



# THE OLD STONE CHURCH

OCTOBER 8, 2023

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
WITH BAPTISM  
RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

10AM Sanctuary Worship

## WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

|                    |  |   |
|--------------------|--|---|
| PRELUDE            | <i>Vocalise Op. 34, No. 14</i>         | Sergei Rachmaninoff                                       |
| WELCOME            |  | Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams                           |
| MINUTE FOR MISSION |  | Michael Sering<br><i>Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries</i> |
| STEWARDSHIP MOMENT |  | Elizabeth Buchanan  |
| INTROIT            | <i>O Come, Ye Servants of the Lord</i> | 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

The God who frees us invites us to worship.  
The God of law welcomes our loyal response.  
    **The heavens are telling the glory of God.**  
    **The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.**  
God is present with us, eager to speak to us.  
Our creator is here to test us and to keep us from sin.  
    **The law of God is perfect, reviving the soul.**  
    **God's decrees are sure, making wise the simple.**  
We tremble before God, yet are not afraid.  
We are ready to listen to God's word.  
    **May our awe before God be pure and enduring.**  
    **May our thoughts and our words be acceptable to God.**

\* INVOCATION PRAYER

O God, our rock and our redeemer,  
enlighten us today through the ancient witness of your faithful people.  
Lead us to desire the guidance of your word.  
Remind us of your ordinances that are true and righteous altogether.  
May they shape our living and warn us when we are in error.  
We seek to honor your name, to divest ourselves of idols,  
to keep this day of rest and worship.  
Work with us to develop right relationships in our families  
and with all your children near and far,  
we pray in Jesus' name.  
Amen.

\* HYMN #5

*God the Sculptor of the Mountains*

JENNINGS-HOUSTON



1 God the sculp - tor of the moun - tains, God the  
2 God the nui - sance of the Pha - raoh, God the  
3 God the dress - er of the vine - yard, God the  
4 God the un - ex - pect - ed in - fant, God the



mill - er of the sand, God the jewel - er of the  
cleav - er of the sea, God the pil - lar in the  
plant - er of the wheat, God the reap - er of the  
calm, de - ter - mined youth, God the ta - ble - turn - ing



heav - ens, God the pot - ter of the land:  
 dark - ness, God the bea - con of the free:  
 har - vest, God the source of all we eat:  
 proph - et, God the res - ur - rect - ed truth:



you are womb of all cre - a - tion;  
 you are fount of all de - liv - erance;  
 you are host at ev - ery ta - ble;  
 you are pres - ent ev - ery mo - ment;



we are form - less; shape us now.  
 we are aim - less; lead us now.  
 we are hun - gry; feed us now.  
 we are search - ing; meet us now.

Despite the great sweep of these stanzas, each one ends by describing how our human condition needs God's help: formless, aimless, hungry, searching. Each of these adjectives is followed by a related three-syllable petition: shape us now, lead us now, feed us now, meet us now.

TEXT: John Thornburg, 1993, alt.

MUSIC: Amanda Husberg, 1995

Text © 1993 John Thornburg

Music © 1996 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

JENNINGS-HOUSTON

8.7.8.7.8.7

## \* CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Carmen Cox Harwell

We are tenants to whom God has leased some of the earth's wealth.  
 God comes among us to collect what we have produced,  
 to claim a portion of all that is God's own.  
 Our Creator seeks an accounting of our faithfulness  
 to the way of life designed for us.  
 Let us seek forgiveness for our shortcomings.  
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,  
 followed by time for silent personal confession.  
 Thus, we pray:

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we have no righteousness of our own.  
We have bent and ignored your law.  
Your commandments inform us but do not transform.  
We give lip service to your law but seek to avoid its implication for our lives.  
We recognize some of our errors,  
but many are hidden from us.  
We devote our energies to accumulating possessions  
that function as idols in our lives.  
We depend on them more than we honor you.  
Save us, we pray, from great transgressions and help us to reorder our days.  
*(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

Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid;  
for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of God upon you  
so that you do not sin."  
The One who orders all worlds  
seeks to bring order and joyous freedom into our lives.  
To fear God is to open our eyes to the amazing vastness of God's dominion  
and to the astonishing awareness that God knows each one of us,  
loves us, and has a purpose for us.  
Let God reign among us!  
**Alleluia and Amen!**

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Evie Cathleen Fritz

Lindsay Buchholzer & Phillip Fritz, Jr. (Parents)

Mackenzie Dreher & Paul Dreher (Godparents)

\* 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.



