



Cornerstone  
Church PCA

Fourth Sunday in Easter



April 22, 2018



“Abraham reasoned that God was able even to raise Isaac from the dead, which, figuratively, he did receive him back.”

Hebrews 11:19

*A Service of Worship & Covenant Renewal*

# A GUIDE TO WORSHIP AT CORNERSTONE

## To Our Guests:

Visiting a church can be an intimidating experience. We are glad that you are here, and we hope to remove as much of that awkwardness as we can from your visit to Cornerstone. Our Sunday service usually lasts about 75 minutes, and the following is designed to help you navigate it, whether you have been to church before or this is your first time. The goal of the service is to help each of us to see God's glory in Jesus Christ more clearly and understand more fully how he makes a difference in our lives.

## The Sequence of Worship:

The flow of the worship service at Cornerstone follows a Biblical pattern that is very purposeful. It matches the story of God's work in our lives:

### Called by God

God invites us to come into His presence, so we enter with joy and praise.

### Cleansed by God

When God calls us, He also wants us to admit our need for Him. We confess our sins together and God cleanses us in Christ.

### Consecrated by God

To be "consecrated" means to be set apart for a purpose or goal. We are consecrated by God's Word as we then read from the Scriptures and hear a sermon based on the Bible. One way we respond to God's Word is by giving to God's mission in the world through His church.

### Communion with God

Having heard God's Word to us, we speak our requests back to God, and we have fellowship with Him in our prayer together. On certain Sundays we also have the Lord's Supper at this time, a meal that expresses God's communion with us.

### Commissioned by God

The end of the worship service is God sending us back into the world to be His witnesses with His blessing (benediction).

## Childcare:

Children of all ages are welcome in the service. We love to have children participating with the whole church in worship – even if they are a bit squirmy! However, should parents want assistance with their young children, we have **a nursery available** with nursery volunteers. Please do not hesitate to ask! We're ready to serve you and your children in any way we can.

\*Note that we also have devices for the hearing impaired, if needed.

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS – PASTOR ROBBIE CROUSE**

**†CALL TO WORSHIP: 1 PETER 1:3–6, 8–9**

**†ENTRANCE HYMN: “WELCOME HAPPY MORNING!” (#268)**

### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Almighty and everliving God,*

*You have brought us again to this glad season to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, whom You raised from death to life and crowned Lord of all. Yet we have often clung to our sorrows and lived our lives neglecting this truth. We confess that we have been slow to believe, and we have not joyfully acknowledged His rule over us as we ought. We have gone along with the way of the world and failed to give Him our whole lives. Forgive us, O God, and raise us from our sin, that we may be Your faithful people, knowing the joy of Easter triumph and walking in newness of life. Grant us the power of the resurrection to live holy lives, free from sin, and to follow in the mission He gave us; through Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord, Amen.*

**†ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**†GLORIA PATRI (#735)**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen!*

**†GREETING OF GRACE AND PEACE OF CHRIST**

We're glad you are worshiping with us today. If you are a visitor, please sign our guestbook in the foyer so that we can get to know you more.

**†THANKSGIVING SONG: “HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING?”**

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† Congregation stands as they are able

## How Can I Keep From Singing

1. There is an endless song  
Echoes in my soul  
I hear the music ring  
And though the storms may come  
I am holding on  
To the Rock I cling

### **Chorus**

*How can I keep from singing Your praise  
How can I ever say enough  
How amazing is Your Love  
How can I keep from shouting Your Name  
I know I am loved by the King  
And it makes my heart want to sing*

2. I will lift my eyes  
In the darkest night  
For I know my Savior lives  
And I will walk with You  
Knowing You'll see me through  
And sing the songs You give

### **Chorus 2x**

## RESPONSIVE PSALM READING: PSALM 27

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
*whom shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
*of whom shall I be afraid?*

<sup>2</sup>When evildoers assail me  
*to eat up my flesh,*  
my adversaries and foes,  
*it is they who stumble and fall.*

<sup>3</sup>Though an army encamp against me,  
*my heart will not fear;*  
though war arise against me,  
*yet I will be confident!*

<sup>4</sup>One thing have I asked of the LORD,  
*this only will I seek after:*  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD  
*all the days of my life,*  
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD  
*and to seek Him in His temple.*

<sup>5</sup>For He will hide me in His shelter  
*in the day of trouble;*  
He will conceal me under the cover of His tent;  
*He will lift me high upon a rock.*

<sup>6</sup>And now my head shall be lifted up  
*above my enemies all around me,*  
and I will offer in His tent  
*sacrifices with shouts of joy;*  
*I will sing and make melody to the LORD!*

<sup>7</sup>Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;  
*be gracious to me and answer me!*

<sup>8</sup>You have said to me, "Seek my face."  
*My heart says to You, "Your face, LORD, do I seek!"*

