

World Communion Sunday



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

OCTOBER 1, 2023

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
WITH COMMUNION

10 AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE *There Is a Happy Land (Meditation)* Charles Callahan

WELCOME Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

INTROIT *Unity* G. Moone/F. Washington

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.
Lord, we pray for unity.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Throughout God's world this day Christian churches
are celebrating the Eucharist as one family
dining together in one room under one roof.

**Our sisters and brothers in Africa, Europe, Central America,
India, Asia and in all lands and countries
join us in lifting the bread of life and the cup of salvation.**

Neither powers nor principalities shall stop us nor deter our purpose,
our sense of mission, or our challenge to go forth as disciples
into every town, village, and crossroad
proclaiming the love of Christ for all creation.

**In Christ's love there is no East, no West, no North, no South,
but only one Spirit of hope, love and peace for all.**

Let us praise Christ! May this holy meal empower each of us
to be agents of hope and peace in a time of uncertainty and strife.

**The bread and the fruit of the vine are not for us alone,
but are symbols of a universal message
that surpasses the might of missiles and the walls of oppression.**

May Christ bless the worldwide communion of the church this day!
Praise be to Christ our Creator, Redeemer, and Savior!

*** INVOCATION PRAYER**

**We marvel, O God, at the thought that you care about us.
We are amazed that the Creator of the universe would take on human flesh
to draw near to us in ways we could begin to understand.**

**As Jesus emptied himself to serve,
modeling your love even in the face of death,
we seek in these moments to lay aside self-interest
that we might take direction from you.**

**Help us to humble ourselves in order to obey you,
to listen in order to hear,
to care in order to serve.**

**As we gather at your table from all over the world, O God,
we pray that all those who come to you in the name of Christ
might be one in Spirit.**

Knead us together in one loaf.

**Free us from jealousy and selfish ambition;
unite us in mission and service to those in need everywhere.**

**May we sow righteousness and harvest peace,
through the grace of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Capo 5: (Am) Dm (G) (Am) (C) (Am) (Dm) (Am)
C Dm F Dm Gm Dm



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - ery knee shall bow,
2 Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a name
3 Bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,
4 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,

(C) (G) (Am) (C) (Dm)
F C Dm F Gm



ev - ery tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,
with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign;

(G) (Em) (Am) (G) (D) (G)
C Am Dm C G C



'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord,
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,
to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast,
for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,

(Am) (G) (Em) (Dm) (C) (G) (Am)
Dm C Am Gm F C Dm



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed;
filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.
and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

This may well be a hymn based on a hymn, for scholars say that the passage behind it (Philippians 2:5-11), though not in the style of Greek poetry, shows traits of a communal creedal statement capable of being sung. It is set here to one of the composer's most sonorous tunes.

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

Come, people of God,
out of your separateness,
to enter into unity with one another,
and with all those who seek the presence of Christ Jesus,
through the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.
Come, confessing the sin that separates you from God and from one another.
Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
followed by time for silent personal confession.
Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God of all people and places,
we confess to you our lack of oneness with our human sisters and brothers
as we begin this celebration of unity in Christ.
We have closed our ears to voices of pain, and of wisdom,
when they speak in accents other than our own.
We have lacked the vision to see that people living in places we call foreign
are as surely your children as we are.
Our sensibilities are jarred even by the way our nearest neighbors
express their faith in Christ.
We cling to the pride of nation and denomination
as if we had a special claim on truth and leadership.
Gracious God, forgive us, and renew a right spirit within us,
a spirit of compassion, understanding, and humility.
Fill us with the vision of unity in Christ,
and enable us to incarnate Christ's love,
so that we may worthily partake in the body of Christ
and the cup of the new covenant.
(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

The good news in Christ
is that God is more willing to forgive our sins than we are to acknowledge them.
The God of peace be with you all,
keeping you in unity with Christ's people everywhere,
with who we profess this ancient song of praise.
We praise you, O God.

We acknowledge you as the rightful object of our worship and obedience.