# 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

Prophets

Isaiah 5:1-7 (NRSVUE)

I will sing for my beloved  
my love song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.  
He dug it and cleared it of stones  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watchtower in the midst of it  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded rotten grapes.  
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.  
What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield rotten grapes?  
And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.  
I will make it a wasteland;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.  
For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his cherished garden;  
he expected justice  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness  
but heard a cry!

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

**With God's help we are listening.**



“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord’s doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes’?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“My Beloved’s Vineyard”



## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

On behalf of the session,  
I present Lindsay Buchholzer and Phillip Fritz, Jr.  
who have been received into the membership of this congregation  
by reaffirmation of faith.

In baptism you were claimed by God,  
marked as Christ's own forever,  
and joined to his body by the Holy Spirit.  
You come to us then, not as strangers,  
but as friends in Christ and members of the household of God.  
We rejoice that you now desire to join with this congregation  
in the worship and mission of the church.

Hear these words from scripture:

There is one body and one Spirit,  
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,

**one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
one God and Father of all,  
who is above all and through all and in all.**

As members of the body of Christ, let us reaffirm the faith  
into which we were baptized:

## 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.**



Lindsay and Phillip, we have professed our faith as one body.  
Will you be a faithful member of this congregation,  
share in its worship and mission  
through your prayers and gifts,  
your study and service,  
and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

**I will, with God's help.**

Holy God,  
thank you for calling us to be your people  
and joining us to Christ's body, the church.  
We praise you for leading Lindsay and Phillip to this congregation.  
Empower us by your Spirit,  
that we might love one another as Christ loved us,  
honoring him in all that we say and do,  
giving our lives in service to others,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Lindsay and Phillip, remember your baptism and be thankful,  
and know that the Holy Spirit is at work within you.

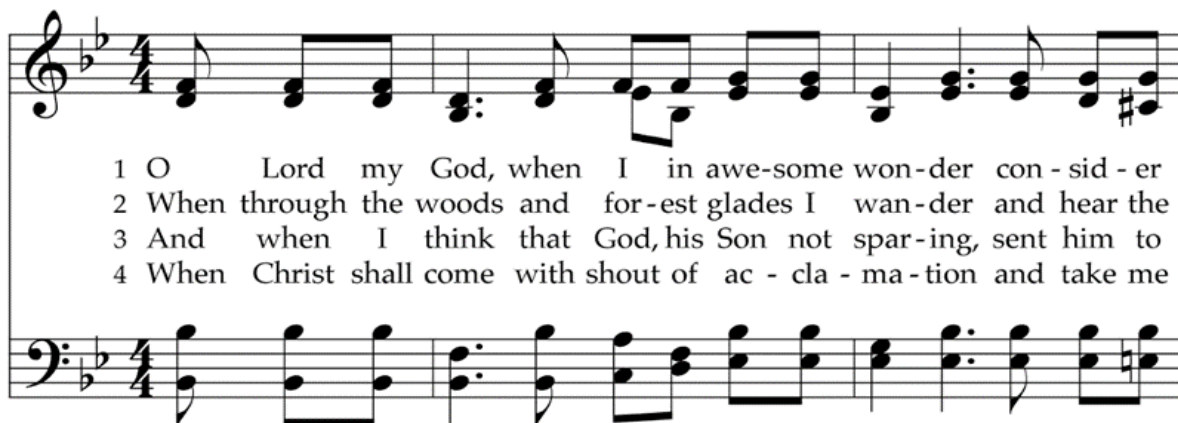
**Thanks be to God.**

Welcome to this ministry that we share in Jesus Christ.

