## To the Parents of Young Children

Welcome! We are so glad you are here. We believe the church is for all people, even children, and we want Cornerstone to be a church where children are both seen and heard. So don't worry if your children wiggle in the pews or make a little noise! We invite you to keep your children in our service and help them understand what is going on, sing the songs with you, and participate in worship. Children learn how to worship by imitating you. We say parts of our worship service every week in order to help our non-reading children to participate. There are also ages, stages, and times when it might not be best for your children to be in worship.

## The Liturgy

Our order of worship may be new to you. Every worship service in every church has a structure. We want to be intentional about ours as it is a real back-and-forth conversation between us and God. He calls us to worship, and then we respond and move through the different elements of the service. We have both spontaneous, personal prayers as well as ancient, printed prayers. Please look over the service to see what we will hear and say along the way.

#### **Cornerstone Podcast**

To listen to the sermons during the week, please visit: <a href="https://www.cornerstonehouston.com/resources">www.cornerstonehouston.com/resources</a> or anywhere you normally listen to podcasts.

## **GIVING**

#### Online Donations

If you'd prefer to give online as either a one-time gift or as a recurring gift, you may do so through our website,

www.cornerstonehouston.com/give

It will direct you to the online donation portal powered by Aplos. This is a secure site that can process credit card, debit card, and EFT. All donations go directly to Cornerstone. You will receive an electronic receipt and an end of year tax statement.

#### **Text-to-Give**

If you'd prefer to give via text, please text "GIVE" to (833) 388-0906. It will direct to the online donation portal powered by Aplos to setup your account. You will only have to setup access the first use. It is a secure site that can process credit card, debit card, and EFT. All donations go directly to Cornerstone. You will receive an electronic receipt and an end of year tax statement.

#### Checks

You can give by check or mail a check to:

Cornerstone Church of Houston 14027 Memorial Drive #268 Houston, Texas 77079-6826 Make the check payable to Cornerstone Church of Houston. You will be mailed an end of year tax statement.

#### Stock

If you would like to transfer stock, please contact one of the church officers.

# 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?

# A Drawing

Show off your artistic talents below!

# Word Search

Find these words from our passage 1 Thessalonians 2:13-16!

DHHJRFUSNOR DQWY R X W O R D O F G O D Χ OTWORDOFMAN Ν NX OVIACHUR CH EB ELIEV Е R SI Е NWGE 7 L H IВ Τ E G P U 7 В U Κ  $\mathsf{D}$  $\Box$ X K WMACCE В R Ρ Τ Ε R MI  $\mathsf{T} \mathsf{A} \mathsf{T}$ ORS Υ B Ν QYΤ Н G DESU Α R FF Е R Ε UVKWKWS В ROTН F R S SWDOUWVW SY ZSQSTL XF R QNBKSYCL 7 R CGO

Received, Heard, Accepted, Word of God, Not Word of Man, Believers, Brothers, Imitators, Churches, Suffered, Lord Jesus, Prophets

# 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.

Α	N
В	0
С	P
D	Q
Е	R
F	S
G	Т
Н	U
1	V
J	W
K	X
L	Υ
М	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, except for Communion
- 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