The Old Stone Church

November 5, 2023
All Saints Sunday with Communion

10 AM Sanctuary Worship

We Gather in the Grace of God

Prelude  
Home  
Words and Lyrics: Anjanette Mickelsen, GENTRI, Stephen Nelson  
Stephen Brown, Frederick Peterbark, Samuel Jungman  
tenors

Welcome  
Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

Stewardship Moment  
Jayne Zborowsky

* Those who are able are requested to stand  
Please silence all electronic devices.
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.

* CALL TO WORSHIP
Come, all who hunger and thirst for truth.  
Come to experience God’s presence in community.  
We have been called together as children of God.  
What we may grow to become is not yet revealed.  
Look to God with joy and radiant expectation.  
Delight in songs of praise and exaltation.  
God hears our cries and saves us from troubles.  
God delivers us from all our fears.  
Taste and know the Creator’s goodness.  
Take refuge in the One who supplies all you need.  
God is present with us here and everywhere we go.  
May our worship here inspire continuing praise.

* INVOCATION PRAYER
As we gather in this place,  
we join with all your saints in every time and place,  
O God, to celebrate salvation.  
You heal the brokenness within and among us.  
You rescue us from the cruelty we impose on one another  
amid our doubts and fears and frantic scrambling for attention.  
Help us in these moments to know your Spirit surrounding us,  
to sense your love embracing us, to realize your goodness,  
empowering us for joyous service.  
Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, power,  
and might be to you, O God, forever and ever.  
Amen.
1. I sing a song of the saints of God,
2. They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and
3. They lived not only in ages past; there are

patient and brave and true, who toiled and fought and
his love made them strong; and they followed the right for hundreds of thousands still. The world is bright with the

lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And
Jesus' sake the whole of their good lives long. And
joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will. You can

one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and one was a
one was a soldier, and one was a priest, and one was
meet them in school, on the street, in the store, in church, by the

shepherdess on the green; they were all of them saints of slain by a fierce wild beast; and there's not any reason,
sea, in the house next door; they are saints of God, whe-ther

God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too.
no, not the least, why I should-n't be one too.
rich or poor, and I mean to be one too.
* CALL TO CONFESSION

Jayne Zborowsky

To be called saints evokes in us knowledge of the many ways we fall short of that title. Today we are summoned to the throne of God to give account to the One who knows us better than we know ourselves. We come to be purified and made whole. Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession, followed by time for silent personal confession. Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Saving God, save us from ourselves. Rescue us from the fears that keep us from following where Jesus leads or trusting in your guidance. We have not hungered and thirsted for righteousness. We have not been pure in heart or humble-minded. We do not risk an unpopular witness or step bravely into the role of peacemaker. Our words and deeds do not praise you. Our worship lacks passion and conviction. We see you now, O God. Redeem your children and fill us with the radiance of your self-giving love.

(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 realm of God is among us, and we are welcomed to experience it’s rewards here and now. Our Creator guides us to springs of living water, inviting us to quench our thirst. God feeds our hungers and wipes the tears from our eyes. O magnify God with me and let us exalt God’s name forever. God redeems the lives of all who serve. Those who find refuge in God are purified and made whole. Sing praise to the Spirit in whom we live and move and have our being. 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 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:
Our finest offering is our attention, moment by moment and day by day, to God’s purposes for our world. We join our constant efforts to be faithful with these weekly moments of giving that celebrate the love with which God surrounds us. We are God’s children, committed to caring for all of God’s creation. The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM  
* A Gaelic Blessing  
John Rutter
Deep peace of the running wave to you, Deep peace of the flowing air to you, Deep peace of the quiet earth to you, Deep peace of the shining stars to you, Deep peace of the gentle night to you, Moon and stars pour their healing light on you. Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you, Deep peace of Christ to you.