#### 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 Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con - sid - er  
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der and hear the  
 3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to  
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion and take me



all the \*worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I  
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, when I look down from  
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my  
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then \*I shall bow in



hear the \*roll - ing thun - der, thy power through - out the  
 loft - y moun - tain gran - deur and hear the brook and  
 bur - den glad - ly bear - ing, he bled and died to  
 hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion, and there pro - claim, "My

*\*Author's original words are "works," "mighty," and "shall I bow."*

This tuneful retelling of the salvation story began in Swedish and was translated into German and then into Russian before reaching its English form. Despite such linguistic and musical revisions, it continues to be a meaningful source of comfort to many people.

TEXT: Stuart K. Hine, 1953; Spanish trans. Arturo W. Hotton Rives, alt.; Korean trans. anon.

MUSIC: Swedish folk melody; adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1949

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HOW GREAT THOU ART

11.10.11.10 with refrain

Refrain

u - ni - verse dis - played:  
 feel the gen - tle breeze: Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to  
 take a - way my sin:  
 God, how great thou art!"

thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my

Sav - ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

KOREAN

- 1 주 하나님 지으신 모든세계  
 내마음 속에 그리어 볼때  
 하늘의 별 울려 퍼지는 뇌성  
 주님의 권능 우주에 찾네
- 후렴 주님의 높고 위대하심을  
 내영혼이 찬양하네  
 주님의 높고 위대하심을  
 내영혼이 찬양하네
- 2 숲속이나 험한산 골짜에서  
 지저귀는 저 새소리들과  
 고요하게 흐르는 시냇물은  
 주님의 숨씨 노래하도다 후렴
- 3 주하나님 독생자 아낌없이  
 우리를 위해 보내주셨네  
 십자가에 피흘려 죽으신 주  
 내모든 죄를 대속하셨네 후렴
- 4 내주 예수 세상에 다시 올 때  
 저천국으로 날 인도하리  
 나 겸손히 엎드려 경배하며  
 영원히 주를 찬양하리라 후렴

SPANISH

- 1 Señor, mi Dios, al contemplar los cielos,  
 el firmamento y las estrellas mil,  
 al oír tu voz en los potentes truenos  
 y ver brillar al sol en su cenit,
- Estrillo Mi corazón se llena de emoción.  
 ¡Cuán grande es Él! ¡Cuán grande es Él!  
 Mi corazón se llena de emoción.  
 ¡Cuán grande es Él! ¡Cuán grande es Él!
- 2 Al recorrer los montes y los valles  
 y ver las bellas flores al pasar,  
 al escuchar el canto de las aves  
 y el murmurar del claro manantial, Estrillo
- 3 Cuando recuerdo de tu amor divino  
 que desde el cielo al Salvador envió,  
 al buen Jesús, que por salvarme vino  
 y en una cruz por mí sufrió y murió, Estrillo
- 4 al dulce hogar, al cielo de esplendor;  
 te adoraré, cantando la grandeza  
 de tu poder y tu infinito amor. Estrillo

\* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

With eyes enlightened, go forth and serve with joy.

With hearts made pure, pass on God's love.

**With souls revived, we go out rejoicing.**

**God's law has revealed to us God's love and care.**

All that we have gained is a gift from God.

What is most important is not things, but Christ.

**We seek to gain Christ within the church community.**

**We dwell together in Christ's body, the church.**

Seek the growth of this body, for Christ's sake.

Bring others to dwell here, for their sake.

**We will press on toward our heavenly call.**

**Our resurrection faith gives us hope.**

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Amen*

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

*The Mission/How Great Thou Art*

E. Morricone/  
Swedish Folk Melody  
arr. by Jon Schmidt,  
Al Van Der Beek,  
Steven Sharp Nelson

Trevor Kazarian, *cellist*

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

*Psalms 73:26*



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

Bob Ward, 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

We pray for the repose of the souls of Margaret Bell and Mike Kelley,  
may their 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)*

With our resources and talents, we become instruments of God’s boundless love. By giving generously, we extend the embrace of Old Stone Church to those who seek solace, support, and a sense of belonging. We open our arms to the lost and the weary, welcoming them home to a sanctuary of acceptance and grace.

