O God Beyond All Praising  
Gustav Holst  
Arr. by Anna Laura Page

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

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!

Assemble before God, our rock and refuge.  
Come together to listen for the voice of our Creator.  
The Word of God shakes the foundation of the earth.  
We expect to be changed by God’s message to us.  
God rescues us from cruelty and injustice.  
In steadfast love, God delivers us from our enemies.  
We remember the rich heritage we have received.  
We give thanks for God’s grace and mercy.  
This is God’s holy day, a time to lay aside narrow interests.  
How will we honor God in word and deed?  
We will delight in the Word and works of our God.  
We will join together in praise and good works.

* Those who are able are requested to stand  
Please silence all electronic devices.
* INVOCATION PRAYER

We are known by you, gracious God, better than we know ourselves. You have given us life and you have renewed our spirits. You have carried us to the heights and you have dwelled with us in life’s depths. You are our hope and our trust. Touch us here, for you are far beyond our reach. Dwell with us here to lift our aspirations and inspire confidence among us. Amen.

* HYMN #35: Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

* CALL TO CONFESSION

How often do our habits and traditions get in the way of God’s mercy and abounding love? Are we more eager to enforce the law than to help people? Are we full of excuses when we are called to serve? God is waiting for our answers. Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession, followed by time for personal silent confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We bow before you, powerful God. We have forgotten that you are in charge of the earth. We have neglected the brothers and sisters you have called us to love. We want them to conform to our way of doing things rather than reaching out to them where they are. We would rather ignore them than feel obligated to help. Sometimes we would rather continue our own crippled existence than call on you for help. O God, we need your mercy.

(moment of silent confession)

KYRIE ELEISON

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

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God forgives, heals, and redeems. Stand straight and tall in your own mind, for God reclaims you and grants you freedom to become all you are meant to be. God crowns you with steadfast love and mercy. God appoints you to speak and act as representatives of the heavenly realm, as prophets of the new covenant.

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  GREATOREX
  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
  Our gifts speak where we cannot go.
  They witness to people we will never meet.
  They praise God who has provided for us every day of our lives.
  Let us give thanks through our offerings.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY  Be Thou My Vision  John Rutter
  Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
  Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art,
  Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
  Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.
  Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
  Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord,
  Be thou my great Father, and I thy true son,
  Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.
  Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,
  Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might,
  Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower,
  O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.
  Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
  Be thou my inheritance now and always,
  Be thou and thou only the first in my heart,
  O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.
  High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
  O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won,
  Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
  Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

* DOXOLOGY #607  OLD HUNDREDTH
  Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
  praise Christ, all people here below;
  praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Hearing loop installed. Switch hearing aid to T-coil
* OFFERTORY PRAYER

O God, we cannot forget all your benefits.
Accept our offerings as expressions of praise and acts of true worship.
We pour out our thanks for all you have given us and for all you do for us.
We are grateful for the opportunities you grant us to help others.
May healing come to all who suffer and freedom be granted
to those weighed down and bent over with heavy burdens.
Use us and our gifts to bring the changes for good that you intend for our world.
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

Hebrew Scripture

Isaiah 58:9b-14
(Pg. 764 or LP Pg. 688)

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

The Lord Is My Light                         Frances Allitsen
Cicely Schonberg, soloist
Psalm 27

The Lord is my light, my light and my salvation,
Whom, then, shall I fear? Whom, then, shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life, The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom, then shall I be afraid?
Though an host of men were laid against me, Yet shall not my heart be afraid;
And though there rose up war against me. Yet will I put my trust in Him.
For, in the time of trouble, He shall hide me in His tabernacle,
Yea, in the secret places of His dwelling shall He hide me, and set me up upon a rock of stone.
The Lord is my light, my light and my salvation,
Whom, then, shall I fear? Whom, then, shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life, The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom, then, shall I be afraid? Of whom, then, shall I be afraid?

Gospel

Luke 13:10-17
(Pg. 78 or LP Pg. 76)

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.
PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“Crippling Ourselves”

* HYMN #157

_I Danced in the Morning_ LORD OF THE DANCE

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 #203

_Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love_ CHEREPONI

*BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

God promises to reign among us and guide us.
God’s rule in our midst will not be shaken.

_We will approach God with reverence and awe._
_We will worship God in our daily pursuits._

God’s freeing, uplifting presence is ever with us.
God’s transforming power is working among us.

_We rejoice at the wonderful things that God is doing._
_We are eager to join in good works for God._

The word of God empowers us to speak and act.
God is sending us to people who need our help.

_We will not be afraid to speak of God’s love._
_We will dare to act as God directs._

* CHORAL RESPONSE

_The Lord Bless You and Keep You_ Peter Lutkin

_The Lord bless you and keep you,_
_The Lord lift His countenance upon you,_
_And give you peace, and give you peace,_
_The Lord make His face to shine upon you,_
_And be gracious unto you, be gracious,_
_The Lord be gracious, gracious unto you._
_Amen_

ORGAN POSTLUDE

_Prelude & Fugue in C-Major (The Little)_ J.S. Bach
Y.I.M.B.Y.
(YES IN MY BACKYARD!)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10  @North Presbyterian Church

A day to focus on the challenges facing people experiencing homelessness
AND

Individuals and agencies that are offering solutions.

This event is for people experiencing homelessness now or in the past
and....folks from all neighborhoods and congregations who have heard the
Call to reach out to “the least of these”

- laypersons
- pastors
- community activists
- confirmation classes
- Presbyterian Women
- mission committees

North Presbyterian Church (LMM)  4515 Superior Avenue
(parking across the street/disability parking by the main door)

9:00 a.m to 1:15 p.m.
includes keynote speaker, interactive educational game,
lunch and conversations

Please register at preswesres.org/yimby
(including lunch preference) by September 6.
Masks are required.

Ministry Advocating with Homeless Persons
(A Network of the Presbytery of the Western Reserve)

MAHP
There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

Online 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.

THE OLD STONE CHURCH
LOVING CHRIST, SERVING CITY—SPIRITUALLY, SOCIALLY, CULTURALLY—SINCE 1820
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Website: www.OldStoneChurch.org  E-Mail: info@OldStoneChurch.org

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

Old Stone Singers Quartet
Cicely Schonberg, soprano  Van Parker, tenor
Rayna Brooks, alto  Dominic Aragon, 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