



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 4, 2022
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10 AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Cortége

Gordon Young

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

Beth Buchanan

INTROIT

Let Us Make a Joyful Noise

Douglas E. Wagner

Let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord.
Praise, O praise the Lord!
And make a joyful noise evermore!

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Hear the choices God sets before us:
life and prosperity or death and adversity.

O God, you have searched us and known us.

You know our thoughts and every move we make.

Listen to the ordinances of our God;
love God and walk in the way God commands.

O God, we will listen for your words.

We will seek to walk on the paths you intend.

Happy are those who delight in God's law;
Blessed are all who meditate on God's Word.

Wonderful are all your works, O God.

We are your creation, we are in your hands.

*** INVOCATION PRAYER**

Like a skilled potter, O God,
you have shaped each of us as a unique design.
You know us better than we know ourselves.
You value us more highly than we can imagine.
You weep when we are marred or broken
through our own misdeeds or the world's cruelty.
We gather now to assemble our prayers for one another
and all the world's people in a chorus of devotion.
Hear us, gracious God. Amen.

*** HYMN #645**

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

*** CALL TO CONFESSION**

Come, all who have plugged your ears or averted your eyes
when God's commands intrude on your idolatry.

God calls individuals and nations to account.

God expects our complete devotion and faithful obedience.

How will we respond.

Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
followed by time for personal silent confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Awesome God,
we confess that we have become slaves to our own narrow self-interest.
We pay more attention to our possessions than to you.
We try to hide from your all-seeing eye,
or we are at times guilty of devotion to false gods.
We are attracted to wicked advice and sinful pursuits
that direct our steps away from you.
All too often, we act without thinking or planning or consulting with you.
O God, show us the way to a better life.

(moment of silent confession)

KYRIE ELEISON

John Merbecke

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

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Grace to you and peace from God our Parent.
Refresh your hearts in Jesus Christ our Savior,
who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.
Receive the living water God offers to all
who come in true repentance and searching faith.
The Holy Spirit will never leave us or forsake us.
Our helper is ever available and eager to respond to our prayers.
Come, there is a place at God's banquet table for you.

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

When we perceive all the good we may do for Jesus Christ,
we are eager to share.
Jesus welcomes into discipleship those willing to give up all their possessions.
What we give today is a symbol of our fuller devotion of all we have
and all we are toward the realization of God's reign among us.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Pilgrim's Hymn

Stephen Paulus

Even before we call on Your name
To ask You, O God,
When we seek for the words to glorify You,
You hear our prayer;
Unceasing love, O unceasing love, Surpassing all we know.
Glory to the father,
And to the Son,
And to the Holy Spirit.
Even with darkness sealing us in, We breathe Your name,
And through all the days that follow so fast, We trust in You;
Endless Your grace, O endless Your grace, Beyond all mortal dream.
Both now and forever,
And unto ages and ages,
Amen.

- Michael Dennis Browne

* 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.

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Beth Buchanan

Loving God, there is no way we can settle accounts with you.
We have no way to repay you for all we have received from your hands.
Yet we want to give our best to the work you call us to do
through this community of seekers.
We enter, with renewed commitment and confidence,
the costly venture of spreading love through your world. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Luke Choi

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

[Jeremiah 18:1-11](#)

(Pg. 801 or LP Pg. 720)

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Teach Me, O Lord

Thomas Atwood

Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes, and I will keep them unto the end.

Psalm 119:33

Gospel

[Luke 14:25-33](#)

(Pg. 79 or LP Pg. 78)

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Rev. Luke Choi

“The Gift of New Beginning”

* HYMN #526

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

LINSTEAD

WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

* INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Luke Choi

This is the joyful feast of the People of God.
Men and women, youth and children,
Come from the east and the west,
The north and the south,
And gather about Christ's table.
This table is for all who wish to know
The presence of Christ
And to share in the community of God's people.
It is not my table,
It is not the Old Stone Church's table,
It is the table of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
And all are welcome.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Beloved God,
Creator of all time and space,
In this, our own time and place,
We give You thanks and praise for giving us life,
And inviting us to share in a history of a people
Who are: blessed by Your faithfulness,
Challenged by Your prophets,
Forgiven by Your mercy,
And ever surprised by Your power to more, working in us,
Than we can ask or imagine.

Therefore we join our voices
With the voices of all created things,
And with the voices of Your old and faithful friends,
Saints that have gone before us to praise You,
Saying this prayer of thanksgiving and praise:
 **Holy, Holy, Holy God of love and majesty,
 The whole universe speaks of Your glory,
 O God most high.
 Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God!
 Hosanna in the highest!**

We thank You for Your life incarnate in our brother Jesus
--bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh—
Whose life, death and resurrection
Fully reveal Your love for humanity,
Your desire for human freedom,
Your passion for justice.

We thank You that Your love for us was shown most intimately
When Jesus gathered at table with His friends.
In a time of struggle and fear,
Took bread, blessed it, broke it
And gave it to them saying:
“Take and eat: this is my body, broken for you.”

And after supper,
As Jesus looked forward to Your longed for day of joy and power;
He took the cup of wine,
Again He gave You thanks and praise and said:
“Take this, all of you, and drink.
This is the cup of the new covenant:
My life poured out for you.
I will drink this with you again in the realm of God.
Share this bread and this cup in remembrance of me.”

Let us remember together the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Come now Holy Spirit of God –

As You were present at creation, be present now,

And let these gifts of bread and of the vine

Become for us the Bread of Life and the Cup of Blessing.

As You were sent by Jesus

to accompany us on our journey of faith,

be present now,

and let this community, receiving this bread and cup,

become one body in Christ.

Through this broken bread, as God's people,

We participate in the body of Christ.

Through this cup of blessing,

We participate in the new life poured out to us by Christ.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come, for all things have been made ready.

(Distribution of the elements)

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION**

O God, through this bread and this cup.

You have made us one with You and with each other.

May the unity we find at this table

Be a gift we carry out into Your world.

May this unity empower us

to make room for all of God's people.

Amen.

*** BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**

God welcomes your partnership in the gospel;
accept the cross of Christ and carry it.

We have considered the cost of discipleship.

We are willing and able to pay the price.

God expects to hold first place in our lives.

We put everything we own on the line of faithfulness.

We want to be obedient to the law of love.

We want to show God’s love in all we do.

We are held in the thoughts of God.

We are shaped and reshaped by the potter’s hands.

We are finding new patterns of faithfulness.

We are discovering new reasons for joy.

*** 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

Postlude on “Old Hundredth”

Fred Bock

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Since September of 2021 Rev. Luke Choi has been serving as a church consultant for the Board of Pensions PC(USA) after four and a half years with the Office of the General Assembly and twenty years of parish ministry. He resides in Broadview Heights, OH with his wife, Jenis, and their two sons, Stephen (OSU) and Joshua (Brecksville-Broadview Heights High School).

THE OLD STONE CHURCH

LOVING CHRIST, SERVING CITY—SPIRITUALLY, SOCIALLY, CULTURALLY—SINCE 1820

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Music copied under ccli#1638695

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

Old Stone Singers Quartet

Rachel Kunce, soprano
McKenna Jones, alto

Van Parker, tenor
Joseph K. Breslau, bass