* 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  
Jayne Zborowsky
Let us join our voices in prayer:
We worship you night and day, gracious God, in the temple of your universe. So vast is your reality that our minds cannot comprehend, yet your presence is so real that we cannot help but rejoice. You are our refuge and deliverer and our hope for all eternity. May our offerings welcome many to the abundance of your love and move them to join with us in proclaiming, “Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be our God forever and ever! 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 1 John 3:1-3 (Inclusive Bible)

See what love Abba God has lavished on us, in letting us be called God’s children! Yet that in fact is what we are. The reason the world does not recognize us is that it never recognized God. My dear friends, now we are God’s children, but it has not been revealed what we are to become in the future. We know that when it comes to light we will be like God, for we will see God as God really is. All who keep this hope keep themselves pure, just as Christ is pure.

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

With God’s help we are listening.

Epistle Revelation 7:9-17 (Inclusive Bible)

After that, I saw before me an immense crowd without number, from every nation, tribe, people and language. They stood in front of the throne and the Lamb, dressed in long white robes and holding palm branches. And they cried out in a loud voice,
"Salvation is of our God, who sits on the throne, and of the Lamb!"

All the angels who were encircling the throne, as well as the elders and the four living creatures, prostrated themselves before the throne. They worshiped God with these words:

"Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength be to our God forever and ever! Amen!"

Then one of the elders asked me, “These people in white robes—who are they, and where do they come from?”

I answered, "You are the one who knows."
Then the elder said to me, "These are the ones who survived the great period of testing; they have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and made them white. That's why they stand before God's throne and the One they serve day and night in the Temple; the One who sits on the throne will shelter them forever." Never again will they be hungry or thirsty; the sun and its scorching heat will never beat down on them, for the Lamb, who is at the center of the throne, will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe every last tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

"All Saints"

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams
WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

* HYMN#534

Now the Silence

Now the silence Now the peace Now the empty hands uplifted

Now the kneeling Now the plea Now the Father's arms in welcome

Now the hearing Now the power Now the vessel brimmed for pouring

Now the body Now the blood Now the joyful celebration

Now the wedding Now the songs Now the heart forgiving leaping

Now the Spirit's visitation Now the Son's epiphany

Now the Father's blessing Now Now Now

Lacking punctuation and rhyme in the text and bar lines in the music, this meditative Lord's Supper hymn may at first seem like random musings. But both parts of the hymn are made up of careful patterns that combine to awaken memory and to evoke a strong sense of God's presence.
INVITATION TO THE MEAL

We come to this table, not because it itself is so special, but because it is an echo of another table, a table that stretches as far as the eye can see, a table that is laden with God’s good gifts, a table where no one goes hungry, or sits alone.

A table where everyone we ever loved and who ever loved us, sits and feasts together. In our own lives, we sit at tables where there are empty chairs, people we love and miss, people who no longer stop by for dinner or come in for the holidays.

We grieve those empty chairs, but know that in Christ, our separation is only a temporary thing. I invite you to think about the saints in your life, the people whose memory you carry in your heart. I invite you to name them aloud, don’t worry that others will be speaking at the same time.

[Names of those who have gone before us are read.]

For all those we have mentioned in your presence, God, we give thanks, and come gladly to this table to eat once more with those we love to join with all the saints, all our saints, in praising Jesus Christ, who defeated death and leads us all to God’s heavenly banquet. All are welcome here.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.
It is truly right to give you thanks, God,
creator of all we know,
all that is seen and unseen.
You formed the worlds,
every star and tree and ocean the work of your hands, even us.
But more than dust and clay,
you breathed your breath into us,
made us in your image,
walked with us in the garden,
and even when death crept in,
you refused to abandon us.
You found a way.

Still, death haunted your people
in Egypt, where they faced slavery,
in the Promised Land, where they chose war,
in Babylon, where they were forced to live in exile.
Even in good times, not all flourished.
Hunger and poverty, arrogance and greed
all threatened the life of your people.

So you sent your prophets,
to remind them to be good to each other,
and that death and war and exile never have the last word,
that you would always return
to redeem and rescue.
That there was nowhere they could go—
not even down to the pits of Sheol—
where you were not present with them.

In time you sent your Son to walk among us,
fully God, fully human,
who ate and laughed and made friends,
who taught and healed and forgave sinners,
who called out hypocrites
and risked safety for the sake of your kingdom,
who wept when his friend Lazarus died,
who knew grief and loss as we do.

