

The Order for the Worship of God

May 11, 2025

11:00 a.m.

“To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.” (Revelation 1:5b-6)

Welcome and Announcements (**Please turn your cell phone to “silent” mode. Thank you!**)

Piano Prelude Judy Bailey

Call to Worship from Nehemiah 9

PASTOR: Stand up and bless the LORD your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise. You are the LORD, you alone. You have made heaven ... with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.

ALL: You are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

*Hymn #119 *I Sing the Almighty Power of God* words printed on back

Congregational Prayer (to be prayed in unison)

Almighty God, Creator of the universe and Sustainer of all that you have made; we bless your name and thank you for the beauty of this world with its amazing and intricate design. You are the Author and Giver of life – temporal and eternal. Although we have sinned against you, in your great mercy and love, you sent your only son Jesus to save us; we gather in his Name and offer our worship in his merit, pleading his blood and imputed righteousness as our only hope of heaven. May your Spirit fill us and write your word on our hearts. Amen.

*Hymn # 120 *All Things Bright and Beautiful* words printed on back
(stanzas 1, 3 and 5)

Morning Prayers for Christ’s Church and the World John Decker

Scripture Lesson Ezra 1:1-4; 9:6-15; Nehemiah 1:1-6, 11; 2:5-6; 8b

Sermon Series on the Books of the Bible: Ezra and Nehemiah #15 Rev. Dr. H. Andrew Silman

Silent Reflection and Prayer

EZRA and NEHEMIAH: The theme of Ezra is faithfulness to the Lord, both in keeping the Mosaic law and in worship. The first wave of exiles is allowed by Cyrus, king of Persia, to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple which had been destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar – just as God had warned through the prophet Jeremiah. The people are fearful (3:3), sorrowful (3:12), and discouraged (4:4). Their plans are frustrated (4:5). God has called them to rebuild the temple, but they face numerous obstacles and enemies, which God did not remove. Rather, he sustained them through them, working behind the scenes, granted his people everything they needed to complete the task because “the hand of the Lord my God was on me” (Ezra 7:28).

The theme of Nehemiah is God’s protection of his people and their need to be faithful in worship and in obedience to the law of God given to Moses at Sinai. Nehemiah led the exiles to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. When Nehemiah hears that Jerusalem lay in ruins, he prays for mercy; when opposition arises, he trusts God, and prays all the more! When Jerusalem is finally rebuilt, the law of Moses is read in the hearing of all – followed by a corporate renewal to obey. While the temple and the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt, the dedication of the people wavered. The restoration of the temple and the city walls foreshadowed the spiritual restoration to come through Jesus, who will bring his people to a new city – the heavenly Jerusalem – when he returns.

*Hymn #97 *We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator* words printed on back

Benediction

Postlude Judy Bailey

*Congregation Stands. (Please feel free to be seated at any time.)

WELCOME TO ALL who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whoever will come this church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS MEETS AT 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Sunday School for children meets in classroom #3.

THE MEN’S FELLOWSHIP LUNCH will be held at 12:00 noon this Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your own bag lunch and something to drink, as we solve the problems of the day!

THE LADIES’ MONTHLY BIRTHDAY LUNCH for May will be held at Sora’s this Thursday at 11:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Lou Vissers (828-553-6786) by May 12th so that adequate space at the restaurant can be reserved.

THE MONTHLY AFTER-CHURCH LUNCHEON will be on May 25th. Ridge Haven Summer Staff will be joining us – so, please, bring AMPLE dishes (sides or desserts) to share!

NURSERY SCHEDULE FOR MAY– (TODAY) May 11th Joanna Martin, Karen McKee; 18th Nancy Davis, Joan Pretorius; 25th Suzy Greene, Gail Grissom. **Ladies, please arrive in the nursey by 10:45, thank you!**

I SING THE ALMIGHTY POWER OF GOD

I sing th'almighty pow'r of God that made the mountains rise, that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; the moon shines full at his command and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food; he formed the creatures with his word, and then pronounced them good. Lord, how your wonders are displayed where'er I turn my eye, if I survey the ground I tread or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flow'r below but makes your glories known; and clouds arise and tempests blow by order from your throne; while all that borrows life from you is ever in your care, and everywhere that man can be, you, God, are present there.

ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

REFRAIN: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

Each little flow'r that opens, each little bird that sings, he made their glowing colors, he made their tiny wings. REFRAIN

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, he made them, ev'ry one. REFRAIN

He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. REFRAIN

WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD, OUR REDEEMER, CREATOR

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring. We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our fathers, we bless you; through life's storm and tempest our Guide you have been. When perils o'ertake us, escape you will make us, and with your help, O Lord, our battles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer, to you, great Jehovah, glad anthems we raise. Your strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us; to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Office: (828) 884-3305 Pastor's Mobile: (828) 226-2800

E-mail: cornerstonep@comporium.net Web Page: www.cornerstonepcabrevard.com

Prayer Requests may be sent to: cornerstonenews@comporium.net

*...built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Christ Jesus Himself being the chief cornerstone. Ephesians 2:20*



°CORNERSTONE°

° PRESBYTERIAN ° CHURCH ° IN ° AMERICA °
645 BERT LANE ROAD BREVARD, NC 28712

OUR VISION

Cornerstone Presbyterian Church is a vibrant and unified community of Christians and their covenant children whose sole desire is to glorify God in everything. Because God's grace has won our affections we are wholeheartedly committed to the following: the absolute authority of the Bible because it is the very Word of God; enthusiastic and biblical worship; deeds of mercy and sacrificial service; earnest prayer; deepening relationships with one another; and joyful, intentional proclamation of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ to all the world beginning in Brevard. We warmly welcome as members all who trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation and fully share our vision.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church is to glorify the triune God by exalting Him and by edifying and equipping our members to share the gospel with everyone in both word and deed beginning in Brevard and to the ends of the earth.