<sup>9</sup>Hide not Your face from me!  
*Turn not Your servant away in anger,*  
*O You who have been my help!*

Cast me not off!  
*forsake me not, O GOD of my salvation!*

- <sup>10</sup> For my father and my mother have forsaken me,  
*but the LORD will receive me.*
- <sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD,  
*and lead me on a level path  
because of my enemies.*
- <sup>12</sup> Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;  
*for false witnesses have risen against me,  
and they breathe out violence.*
- <sup>13</sup> I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD  
*in the land of the living!*
- <sup>14</sup> Wait for the LORD;  
*be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the LORD!*

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Old Testament: Genesis 22:1–19

New Testament: Hebrews 11:8–12, 17–19; Romans 4:16–25

### Genesis 22:1–19

<sup>1</sup> After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>2</sup> He said, “Take your son, your only son, the one whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as an ascension offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you.”

<sup>3</sup> So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and also his son, Isaac. And he cut the wood for the offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup> Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship, and we will return again to you.” <sup>6</sup> And Abraham took the wood of the offering and put it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup> And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, here is the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the ascension offering?” <sup>8</sup> Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the

lamb for the ascension offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup> When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup> Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. <sup>11</sup> But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>12</sup> He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup> And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as an ascension offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup> So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is still said to this day, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”

<sup>15</sup> And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup> and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring will possess the gate of their enemies, <sup>18</sup> and in your offspring will all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.” <sup>19</sup> So Abraham did return to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

### Hebrews 11:8–12, 17–19

<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered Him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

<sup>17</sup> By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son,

<sup>18</sup> of whom it was said, “Through Isaac will your offspring be named.”

<sup>19</sup> He reasoned that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which (figuratively) he did indeed receive him back.

### Romans 4:16–25

<sup>16</sup> Therefore it is of faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace for all his offspring—not those of the law only but also to those of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup> as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations.” Before God he believed, the one who gives life to the dead and calls into existence things that do not exist.

<sup>18</sup> In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, just as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.”

<sup>19</sup> He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the deadness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup> No unbelief made him waver concerning God's promise, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup> fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup> That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup> But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup> but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, <sup>25</sup> who was delivered up on account of our trespasses and raised for our justification.

## **SERMON – Pastor Robbie Crouse, “The Death & Resurrection of the Beloved Son”**

## **COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS & SONG OF RESPONSE: “LET YOUR KINGDOM COME”**

# Sermon Notes

## Let Your Kingdom Come

1. Your glorious cause O God  
Engages our hearts  
May Jesus Christ be known  
Wherever we are  
We ask not for ourselves but for Your renown  
The cross has saved us so we pray  
Your kingdom come

### **Chorus**

*Let Your kingdom come  
Let Your will be done  
So that everyone might know Your Name  
Let Your song be heard everywhere on earth  
Till Your sovereign work on earth is done  
Let Your kingdom come*

2. Give us your strength O God  
And courage to speak  
Perform Your wondrous deeds  
Through those who are weak  
Lord use us as You want whatever the test  
By grace we'll preach Your Gospel  
'Till our dying breath

### **Chorus**

## †DOXOLOGY (#731)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow!*

*Praise Him, all creatures here below!*

*Praise Him above, ye heavenly host!*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen!*

## **CORPORATE PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

O Mighty God, who did send Your Son to be the Savior of the world: Make Your salvation known to the ends of the earth, that in every place Your name shall be worshipped and glorified.

*O Lord, send forth Your light and Your truth!*

O Everlasting Father, who rules over the nations through Jesus Christ ascended on high, we pray for countries in unrest and for all people who live in turmoil and distress—for those in plague, famine, and war. We pray Your loving will would have sway in every land and let godly prosperity be spread over all.

*O Lord, grant peace and safety in the world!*

O God, Lord of Hosts, who sent Your Son to be the King of Kings and the Prince of Peace: Grant that all the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord, and learn of Him the way of peace and righteousness. Humble all oppressors, bring them to submission in Christ our Savior, and win them to the gospel of grace.

*O Lord, rule in the midst of Your enemies!*

O Great Shepherd of the Sheep, who tends to all His lambs, be with all who profess the name of Christian, scattered through this world, we pray. Be especially for Your people who suffer persecution and who are in prison. For our brothers and sisters who are oppressed and suffering for Christ's sake: comfort them, strengthen them, and give them faith to testify to You in their trials and afflictions.

*O Lord, watch over Your people!*

O Merciful Savior, who is God with us, stir all people continually with the spirit of unity and concord. Let those who are offended forgive, and those who have offended repent, so that Your children may live as one family, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*O Lord, purify us and strengthen Your Church!*

O God of life, who is an ever present help in trouble, we humbly ask You to be favorable unto our land; and to the President of the United States and all others in authority, that it may please You so to rule their hearts that they may rightly use the trust committed to them for the good of all the people. Protect the weak, uplift the despairing, provide for the fatherless, defend the poor, and take care of the helpless.

