The Old Stone Church

February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany with Communion

10 AM Sanctuary Worship

We Gather in the Grace of God

Prelude

Prelude in C Major

J. S. Bach

Welcome

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

Introit

I Will Worship the Lord

Rutter

I will worship the Lord all the days of my life;
I will tell of his glory and will show forth his praise;
I will sing and rejoice, for the Lord is my stronghold.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.
* CALL TO WORSHIP
We delight to draw near to you, gracious God.
We rejoice in the many gifts you have given us.
We lift up our hearts and voices in praise.
We humble ourselves before the God of all the worlds.
We gather to remember God’s commandments.
We seek for ourselves the wisdom God imparts.
The wisdom of God is not like any other.
It draws us away from the world’s agenda.
God sends us into the world with new priorities.
We are grounded in the Spirit that we might be discerning.
We are filled with the mind of Christ.
We are already citizens of God’s realm.

* INVOCATION PRAYER
May our voices rise like trumpets to greet you, holy God.
May our ears be attuned to know your ways.
May our hearts be steady, focused on you.
Praise be to you, O God, whom we worship with awe and delight.
Guide us, we pray, in this time of worship.
Touch us at the points of our deepest need.
Stir us amidst our entrenched complacency.
Make us strong to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thinks of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free.
Then your light will break forth like the dawn
and we will experience your healing care.
Amen.

* HYMN #395

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

LIEBSTER JESU

1 Blessed Jesus, at your word we have come a-
2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight lie in deep-est
3 Glor-ious Lord, your-self im-part, Light of Light, from

1 Blessed Jesus, at your word we have come a-
2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight lie in deep-est
3 Glor-ious Lord, your-self im-part, Light of Light, from
CALL TO CONFESSION

We have come together, not to be confirmed in our prejudices, but to be changed, not to be affirmed for our righteousness, but to uncover the immaturity of our faith that we might grow. Thus, we confess to God our failure to live by the best we know, and our limited response to the vision God sets before us. Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession, followed by time for personal silent confession.
* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O, God, you call out to us, saying, “Here I am,” but we do not listen.
You pour out on us spiritual gifts, but we do not discern them.
You call us to build a more just society but we cling to our advantages.
Forgive us, we pray, and help us to change.
Help us so to know and understand Jesus Christ
that we might reflect the God of glory in our daily living.
Create in us a generosity that reflects your own.
Pour out your spirit on this congregation that we might understand
and use it to build and repair and restore.

(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

What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor human heart conceived,
God has prepared for all who love God and are open to the Spirit’s revelations.
Let the yoke be removed from among us,
the pointing of the finger and evil speech,
that we may be about the work to which God calls us:
feeding the hungry, satisfying the needs of the afflicted,
and building foundations of faith for future generations.

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
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

How generous are the gifts of God,
poured out on us that we might know the joy of giving!
The psalmist reminds us
that it is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice and give to the poor.
Our offerings proclaim God’s will in word and deed.
I Lift Up My Eyes  
Wichman  

I lift up my eyes, I lift up my eyes to the hills.  
From whence does my help come?  
My help comes from the Lord who made Heav’n and Earth.  
He will not let your foot be moved,  
He who keeps you will not slumber.  
Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.  
The Lord is thy keeper; The Lord is your shade on your right hand.  
The sun shall not smite you by day, nor the moon by night.  
The Lord will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life.  
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.  
Forevermore.

* 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  
Mary Eifert  
Let us pray:  
Righteous God,  
accept our gifts of gratitude for the dawning awareness among us of your healing presence.  
You have satisfied our need in parched places and made our bones strong.  
Now we wish to offer to the world the amazing wonders we have experienced.  
Let our righteousness and generosity exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees.  
Fill us with yearning for the Spirit of Christ that we might become salt and light and be empowered for good works, to your honor and glory.  
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 Corinthians 2:1-16 (NRSV Updated Version)

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. But we speak God’s wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God’s Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else’s scrutiny.

“For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.
ANTHEM

Deep River

Deep River, My home is over Jordan.
Deep River Lord.
I want to cross over into campground.

Deep River. My home is over Jordan.
Deep River, Lord,
I want to cross over into campground

Oh, don't you want to go, To the Gospel feast.
That promised land, Where all, is peace.

Oh, deep River, Lord,
I want to cross over into campground.

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20 (NRSV Updated Version)

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled underfoot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“The Light of the World”
WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

* HOLY COMMUNION

* HYMN

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.

* INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The invitation is simple: come and eat of the feast.
Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul.

We receive the bread and the fruit of the vine connected to the ages:
to the saint of old who felt unworthy,
to the seeker eager to know God,
to the teenager who wonders what it’s all about,
to the child who eats with unburdened faith.

Woven into this time, the hopes and tears of generations.
There is great joy here.
No one is turned away for God is the host!

* HYMN

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes a guest

* PRAYER

God is in this place.

And in our hearts.

Open yourself to the nudging God.

We feel the breath of the Spirit.

Remember God made flesh.

Jesus, who taught us a new way.

(Allow silence to speak for a few moments.)

Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table,
to taste the feast,
the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith.

Time and time again you’ve offered your grace,
even as we have stepped away,
You continue to call us to be your people.
You have never left us.
We praise you for second, third, and fourth chances.
You are ever-patient, always faithful.
We give thanks for this time of celebration.  
For the One this meal remembers.  
For the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.  
With those who have gone before us,  
whose hands touched the bread,  
whose lips embraced the cup,  
We worship you.  
We glorify you.  
This is the mystery of our faith:

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

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.

* HYMN  
Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

* THE CALL  
Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:  
such a joy as none can move:  
such a love as none can part;  
such a heart as joys in love.

* THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE POURING OF THE CUP

Gathered with his friends, Jesus took bread, broke it and said:  
Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha’olam hamotzi lehem min ha’aretz.  
Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,  
who brings forth bread from the earth.  
“This is my body, broken for you. Take and eat.”

And pouring the fruit of the vine into the cup, he blessed it saying:  
Barukh ata 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 is my blood, spilled out for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”
* PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT
  Holy Spirit, send power upon these gifts, your bread and your cup.
  God of all, send your Spirit to this place
  so that those gathered here, in this sacred moment,
  may know your presence.
  As we eat the bread and drink of the cup,
  make us one with the saints,
  and with our sisters, siblings and brothers in faith around the world.
  Be with us God, not only here but in every moment of our lives.
  Help us
  To know you,
  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 hold onto the elements till all are served,
  that we might partake of them together.

* SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP
  The Body of Christ broken for you.
  The Blood of Christ shed for you.

* COMMUNION ANTHEM
  Ubi Caritas
  Ubi caritas amor, Deus ibiest. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
  Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur. Timeamus et amemus Deum vium.
  Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero, et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.
  Ubi caritas amor, Deus ibiest. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Amen

  Gjeilo
Creative, connecting God,
you have sent your Spirit and made us the body of Christ;
From child-like faith, to youthful energy,
from middle-aged mindfulness, to elder’s wisdom.
We thank you for this time, this remembrance.
Amen.
* HYMN # 733

We Are all One in Mission

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

1. We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
   our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.
   A single, great commission compels us from above
   to plan and work together that all may know Christ’s love.

2. We all are called for service to witness in God’s name.
   Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:
   So every folk and nation may feel God’s warm embrace.
   Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

3. Now let us be united and let our song be heard.
   Now let us be a vessel for God’s redeeming word.
   We all are one in mission; we all are one in call,
   so every folk and nation may feel God’s warm embrace.
* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

The wisdom of God empowers us to live wisely.

God’s generosity prompts us to be generous.

    We go forth to share what we have learned.
    We reach out to give as we have received.

The Spirit has touched our spirits and changed us.

Our spiritual awareness has been deepened.

    How amazing are the gifts of God to us!
    We cannot hide the light God entrusts to us.

God will guide us continually.

God will satisfy our thirst with living water.

    We cannot hold back our shouts of joy!
    We have received the Spirit that is from God.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

    God Be in My Head
    Rutter

    God be in my head and in my understanding.
    God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
    God be in my mouth and in my speaking.
    God be in mine heart and in my thinking.
    God be at my end and in my departing.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

    Prelude in A Minor
    J. S. Bach

“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:

Alan Gillespie, Lee Rutti, Bonnie Savage-Farinacci, Kai, Veronica, Bob and Gail Reid,
Rebecca Simmons and her family and the Daugherty family,
James Castrigano and family, the Brownfield family,
JoAnn Hood and family, the Jack Moreland family,
the Nkemere family, Mary and Earl Rolen

and we pray for our country, our city, and our leaders.

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.
Announcing the OSC Spring Cleveland Orchestra Concert

This is the “All Mozart” Concert
When: Sunday, April 23, 2023 @ 3:00 PM.
Where: Severance Music Center
11001 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland Ohio 44106
Phone: (216) 231-7300

Ticket price: $38.00/ticket. ORDERING DEADLINE - APRIL 1, 2023
A minimum attendance of ten individuals is required

Make Check to: The Old Stone Church.
In the memo line indicate: April 23 Concert

Concessions are available
Parking is available at the CWRU Lot 29
You may purchase pre-parking pass by calling: (216) 231-1111
News from Session

The Old Stone Church Annual Meeting Sunday, February 19, 2023
immediately after the worship service in the Sanctuary.

2023 Per Capita

For the year 2023, our per capita apportionment is $36.50 per member, of which $23.40 stays in our Presbytery, $3.25 goes on to the Synod and $9.85 is given to the General Assembly.

Old Stone is required to pay the per capita to the larger church. And it is included in the budget as an expense. But by making a contribution of $36.50, in addition to your regular giving, you will allow Old Stone to use its budget to fund other programs and missions.

So consider your per capita contribution as an opportunity to participate equally and interdependently in sharing the responsibilities of the larger work of the Presbyterian Church!
There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

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<th>Online Giving:</th>
<th>Mobile Giving:</th>
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<td>oldstonechurch.org/giving/</td>
<td>Text the keyword “oldstonecle” to 73256</td>
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<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>
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<td>Old Stone Church</td>
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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 E-Mail: info@OldStoneChurch.org
Music copied under ccli#1638695

Senior Pastor: Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

Guest Organist: Jason Lorenzon

The Old Stone Singers
Leah Jennings Brown, soprano
Cicely Schonberg, soprano
Val Sibila, soprano
Rayna Brooks, alto
McKenna Jones, alto
Emma Nossem, alto
Ian Atwood, tenor
Frederick Peterbark, tenor
Andrew J. Schoenhofer, tenor
R. Dominic Aragon, bass
Joseph K. Breslau, bass
Seth Hobi, bass

Church Elders:
Clerk of Session: Beth Buchanan

Class of 2024
Michelle Baron
Beth Buchanan
Robert Hubert Jr.
Judy Macuga
Harriet Niles
Lee Ann Rader
Marty Vassel
John Young

Class of 2025
Kara Bane
Willie Brown
Janie Chambers
Dave Finley
Fred Heider
Bernard Medie
Bob Reid

Church Deacons:

Class of 2024
Melissa Maffia
Pete Maffia
Mary Mikula
Alyssa Niepokny
Michael Rolen
Penni Rolen

Class of 2025
Scott Bailey
Bernie Bischel
Carol Hoagland
Elie Medie
Mark Pichler
Amy Wheeler
John Wheeler