Death haunted Jesus too—
he always knew it would be part of his story—
but in a single breath he moved from fearing death
to trusting you—

“Abba God, if you are willing, remove this cup from me;
yet, not my will but yours be done.”
And so Jesus was crucified, and his friends began to grieve.
But grief only lasted three days, because while death was part of Jesus’ story it was not the end. Jesus broke death’s power because he showed us once and for all that God’s love is stronger than death. Death need no longer haunt us. It is a shadow, fleeing before the burning light of God.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, and with that great multitude no one can count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, all the ordinary saints who have finished their race, and sing forever to the glory of your name:

“This Salvation belongs to our God
who is seated on the throne,
and to the Lamb!”

Spirit, move in us, that we might know we too are counted among the saints: God’s beloved children, vessels of God’s grace. We pray that we might be thankful and transformed, so our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break together, and the cup we share together, may remind us that in ordinary things your love is found, in ordinary lives your grace is known, and in ordinary days we can find your presence.

Keep us breaking bread together in joy and in faith until you return to this world you love, this earth you made, and this people you cherish. Until that day, we lift our prayers.

We pray for all in need of healing, whether it be in body, mind, or spirit.....
Using the words recited by all generations, we join in the prayer Jesus taught the disciples saying:

   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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night before Jesus died, when he knew he would not be with his disciples much longer, he gave them a sign to remember him by.

First, he took the bread from the table, blessed and broke it and saying:

   Barukh atah Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha’olam 
   hamotzi lekhem min ha’aretz.

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

Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

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 atah Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha’olam 
   borei p’ri hagafen.

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

This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

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.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

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.

COMMUNION ANTHEM  

Sure On This Shining Night  
Morten Lauridsen  
Poetry by: James Agee

Sure on this shining night of star-made shadows round, kindness must watch for me this side the ground, on this shining night. The late year lies down the north, all is healed, all is health. High summer holds the earth. Hearts all whole. Sure on this shining night. I weep for wonder wandering far alone of shadows on the stars. Sure on this shining night.

CLOSING PRAYER

Jesus Christ, lamb and shepherd, we remember you here, as we remember all your saints. Help us to remember you not just in this sanctuary, but in our homes and schools, our cars and offices, to remember that every part of our life is shot through with your grace and that we are never alone, but surrounded by a cloud of witnesses united by your love. Amen.

(All Saints Day Communion Liturgy  adapted from Carol H. Prickett)
For All The Saints

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who
2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!
4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
5 From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast, through
thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine; yet
steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and
gates of pearl streams in the count- less host,
name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
all are one in thee, for all are thine.
hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

Rejoice in the Sovereign and magnify God’s name.
Let your worship continue night and day.

We will bless God at all times.
Praise will fill our mouths continually.

We are joined by people of every nation and tongue.
Let us celebrate the diversity of our gifts.

We rejoice in our kinship with all God’s children.
Each of us has a contribution to make.

See what love God is pouring out on all of us!
We are being purified in the image of Christ.

We are blessed as saints of God.
We are learning daily to claim our identity.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

   Amen

   John Rutter

POSTLUDE

   Now Thank We All Our God

   Sigfried Karg-Ellert

“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:

Nova and Tony Kordalski, Frank Macuga, Jean Cooke, Bernie Bishel,
Shirley Daly, Karen Nestor, JoAnn Hood, Louis Handler, Jenni Plants,
Ken Guidas, Faith Battan, Barney Taxel,
Isaac, Amelia, Angela Hendricks, Karen Cogar,
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.
There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Online Giving:</th>
<th>Mobile Giving:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>oldstonechurch.org/giving/</td>
<td>Text the keyword “oldstonecle” to 73256</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mail to:</th>
<th>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.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Old Stone Church</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attn: Financial Office</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>91 Public Square</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland, OH 44113</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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  **E-Mail:** info@OldStoneChurch.org

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*

Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

Margaret Raupp, *alto*

Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

Frederick Peterbark, *tenor*

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

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 Rolen

Penni Rolen

**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.