



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

NOVEMBER 12, 2023

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
CONSECRATION SUNDAY

10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Sure On This Shining Night

Morten Lauridsen
Poetry by: James Agee

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT

Round Me Falls the Night

Adam Drese

Round me falls the night; Saviour, be my light;
Through the hours in darkness shrouded let me see Thy face unclouded;
Let Thy glory shine in this heart of mine.

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Put away the things you have substituted for God.

Let your worship of the one true God be genuine.

We seek to know God and to rejoice before our Creator.

We know that God is beyond all our false images.

God is not deceived by our solemn assemblies.

Our empty festivals do not impress our God.

We want to give joyous expression to a growing faith.

We choose to serve the God whom Jesus revealed.

Our hope is in God's grace beyond all judgement.

Our trust is in God's love, greater than our feeble imitation.

We welcome the light God promises us.

We seek to respond with faithful service.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

God of our ancestors,

be our God today as we gather in sincerity and faithfulness to honor you.

Attune our hearts to your commandments as we remember your mighty acts.

Declare your Word to us so we may be inspired to obey.

We know that we must decide today whether or not we will serve you.

Not to decide is to reject you.

O God, save us from the idols that appear so attractive to us,

the toys that take so much of our attention

and the pursuits that dominate our time.

Make your dwelling place with us here.

Amen.

* HYMN #771

What Is the World Like

NEW WORLD



1 What is the world like when God's will is done?
2 What is the world like when God's will is done?
3 What is the world like when God's will is done?
4 What is the world like when God's will is done?
5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im - parts,



Mus - tard seeds grow more than we can con - ceive:
 Wit - ness the wan - der - ing child com - ing home;
 No more is neigh - bor just al - ly or friend;
 Read - y for feast - ing, we watch through the night,
 filled with the Spir - it who joins us as one.



roots thread the soil; branch - es reach for the sun.
 watch as the par - ent breaks in - to a run.
 peace thrives in plac - es where once there was none.
 tend - ing our lamps till the new day's be - gun.
 Born through our voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,



This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.
 This is how God longs for us when we roam.
 This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.
 This is how God read - ies us for the light.
 this is a new world where God's will is done.

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Bram Chisholm

How seriously do we regard the decrees of our spiritual ancestors?
 The psalmist commands the teaching of God's law to our children,
 that we and they might not forget all that God has done.
 Obedience to the way of life God sets before us makes hope real.
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
 followed by time for silent personal confession.
 Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

If sin means cutting ourselves off from you
and being unprepared to respond to your presence,
surely we have sinned.
Our lamps are not trimmed;
our lives are not ready for your trumpet call.
We have not listened well or encouraged one another in the faith.
The distraction of many things has kept us from meditation and prayer.
We are witnesses against ourselves,
for we have vowed our loyalty and then have gone our own way.
Merciful God, we seek your forgiveness.
(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 brought our spiritual ancestors out of bondage
and protected them along their way.
We believe God is eager to free us from all that imprisons us.
Our days on earth are a trust from God,
and we serve God best by investing our time
in learning and living God's intentions for us.
It is God's will that we live in harmony with one another,
that we learn to love all God's children.
God extends full pardon to us.
Praise God for forgiveness and a second chance.
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.
How will our neighbors be prepared for times of crisis?
Who will teach them where to find oil for their lamps?
Who will help them discover spiritual riches
more valuable than all their material possessions?
Our church is a resource, and our ministry is for the whole world.
Let us give our support.
The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Keep Your Lamps!

Andre Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.
Christian, journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

* 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

Bram Chisholm

Let us join our voices in prayer:

We set our hope in you, God of all ages,
and seek to serve you through our offerings
and our efforts to encourage and equip one another for ministry.
Help us decide daily to live according to your will,
preparing ourselves for the opportunities and challenges you give us.
May your rule shape our lives
in ways that introduce many to the joys of eternity in the midst of time.
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

Hebrew

Psalm 78:1-7 (NRSVUE)

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.
We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD and his might
and the wonders that he has done.
He established a decree in Jacob
and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach to their children,
that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,
and rise up and tell them to their children,
so that they should set their hope in God,
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments;

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

With God's help we are listening.

Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13 (NRSVUE)

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“Keep Your Oil Lamps Filled”



* RECEIVING AND BLESSING OF PLEDGE CARDS

* PRAYER OVER THE PLEDGE CARDS

Gracious and loving God,
giver of all that is good and true and beautiful and life-giving.
These cards represent our sweat, they represent our lives,
they represent our dreams.

The pledges which we make on them are but tokens
of the awesome gifts that have been given to us
and they are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received,
for all we have been inspired to be,
for all we are challenged to become, in this place.

May they be the first fruits of all we have and not what we have left over,
so that we may live out as closely as possible how you give to us.
May we see them as our offering to you, sacred, holy, yet earthy,
filled with possibilities.

May we hold this image in our hearts and minds
so as we watch our offerings each week come to your table,
we can see our very selves being part of this offering,
it is us on the table, living sacrifices to you.

Amen.

* 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

* HYMN #362

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

LLANGLOFFAN

1 Re - joice! Re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing; re - plen-ish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this shad - owed sphere!

The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon he will draw nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

Up, watch with ex - pec - ta - tion; at mid - night comes the cry.
a - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the Bride-groom is at hand!
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

God expects our complete loyalty and devotion.

God's love frees us for joyous living.

We will serve the God we have met here.

We know that God goes with us everywhere.

May worship continue wherever we go.

May our service extend God's love to all we meet.

We will consult God in our daily choices.

We will respond to others in the spirit of Christ.

God is faithful in covenant with us.

The counsel of God is always available to us.

We will take time to rest in God's promises.

We will listen for God's word of hope.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Jacques-Nicholas Lemmens

*"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:

Marlene Henne, Frank Macuga, Jean Cooke, Bernie Bischel,
Shirley Daly, Karen Nestor, JoAnn Hood,
Louis Handler, Jenni Plants, Faith Battan,
the Baron family, and the Reid 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.

The 2024 Old Stone Church Stewardship Campaign



Coming Home Giving Back

Today, Sunday November 12, 2023 is Consecration Sunday, please submit your 2024 Pledge cards during the service. And join in a Stewardship Pot Luck Luncheon following the service.



Please join the Old Stone Church community today, Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 1:00PM for a Celebration of the Life of David C. Daugherty, Old Stone Church Director of Music, who died earlier this year.



The Harvest Table, which features an abundance of locally sourced Thanksgiving food items returns on Sunday, November 19th.

Special “thanks” to our Welcoming and Fellowship Committee for making this possible.



Old Stone Church is seeking volunteers to help bring Christmas to our Sanctuary! A sign-up sheet to help with the Greening of the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 26, 2023 following the morning service, may be found outside the Chapel doors.



@ Old Stone Church

Sunday November 12 Consecration Sunday

10:00AM Worship/Stewardship Pledges 2024

11:15AM Mission & Urban Wellness Committee Meeting/Cuyahoga Room

11:30AM Stewardship Potluck/ Memorial Hall

1:00PM Celebration of Life/David C. Daugherty/Sanctuary

Wednesday November 15

7:00PM FPS Directors Meeting

Sunday November 19

11:00AM Deacons Meeting/Gallery

11:15AM Christian Spirituality/Chapel

Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:66 Online:204

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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Music copied under ccli#1638695

Senior Pastor: Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

Parish Associate: Rev. Denise Clark -Jones

Minister of Music: David L. Dettloff

The Old Stone Singers

Leah Jennings Brown, *soprano*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*

Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Frederick Peterbark, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

R. Dominic Aragon, *bass*

Margaret Raupp, *alto*

Christopher Clark, *bass*

Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

Albert Donze, *bass*

Church Elders:

Clerk of Session: Beth Buchanan

Class of 2023

Beth Buchanan
Robert Hubert Jr.

Judy Macuga

Harriet Niles

Marty Vassel

John Young

Class of 2024

Michelle Baron
Janie Chambers

Fred Heider

Bernard Medie

Bob Reid

Class of 2025

Willie Brown
Dave Finley

Church Deacons:

Class of 2023

Melissa Maffia
Pete Maffia
Alyssa Niepokny
Michael Rolan
Penni Rolan

Class of 2024

Scott Bailey
Bernie Bischel
Carol Hoagland
Amy Wheeler
John Wheeler

Class of 2025

Elie Medie
Mark Pichler

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