The Old Stone Church

OCTOBER 16, 2022
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE                   Gavotte                   Samuel Wesley
WELCOME                   Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE        Sunil Sunny Kunche
                          and
                          Ramulu Bandari

INTROIT                  Be Joyful in the Lord
                          Kendal L. Gunlicks

Be joyful in the Lord all ye lands! And serve the Lord with gladness.
Be joyful in the Lord all ye lands! Come before His presence with a song.

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

“The first is this:
...‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’

The second is this:
‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

– Mark 12:29-31
* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come once more to learn of our God,
whose testimonies are righteous and faithful.

We are gathered to hear what God would say to us,
to catch the vision God places before humankind.

Turn away from those who teach only what you want to hear
and listen instead for the truth of God.

We turn to the scriptures God inspired,
that we may be equipped for every good work.

Be persistent in your quest for God’s commandments
and in your cries for help when God seems silent.

We seek to live by faith and hope
and to fulfill the ministry to which God calls us.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

You hear us, all-listening One, when we pray.
You come to us when we call out.
You show us the right things to do and call us back
when we have gone our own way.

Open our hearts during this hour of worship,
that we might discover afresh your righteous ways for our living.

Help us to persist in our prayers and stand firm in
working for the truth you are teaching.

Come and be with us during this time of worship and praise. Amen.

* HYMN #12

**Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise**

ST. DENIO

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.

in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou ruler in might:
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Some fall away and abandon the teachings of God; others of us only deceive ourselves, thinking we are righteous and good. During these moments God is helping us to look closely at ourselves, so we might see what we are meant to be. Let us confess what separates us from God, one another and our true selves. Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession, followed by time for personal silent confession.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Righteous God, we distort far too easily the truth and wisdom you have set before us in life.**

We listen when it is easy; we ignore what is hard; we select what is convenient to hear and expedient to do; we give up when life is difficult. We find ways to feel good about our prejudices and make excuses for our failures.

**Holy One, have mercy on us.**

Set your truth firmly before us until we see and, seeing, become the people of Jesus’ way.

(moment of silent confession)
KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

We are assured that God will speedily vindicate those who persist in their prayers, who cry out to God in faith even in the midst of trouble and anguish, when violence and destruction seem to reign.

We are forgiven by the One in whom we trust, who grants us a vision of what life is intended to be.

Alleluia and Amen!

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

* GLORIA #581

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.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Growing people are giving people. 
Praying people have their horizons expanded, so they want to help less advantaged sisters and brothers. 
People who have been forgiven want to express their gratitude. 
We are growing, praying, forgiven people who believe it is possible for individuals and groups and nations to change for the better. 
To that end we worship with our offerings.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Wade in the Water

Moses Hogan

God's a-going to trouble, the water. Wade in the water.
Wade in the water, children, Wade in the water God's a-going to trouble the water. 
See that host all dressed in white God's a-going to trouble the water.
The leader looks like the Israelite God's a-going to trouble the water.
Wade in the water, children, Wade in the water God's a-going to trouble the water. 
See that band all dressed in red God's a-going to trouble the water. 
Well it looks like the band that Moses led God's a-going to trouble the water. 
Wade in the water, children, Wade in the water God's a-going to trouble the water.
O children, God's a-going to trouble the water!
* DOXOLOGY #607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Kara Bane
Because you have heard and answered our cries for help, we give thanks.
Because you have granted us a measure of understanding
we want to learn more.
Because we have found your promises to be sure
we want to share them with others.
Because we have experienced the truth of the scriptures,
and believe them to be a guide and corrections for all of us,
we commit ourselves anew to making them known.
Stretch us and our offerings to do more than we would have thought possible,
to extend the reign of Christ among us. Amen.

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE

All Things Come of Thee
Herbert C. Peabody
All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come, Holy Spirit, giver of life;
breathe into us that we may hear a word of truth this day.
draw us into communion,
enable us to love,
conspire to make us one with You
for the world You so deeply love. Amen.

THE READINGS

Epistle
2 Timothy 3:14, 4:5 (NRSV updated version)

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing
from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have known sacred
writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.
All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for
correction, and for training in righteousness, so that the person of God may be
proficient, equipped for every good work.
In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching.

For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

I Lift Up My Eyes
Russell G. Wichmann

I lift up my eyes, I lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence does my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved he who keeps you will not slumber.
Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is thy keeper the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
The sun shall not smite you by day, nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil—he will keep your life;
the Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth.
and for evermore.

Gospel

Luke 18:1-8 (NRSV updated version)

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.
He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my accuser.’
For a while the judge refused, but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’”
And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says.
And will not God grant justice to God’s chosen ones who cry to God day and night?
Will God delay long in helping them? I tell you, God will quickly grant justice to them.
And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE
Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“Praying for Good Trouble.”
What a Friend We Have in Jesus

1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
3 Are we weak and heavy laden, burdened with a load of care?

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear,
Can we find a friend so faith-ful who will all our sorrows share?
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.
We ask all these things in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray...