All earth worships you.

Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of your glory.

The glorious company of the apostles praise you.

The goodly company of the prophets praise you.

Day by day we glorify you,

and we worship your name forever world without end.

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

Please be seated:

As Christ gave up selfish ambition and conceit for human beings like us,
may we offer our best for sisters and brothers
who need the message we can send
and the practical help we can provide through our offerings.
The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Bread of Heaven

David Ashley White

Bread of heaven, on thee we feed: for thy Flesh is meat indeed:
ever may our souls be fed with this true and living Bread;
day by day with strength supplied through the life of Him who died.

Vine of heaven, thy Blood supplies this blest cup of sacrifice;
Lord, thy wounds our healing give, to thy cross we look and live:
Jesu, may we ever be grafted, rooted, built in thee.

* 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

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**We empty our pockets, trusting you, O God.
We empty our selfish ambitions,
believing that the common good is of greater concern.
We give because you have richly blessed us.
We present ourselves in your service
because you have gifted us in so many ways.
We reach out helping hands
because we care about all those you have called us to love.
May every tongue confessing Christ as Savior
share in that mind which so powerfully demonstrates your love.
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

Let us pray together:

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

Philippians 2:1-13 (NRSVUE)

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for God's good pleasure.

The Holy Spirit has a word for each of us today.

With God's help we are listening.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

"One World in Christ"



WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

* HYMN#510

We Gather Here in Jesus' Name COME, SHARE THE LORD

Capo 3: (G) B \flat (D) F (Em7) Gm7



1 We gath - er here in Je - sus' name;
2 He joins us here; he breaks the bread;
3 We'll gath - er soon where an - gels sing;

(D) F (Asus) Csus



his love is burn - ing in our hearts like liv - ing flame;
the Lord who pours the cup is ris - en from the dead;
we'll see the glo - ry of our Lord and com - ing King;

(A7) C7 (D) F (A) C (D) F



for through the lov - ing Son the Fa - ther makes us one:
the one we love the most is now our gra - cious host:
now we an - tic - i - pate the feast for which we wait:

(G) B \flat (D) F (Em) Gm (A) C (D) F *Fine*



come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.

(A7) C7 (D) F (G) B \flat (A7) C7 (D) F



(1) No one is a strang - er here; ev - ery - one be - longs.
(2) We are now a fam - i - ly, of which the Lord is head.

(G) B \flat (A7) C7 (D) F (Bm) Dm (Em7) Gm7 (Asus) Csus (A) C



Find - ing our for - give - ness here, we in turn for - give all wrongs.
Though un - seen, he meets us here in the break - ing of the bread.

The center of this text recalls Christ's post-Resurrection meal at Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), a reminder that the Risen Christ is in our midst when two or three gather in his name (Matthew 18:20) and share a foretaste of the Heavenly Feast (Matthew 26:29/Luke 22:18/Mark 14:25).

*** INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

On this day, especially,
when the barriers between people are struck down,
God invites us to join Christians everywhere at the holy banquet table.
This is not my table,
nor the Old Stone Church's table,
but the table of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
and all are welcome here.

*** PRAYER**

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.

Author of all life, in whose image each of us is made,
hear our prayer of thanks for all your good gifts.

Out of all the people on earth, you took our spiritual ancestors
and made them your people.

In the deserts of our lives, you have been with us.

You meet us on the mountains and go with us through the valleys.

You supply our every need.

In Jesus Christ, your love for all was made evident.

He ate with outcasts, strengthened the weary, walked with the lonely.

He offered his life on our behalf;

was crucified, died, and rose victorious even over death.

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!

