



# THE OLD STONE CHURCH

JANUARY 29, 2023  
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

10AM Sanctuary Worship

## WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE *Arioso* J. S. Bach

WELCOME Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT *If Ye Love Me* Thomas Tallis

If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father,  
and he shall give you another comforter, that he may 'bide with you forever;  
E'en the sp'rit of truth.

*John 14:15-17*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus taught: Blessed are the poor in spirit.  
He said that the realm of God was theirs.

**We read that those who mourn are blessed.**

**Jesus said they will be comforted.**

The humble will inherit the earth.

The merciful will obtain mercy.

**All who hunger and thirst for righteousness are blessed;**

**Jesus said they will be filled.**

Blessed are the pure in heart and the peacemakers;

They are God's children and will see God.

**Those persecuted and falsely accused are blessed.**

**Even in the face of evil, we will rejoice.**

\* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let the mountains hear our voices raised in prayer and praise,  
wise and holy God.

We gather in this sacred historic place to honor and adore you.

We come humbly, claiming the cross of Jesus Christ as our sign.

We give thanks that you lift up the weak and lowly,

defy the world's foolishness,

and invite us to share in life at its fullest and best as disciples of Jesus.

We want to accept your invitation. Amen.

\* HYMN #307

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple  
2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -  
3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its  
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our  
thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in  
we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.  
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.  
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA  
 8.7.8.7.8.7.7

## \* CALL TO CONFESSION

Karl Johnson

God knows the intent of our hearts as we come to this time of repentance.  
 Are we intent on doing justice?  
 Do we love mercy?  
 Are we ready to walk humbly with our Creator?  
 If so, God is ready to hear our prayers.

## \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God,  
 we confess that we have accepted the world's wisdom as our guide.  
 We have been impressed by the power of weapons  
 and the importance of high positions.  
 We often measure worth by the number of possessions we command.  
 We have been unkind in our speech and uncaring in our deeds.  
 We have doubted the power of the cross to save.  
 Turn us around, holy God, that we might be blessed.  
*(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

God destroys the wisdom of those who think themselves wise.  
God chooses the weak and foolish to shame those  
who think themselves strong and all-knowing.  
The God who forgives calls us to a life of kindness in word and deed,  
mercy toward both friend and foe, and justice in all our dealings.  
Thank God for setting before us standards that surpass our highest aspirations,  
along with the possibility for joyous fulfillment.  
**Alleluia and Amen!**

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us offer a sign of peace to one another.

\* 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

Please be seated.  
God is neither pleased with burnt offerings  
nor impressed by the size of our gifts.  
God wants our full commitment and devotion,  
of which our giving in these moments is a symbol.  
God calls us to lives of mercy and peacemaking,  
for which our offering can make a beginning.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing*

Gordon Young

Now let us all praise God and sing Our great redeemer's praise;  
That we may all with one accord Our joyful voices raise. Sing Alleluia!  
All ye servants of the Lord, Praise Him forever, Sing Jehovah's mighty power,  
Praise Him forever.  
Sing of His righteousness, Praise Him forever.  
So let us all praise God and Sing Our great Redeemer's praise;  
That we may all with one accord Our joyful voices raise. Sing Alleluia!

\* 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 (*Please be seated.*)

Karl Johnson

Let us pray:

We devote ourselves and these tokens of our thankfulness  
toward the realization of your reign among us, holy God.

We pray for purity of heart as we hunger and thirst  
for righteousness and as we seek to be peacemakers.

We rejoice in this opportunity to share in the extension of your realm.

Bless us and our offering, we pray, in Jesus' name.

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

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 (NRSV Updated Version)

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

## *The Beatitudes*

Paul Mealor

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn:  
for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.  
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart:  
for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers:  
for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted  
for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you,  
And say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.  
Rejoice, and be exceedingly glad: for great is your reward in heaven:  
For so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Amen.

