



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

OCTOBER 15, 2023

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Crusader's Hymn (*Silesian Folk Melody*)

arr. Frederick Swann

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Dave Finley

INTROIT

O Come, Ye Servants of the Lord

Christopher Tye

O come, ye servants of the Lord, and praise his holy name;
From early morn to setting sun his might on earth proclaim.

His laws are just, and glad the heart; He makes his mercies known:
Ye princes come, ye people too, and bow before his throne.

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come away from the valleys of misplaced loyalty.
Come, seeking to meet the God of all worlds.

We have come to praise God and give thanks.

We believe God's steadfast love endures forever.

We come together that our faith might be strengthened.

We seek the strength to live by all we profess.

God's awesome deeds saved our ancestors.

Surely God's steadfast love continues with us.

God continues to deliver us in times of distress.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

We rejoice that God is near and available to us.

We hear God welcoming us to this time of prayer.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Gracious God, you have invited and welcomed us to this place of worship.

You draw us away from the idols we create to take your place.

When we come together,

we sense that there is nothing in life

that can substitute for a vital relationship with you.

Yet we are only dimly aware of who you are.

All the mysteries of the universe are in your hands,

yet you have made yourself known among the people of this earth.

We catch glimpses of your work among us and are amazed.

We want to meet you again today, as for the first time.

Touch us.

Remake us.

Help us to stand firm in the faith.

Amen.

* HYMN #39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system contains the first three verses of the hymn. The second system contains the final two lines of the hymn. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 베푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

God is not fooled by our pious words of faith.
God knows our fascination with golden calves –
with pastimes and possessions that take our attention and resources every day.
Like our ancestors before us, we have sinned and deserve God's wrath.
As Moses implored God to spare the Hebrew people
we bring our petitions, seeking a fresh start.
Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
followed by time for silent personal confession.
Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all mercy,
you have planted within us a desire to observe justice and do righteousness.
We want to be fair and honorable,
delighting in life shared openly and honestly
with family, friends, and co-workers.
Instead, we are often defensive, fearful, and distracted.
We spend more time with our toys than with your truth.
We seek temporary thrills rather than lasting meaning.
Then we are disappointed when our "golden calves" bring no fulfillment.
We return to you, loving God,
intent on following the guidance we are receiving from you.
Save us from ourselves.

(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

Rejoice, knowing that God is always near.
Our thanksgiving and our supplications are always heard.
The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
Find joyous focus for life in all that is honorable, just, pure, and excellent.
Know that your goodwill is pleasing to God.
You are chosen by God to share in the mind of Christ.
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 invites us to invest our time and resources
in ways that build rather than destroy,
in work of lasting value rather than temporary distraction.
Through the church,
we seek to offer a quality of life focused on the worth of every individual,
on justice for all and excellence in all things.
May our offerings and our lives praise God.
The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

He Stooped to Bless

Edward Margetson

He stooped to bless, and stooping raised us. And the tenderness which looked
in pity on a world of sin, long years ago, still waits in love to call the nations in.

Till all shall know that man may rise in Him to holiness.
Because He stooped so low.

* 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:

May our offerings help to prepare many to feast at your banquet table.
May our generosity reflect the amazing abundance you entrust to our care.
As we find joy in giving,
may others be inspired to give their best,
and may all of us realize your peace,
dwelling within and among us as we serve in Christ's 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

Torah

Exodus 32:1-14 (NRSVUE)

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. He took these from them, formed them in a mold, and cast an image of a calf, and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it, and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being, and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to revel. The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

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

With God's help we are listening.

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“Golden Bull *”



* THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

LIGHTING OF CANDLES, 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

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.

TEXT: William Cowper, 1769

MUSIC: Scottish Psalter, 1635; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

CAITHNESS

CM

*** BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**

God is opening our minds to what is true.

God is filling our lives with ways that are just.

We will honor God by respecting one another.

We stand firm in the faith that God can be trusted.

God calls us to daily self-examination.

God offers us choices that lead to wholeness.

We will seek what is pure and pleasing to God.

We want to think and do what is worthy of praise.

God's plan for us is not disaster but fulfillment.

God delivers us from evil and gives us peace.

We rejoice in God, who loves us.

We are eager to live as Christ teaches us.

Amen.

*** CHORAL RESPONSE**

Amen

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

Fanfare on "*Ein Feste Burg*"

James Pethel

*"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:

JoAnn Hood, Louis Handler, Jenni Plants, Ken Guidas

Gail Reid, Faith Battan, Barney Taxel,

Isaac, Ameila, Mark Merritt, Angela Hendricks, Karen Cogar,
the family of Mike Kelley, the family of Margaret Bell, and the Baron family

We pray for the repose of the soul of Bob Ward,
may his memory be a blessing.

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

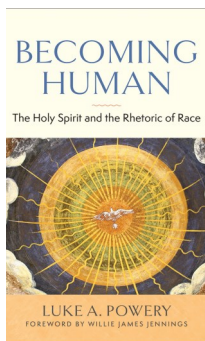
Names are generally removed after four weeks unless there is a continuing need.

The 2024 Old Stone Church Stewardship Campaign



Coming Home Giving Back

“Return to your home and declare how much God has done for you.”
So, he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.
Luke 8:39 (NRSVUE)



Fall Book Study via ZOOM with Pastor Stephen

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

Wednesdays, October 11-November 8, 2023 6:30PM

Old Stone Gallery Fall Artist Reception **Dale Goode**

Thursday, October 19th, from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



@ Old Stone Church

Sunday October 15, 2023

11:15AM Christian Spirituality/Chapel

Wednesday October 18, 2023

6:30PM Fall Book Study/ZOOM

Thursday October 19, 2023

5PM-7PM Dale Goode Gallery Opening/Gallery

7PM FPS Directors Meeting/Conference Room

Tuesday October 24, 2023

6:30PM Session/ZOOM

Wednesday October 25, 2023

6:30PM Fall Book Study/ZOOM

Last Sunday Attendance

In-Person:88 Online:162

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

Music copied under ccli#1638695

Senior Pastor: Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

Minister of Music: David L. Dettloff

The Old Stone Singers

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*
Albert Donze, *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 Rolan
Penni Rolan
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.