On the night Jesus was betrayed,
he gathered his friends from all walks of life,
wishing to share his last meal with those he loved.
He took a common loaf of bread
and made it into the extra-ordinary Bread of Life.
He broke it and shared it with them, saying,
“Whenever you eat this, it will bless you.
This bread represents my body which is broken for you.
Take some and eat it.”
Then he poured ordinary drink and blessed it.
He said, “Drink this, all of you.
It represents my blood offered for you.
Remember that your sins are forgiven.”
Let us remember together the mystery of our faith:

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE POURING OF THE CUP

Gathered with his friends, Jesus took bread,
blessed and broke it and saying:

**Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melek ha'olam
hamotzi lekhem min ha'aretz.**

“Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
who brings forth bread from the earth.

When we break the bread.
Is it not a sharing of the body of Christ?”

And pouring the fruit of the vine into the cup, he blessed it saying:

**Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melek ha'olam
borei p'ri hagafen.**

“Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
who creates the fruit of the vine.

When we give thanks over the cup.
Is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ?”

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit, send power upon these gifts, your bread and your cup.
Bless them and your people all around the world.
As we eat of these common elements, unite our spirits in love for you,
and our hearts in love for one another.
In the name of the Creator, the Redeemer, the Sustainer.
to be guided by the Holy Spirit, and to live Christ.
Now and forever.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

We pray for all those in need of healing, comfort or strength,
whether it be of body, mind, or spirit. We pray for...

We pray 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.

CALL TO THE FEAST

This is the feast prepared for you.
Come and share for all is ready.
Please partake of the elements as you receive them,
and then place the cup back into the tray.
You may then light a candle in petition of prayer
or in remembrance.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

The Body of Christ broken for you.
The Blood of Christ shed for you.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Ubi Caritas

Ola Gjeilo

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.	Where charity and love are, God is there.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.	Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.	Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.	Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.	And may we love each other with a sincere heart.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, O God, for making one people out of many.
 Thank you for your love in Jesus,
 who invites us to his table, a people forgiven.
 Look upon us as we leave this feast,
 that the union we have shared here not be forgotten,
 but be used to strengthen our bonds with all your people.
 Amen.

* HYMN #318

In Christ There Is No East or West

ST. PETER

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in

him no south or north, but one great fel - low -
 high com - mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 e'er your race may be. All chil - dren of the
 him meet south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

Go forth and serve in the spirit of Christ.

Dare to question false values that hold us captive.

We will seek the mind of Christ in all things.

We will put aside selfish ambition and conceit.

Look to the greatest interests of all people.

In humility, view each person as precious to God.

We count it a privilege to serve in Christ's name.

We are grateful for the saving power of love.

Remember always that God is at work in you.

With God's help, amazing good can be accomplished.

May we do what we have so boldly declared.

May we follow and serve in joyous obedience.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

Festal Postlude

Robert J. Powell

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

Psalm 73:26

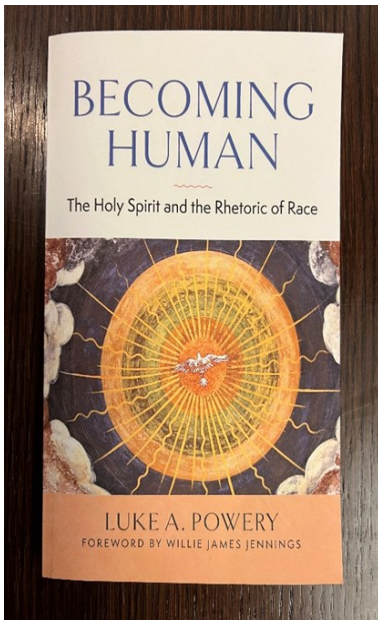


We continue to keep in our prayers:

Jenni Plants, Faith Battan, Barney Taxel, Gail Reid, Mark Merritt, Angela Hendricks, Eldora Levert, Melvin, Karen Cogar, Vito Zinerco, Cara Murkins, JoAnn Hood and Family

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

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



Fall Book Study via ZOOM

with Pastor Stephen

Becoming Human: The Holy Spirit and the Rhetoric of Race.
by Luke A. Powery.

Over the past decade we have had a heightened public discourse on race in America.