*O Lord, let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream!*

O God of all mercies, who gives graciously all things, we pray for our elders and all servants of the gospel, that they may be faithful ministers of Your Word and sacraments. To them give wisdom of the Spirit to guide and direct the church of Jesus Christ.

*O Lord, encourage the leaders of our faith!*

Holy and infinite Father, who has redeemed us to be a blessing, we pray for this our congregation of saints gathered before You. Inspire us by the Spirit so that all we do we may glorify You. Increase our company for those who call on You and add to us more sinners who will praise the mercy of Christ. Grant us success in our witness and give us favor with all who need the hope of the gospel.

*O Lord, give us fellowship in the power of Christ!*

O Loving Redeemer, who numbers the hairs on our head, we pray for those among us who need You now, especially . . .

And to all Your people grant a message of Your love, taking them into Your tender care.

*O Lord, remember us in Your lovingkindness!*

We bring to You, Lord, all these petitions, and many more unspoken, offering them to You in and through Your Spirit in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, praying as He taught us to pray:

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy Name.*

*Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread.*

*And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen!*

## †**CONFESSION OF FAITH – APOSTLES CREED**

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin  
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and  
was buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose  
again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at  
the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will  
come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen!*

## †**COMMISSIONING HYMN: "THE DAY OF RESURRECTION" (#267)**

## †**COMMISSION & BENEDICTION**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Adult Sunday School** is an in-depth study of Scripture. Brian Mumme leads the discussion, starting at 9:45 am Sunday mornings. **Children's and Young Adult's Sunday Schools** are offered at this time as well.

**Monday night prayer meeting** is each Monday at 7:00 pm. For those unable to attend the meeting in person we have established a conference line with a speaker phone. Contact Gary Butler or Jim Zetler for details.

A **Memorial service** for former member Paul Liebla is to be held on Sunday, April 29, at 2:30 pm at Cornerstone. His wife, Lorraine, and her daughters were among the first members of Cornerstone.

**Cornerstone Directory:** we are updating our directory of contact information for our congregation. Please check with Becky Crouse ([RebekahLCrouse@gmail.com](mailto:RebekahLCrouse@gmail.com)) about your current information.

***Please turn off all cell phones during the service.  
Thank you!***

## CORNERSTONE MINISTRIES

- Sunday School
  - Adults (Brian Mumme)
  - Young Adults (Jamie Alburger)
  - Children (Catey Alburger)
- Monday Night Prayer Meeting (Gary Butler and Jim Zetler)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Outreach (Brian Mumme and Jamie Alburger)
- All-Church Fellowship Lunch (Becky Crouse & Joycelyn Branscome)
- Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tom Joseph)
- Women's Fellowship (Becky Crouse & Joycelyn Branscome)

## PRAYER LIST

**Virginia Wildrick** – for healing and recovery from a stroke

**Harold Gooding** – for healing and recovery from a blood infection

**Harry & Claire Castner** – for help with their move; transition for Claire; for Claire’s relief from headaches and worsening dementia

**Matt & Carmen O’Reilly** – for transition and encouragement at the beginning of their marriage; for a smooth move to FL for Carmen

**Betty Butler & Family** – for comfort after her mother’s passing

**Melanie Pitts** – for successful treatment of the new brain cancer; encouragement for Melanie and her family

**Barry Pitts** – encouragement as he takes care of both Melanie and his ailing mother

**Leyda Ruiz** – recovery from surgery and relief from pain

**Shelby Blood** – for encouragement and help during a difficult time

**Betty Games** – for her continued kidney dialysis and that Betty’s condition would improve; for strength for DeVere for his faithful care

**Jamie Alburger** – for the completion of his doctoral education and guidance in career decisions afterwards

**Harry Bromilow** – continued healing from heart surgery and headaches

**Norma Bromilow** – strength in caring for Harry and relief from arthritis

**Phil Toren** – full recovery from stroke

**Christy Branche** – relief from chronic headaches; college decision

**Ornstein Family** – full transition to Virginia; finding a new church home; for Helen and Kevin here



"Christ Jesus himself is the cornerstone."

Ephesians 2:20

## Exalting the King & Extending His Kingdom

### Pastor

*Rev. Dr. Robbie Crouse*  
robbie.crouse@gmail.com  
(214) 282-8983

### Elders (Session)

*Lee Branscome*  
*Rev. Gary Butler*  
*Jim Zetler*

### Deacons (Diaconate)

*Tom Joseph (chairman)*  
*Brian Mumme*  
*Barry Pitts*

**Cornerstone Church** is a Bible believing, Reformed and evangelical congregation in the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (**PCA**).

4891 Northlake Boulevard  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

[www.cornerstone-presbyterian.org](http://www.cornerstone-presbyterian.org)