In our quest to be faithful stewards, let us not forget the profound spirituality that fuels our journey. It is through prayer, worship, and the contemplation of God’s word that we find strength, guidance, and renewal. Let us remember that our stewardship is not a solitary endeavor, but a communal expression of our shared faith. Together, we grow in our understanding of God’s will, and together, we bear witness to the transformative power of God’s love.

As we approach this season of stewardship, each of us should reflect upon the abundant blessings that God has bestowed upon us. Consider the ways that you can contribute, through your time, talent, and financial resources, to the vibrant tapestry of our Old Stone Church community. Embrace this opportunity to give back to God with joyful hearts, knowing that our contributions will bear fruit in ways we may not even fathom.

Let us embark on this journey of stewardship with hearts full of gratitude, minds open to God’s calling, and spirits ablaze with the fire of mission. Together, we shall forge a legacy of love and service that will resonate through the ages.

May God’s grace continue to guide us in this holy endeavor.

Yours in Christ,

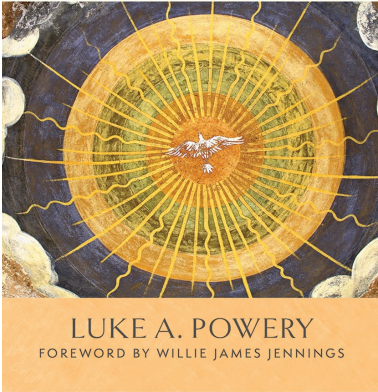
Elizabeth Buchanan

2024 Stewardship Chair



# BECOMING HUMAN

The Holy Spirit and the Rhetoric of Race



## 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](mailto: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

### **Sunday October 8**

Old Stone Church Fall Food Drive  
2024 Stewardship Campaign Kickoff

### **Wednesday October 11**

6:30pm Fall Book Study/ZOOM

### **Sunday October 15**

11am Deacon Meeting/Chapel

### **Wednesday October 18**

6:30pm Fall Book Study/ZOOM

### **Thursday October 19**

5pm-7pm Dale Goode Gallery Opening  
7pm FPS Directors' Meeting/Conference Room

## Last Sunday Attendance

In-Person:59

Online:145

## *Christian Spirituality October 15, 2023 @ 11:15AM*

From the very beginning through the ages to today, many Christians have wished to become aware of the Presence of Something Higher – God – in their daily life. Many Christians have felt something was missing by merely reading scripture, listening to sermons, and doing good works in the community. Spiritual practices began with the Desert Fathers, moved through monasteries, and today is occasionally found in church gatherings.

Beginning on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> Bob Heath will lead a six-week Adult Christian Education program on Christian Spirituality after the Worship Service (11:15) in the Chapel. Each session will present a historical consideration, some results from that era that continue to impact us today and will culminate with a spiritual exercise. The first session will present an overview of Christian Spiritual practice and how it differs from didactic Christianity. All are welcome to attend.

## Old Stone Gallery Fall Artist Reception

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



Dale A. Goode is a Cleveland-based artist and arts educator. He works primarily in photography, mixed media collage and sculpture.

He received his Bachelor of Arts from Hiram College and pursued his graduate studies at Kent State University.

Over the last 40 years,

Mr. Goode has exhibited his work widely throughout the Midwest.

His work is included in various corporate, university and institutional collections, Akron Art Museum, University Hospital of Cleveland, Hiram College and The Dalad Group.

He was selected as one of the International artists to participate in Front International Triennial.

There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Online Giving:<br><a href="http://oldstonechurch.org/giving/">oldstonechurch.org/giving/</a>      | Mobile Giving:<br>Text the keyword "oldstonecle" to 73256  |
| Mail to:<br>Old Stone Church<br>Attn: Financial Office<br>91 Public Square<br>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

**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*  
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

By entering The Old Stone Church and by your presence here, you consent to be photographed, filmed, livestreamed, and/or otherwise recorded.

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.