## Gospel

## Matthew 5:1-12 (NRSV Updated Version)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“To Be Attitudes”

1 O for a clos - er walk with God, a  
 2 Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, sweet  
 3 The dear - est i - dol I have known, what -  
 4 So shall my walk be close with God, calm

calm and heaven - ly frame, a light to shine up -  
 mes - sen - ger of rest! I hate the sins that  
 e'er that i - dol be, help me to tear it  
 and se - rene my frame; so pur - er light shall

on the road that leads me to the Lamb!  
 made thee mourn and drove thee from my breast.  
 from thy throne, and wor - ship on - ly thee.  
 mark the road that leads me to the Lamb.

Merely longing for a restored relationship with God is not enough; real repentance requires amendment of life (stanza 3). The similarity of stanzas 1 and 4 suggests both continuity and improvement. This tune was one of the new common tunes in the Scottish Psalter of 1635.



## 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

Capo 3: (D) (A7)  
Refrain F C7

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love; show

(D) (D/F#) (Em7) (A7) (D)  
F F/A Gm7 C7 F Fine

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

(D) (Bm) (Em) (A)  
F Dm Gm C

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their

2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and

3 These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should

4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, will - ing to wash oth - ers'

(D) (Bm) (Em7) (A7) (D)  
F Dm Gm7 C7 F to Refrain

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.

race; neigh-bors are near us and far a - way.

love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.

feet; this is the way we should live like you.

\* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

Walk blamelessly before God and do what is right.

Speak the truth to all, from your heart.

**We will honor and revere God each day.**

**May our words and deeds resist all evil.**

Consider your call and live righteously.

Know that God chooses you for blessing.

**We delight in seeking to do God's will.**

**We are awed that God appoints us and blesses us.**

Rejoice and be glad, for God offers rich rewards.

From God you receive wisdom and true power.

**We are amazed at the responsibility God gives us.**

**We rejoice in the blessings of God's promises.**

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Sevenfold Amen*

Peter Lutkin

ORGAN POSTLUDE

*Prelude in G Minor*

J. S. Bach

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

*Psalm 73:26*



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

Alan Gillespie, Bob and Gail Reid,

Rebecca Simmons and her family and the Daugherty family,

Kim Bischel, James Castrigano and family, the Brownfield family,

JoAnn Hood and family, the Hubert family, the Jack Moreland family,

the Nkemere family, Mary and Earl Rolan,

Chris Ronayne in his new role as County Executive

and we pray for our country, our city, and our leaders.

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

We pray for the repose of the soul of Joyce Chinyere Dennis (nee Nkemere),  
may her memory be a blessing.

*Names are generally removed after four weeks unless there is a continuing need.*

## News from Session

### **Called Congregational Meeting Today, January 29, 2023**

to elect elders and deacons and the congregational nominating committee,  
immediately after the worship service in the Sanctuary.

The Installation and Ordination will follow immediately after the meeting is adjourned.

### **The Old Stone Church Annual Meeting Sunday, February 19, 2023**

immediately after the worship service in the Sanctuary.

## **Announcing the OSC Spring Cleveland Orchestra Concert**



This is the "All Mozart" Concert  
When: Sunday, April 23, 2023 @ 3:00 PM.  
Where: Severance Music Center  
11001 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland Ohio 44106  
Phone: (216) 231-7300

Ticket price: \$38.00/ticket. ORDERING DEADLINE - APRIL 1, 2023  
**A minimum attendance of ten individuals is required**

Make Check to: The Old Stone Church.  
In the memo line indicate: April 23 Concert

Concessions are available

Parking is available at the CWRU Lot 29

You may purchase pre-parking pass by calling: (216) 231-1111

There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

Online Giving: <a href="http://oldstonechurch.org/giving/">oldstonechurch.org/giving/</a>	Mobile Giving: Text the keyword “ <b>oldstonecle</b> ” 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*

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](mailto:info@OldStoneChurch.org)

Music copied under ccli#1638695

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

**Director of Music and Musical Arts:** David C. Daugherty

**Guest Organist:** Jason Lorenzon

### The Old Stone Singers

Leah Jennings Brown, *soprano*  
Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*  
Val Sibila, *soprano*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*  
Frederick Peterbark, *tenor*  
Andrew J. Schoenhofer, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*  
McKenna Jones, *alto*  
Emma Nossem, *alto*

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  
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 Rolén  
Penni Rolén  
Alyssa Niepokny

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