It has been a polarizing and political flash point. It is vital as people of faith, disciples of Jesus Christ that we understand the matter of race from a Biblical and theological perspective. At Pentecost the gift of the Holy Spirit was the foundational birthing of Christianity, of the church universal. We proclaim that in baptism we are marked as God's own and are to ever be guided by the Holy Spirit. So, we must ask ourselves what does the Holy Spirit have to say to us this day and age on the matter of race. What will it take to heal ourselves, our churches, our society, and nation?

Please join me in a five week 6:30pm Wednesday evening ZOOM book study. We will be discussing one chapter a week, approx. 25-30 pages weekly.

The book is very accessible and scripturally grounded.

“Many titles, images and roles exist for the Holy Spirit; Luke Powery lifts up another: the Spirit as humanizer. In this book, Powery suggests that the Spirit is the one who humanizes us in the face of one of the most destructively dehumanizing forces our society has known: racism. ...yet Powery's meditation demonstrates both its fittingness and urgency. This work resounds with sobering conviction and expectant hope.” – Daniel Castelo, Duke University Divinity School.

Wednesday 11 October 6:30pm	Introduction & Chapter 1
Wednesday 18 October 6:30pm	Chapter 2
Wednesday 25 October 6:30pm	Chapter 3
Wednesday 1 November 6:30pm	Chapter 4
Wednesday 8 November 6:30pm	Chapter 5 & Coda

Please RSVP to Anthony@oldstonechurch.org at the church's main office.

Books are available through Amazon or by request through the church office.

If you would like the church to order the book, please make note of that when making your RSVP.

If the cost of the book is a hardship, scholarships are available.

Blessings,

Pastor Stephen

Old Stone Church Fall Food Drive

Old Stone Church is pleased to announce the return of our Fall Food Drive with the Greater Cleveland Food Bank **NEXT** Sunday, October 8th, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

A list of needed items may be found in the weekly Connexions

Please bring your filled bags to Old Stone Church on Sunday October 8, 2023.

PLEASE JOIN US ON THE FRONT STEPS OF OLD STONE CHURCH

Saturday, October 7, 2023

12:00PM-1:30PM

Blessing of the Animals



Animals should be on leash or in a carrier.



@ Old Stone Church

Saturday October 7, 2023

12PM-1:30PM Blessing of the Animals/ Front steps of OSC

Sunday October 8, 2023

9AM Old Stone Church Fall Food Drive

Wednesday October 11, 2023

6:30PM Fall Book Study Begins/ZOOM

Sunday October 15, 2023

11:00AM Deacons Meeting/Chapel

Thursday October 19, 2023

5PM-7PM Dale Goode Gallery Opening/Gallery

7PM FPS Directors Meeting/Conference Room

Last Sunday Attendance

In-Person: 54

Online: 186

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.

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

Music copied under ccli#1638695

Senior Pastor: Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

Minister of Music: David L. Dettloff

The Old Stone Quartet

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

Ian Atwood, *tenor*
Stephen Brown, *tenor*
Frederick Peterbark, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*
Margaret Raupp, *alto*
Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

R. Dominic Aragon, *bass*
Christopher Clark, *bass*

Church Elders:

Clerk of Session: Beth Buchanan

Class of 2023
Beth Buchanan
Robert Hubert Jr.
Judy Macuga
Harriet Niles
Lee Ann Rader
Marty Vassel
John Young

Class of 2024
Michelle Baron
Janie Chambers
Fred Heider
Bernard Medie
Bob Reid

Class of 2025
Kara Bane
Willie Brown
Dave Finley

Church Deacons:

Class of 2023
Melissa Maffia
Pete Maffia
Mary Mikula
Michael Rolén
Penni Rolén
Alyssa Niepokny

Class of 2024
Scott Bailey
Bernie Bischel
Carol Hoagland
Amy Wheeler
John Wheeler

Class of 2025
Elie Medie
Mark Pichler

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Your entry constitutes your consent to such photography, filming, livestreaming, and/or recording and to any use, in any media for The Old Stone Church/First Presbyterian Church, Cleveland, Ohio. Thank you.