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be 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

* HYMN #69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Score: G Em C Am7 D G C G D

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. Made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. Finest made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.
* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

    God has placed a vision before us
    and bids us go to realize its fulfillment.

    **We will take our stand for righteousness**
    **and live according to the faith we have received.**

    God equips us for every good work
    through the inspiration of the scriptures.

    **We will remember the commandments of God**
    **whenever we feel belittled and afraid.**

    God is faithful to us and ever available,
    adding to the understanding of all who seek to learn.

    **We will seek God’s truth above all lesser claims**
    **and share what we learn with patient enthusiasm.**

* CHORAL RESPONSE  Sevenfold Amen  Peter C. Lutkin

ORGAN POSTLUDE  Fugue in C  Dietrich Buxtehude

“My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

Psalm 73:26

In Our Prayers

**We continue to keep in our prayers:**

    Marianne Jones and Len Lybarger, Jean English, Diane Young, Karl Johnson and the family of Alynn Mahle, and the mother of Kathleen Gus

    We pray for the repose of the soul of Alynn Mahle, may her memory be a blessing.

    We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, or homebound.

*Names are generally removed after four weeks unless there is a continuing need.*
A message from the Community Engagement Committee

A docent will be available at the conclusion of every Sunday service to answer questions of all who are interested in the history of Old Stone, architecture of the church, mission of Old Stone, process of applying for membership at OSC, or details of Presbyterianism.

JENAVIONE AND CEMYRAH’S HOME DEDICATON
ALL ARE WELCOME
WEDNESDAY 10.26.22 | 10:00 AM
9815 ELWELL AVENUE, CLEVELAND 44104

Faith Build 2022 Sharing God’s Love
Thank you to all the churches that made this possible.
RSVP TO MICHELLE AT 216-318-0274
MKILLIN-KEITH@CLEVELANDHABITAT.ORG
We are launching a new Fellowship activity called Dinners for 6, 7, or 8 and inviting all to participate. These dinners provide an opportunity for a small group of couples and singles to come together for a meal, perhaps some spiritual discussion, and just plain fellowship to get to know one another better and have an enjoyable evening.

Small groups, organized by a volunteer coordinating group, have several get-togethers over a period of about six months. Each couple or individual take responsibility for hosting or arranging one gathering. The meals can be served at the organizer’s home, a potluck dinner, or a dinner out, depending on the choices the group makes.

At the end of the first six or so months, the groups are reshuffled, and another set of gatherings is planned.

The people involved may expand as we get into the program. Friends and neighbors may be added for a specific time. This can be helpful in welcoming new people, who, in turn, may decide to become more involved with Old Stone.

If you have an interest in joining in, please contact Fred Heider at 330-958-0483 or marilynmcc@aol.com.
There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church.

### Online Giving:
[oldstonechurch.org/giving/](oldstonechurch.org/giving/)

### Mobile Giving:
Text the keyword “oldstonecle” to 73256

Mail to:
Old Stone Church  
Attn: Financial Office  
91 Public Square  
Cleveland, OH 44113

Checks should be made payable to “Old Stone Church.” If you would like to designate your contribution to one of Old Stone’s mission projects, please make a note on the memo line.

All contributions are tax-deductible and will be appropriately acknowledged at year-end.

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**The Old Stone Church**  
 Loving Christ, Serving City—Spiritually, Socially, Culturally—Since 1820  
 91 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio 44113-2058  
**Phone:** 216-241-6145  
**Fax:** 216-241-6149  
**Website:** [www.OldStoneChurch.org](http://www.OldStoneChurch.org)  
**E-Mail:** info@OldStoneChurch.org  
Music copied under ccli#1638695

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams  
**Director of Music and Musical Arts:** David C. Daugherty

### The Old Stone Singers

Rachel Kunce, soprano  
Cicely Schonberg, soprano  
Val Sibila, soprano  
Rayna Brooks, alto  
McKenna Jones, alto  
Emma Nossem, alto  
Ian Atwood, tenor  
Frederick Peterbark, tenor  
Andrew J. Schoenhofer, tenor  
R. Dominic Aragon, bass  
Joseph K. Breslau, bass  
Seth Hobi, bass

### Church Elders:

**Clerk of Session:** Beth Buchanan

**Class of 2023**
Dorothy Baunach  
Kara Bane  
Willie Brown

**Class of 2024**
Beth Buchanan  
Robert Hubert Jr.  
Judy Macuga  
Harriet Niles  
Lee Ann Rader  
Marty Vassel  
John Young

**Class of 2025**
Janie Chambers  
Fred Heider  
Len Lybarger  
Bernard Medie  
Bob Reid

### Church Deacons:

**Class of 2023**
Ian Atwood  
Jessica Atwood  
Elizabeth Harris

**Class of 2024**
Melissa Maffia  
Pete Maffia  
Mary Mikula  
Michael Rolen  
Penni Rolen  
Alyssa Scaggs

**Class of 2025**
Scott Bailey  
Bernie Bischel  
Carol Hoagland  
Amy Wheeler  
John Wheeler