

The Old Stone Church

FEBRUARY 12, 2023 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

ldyll

Bales

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT

The Call

Alexander Brent-Smith

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!

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 his guest.

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.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

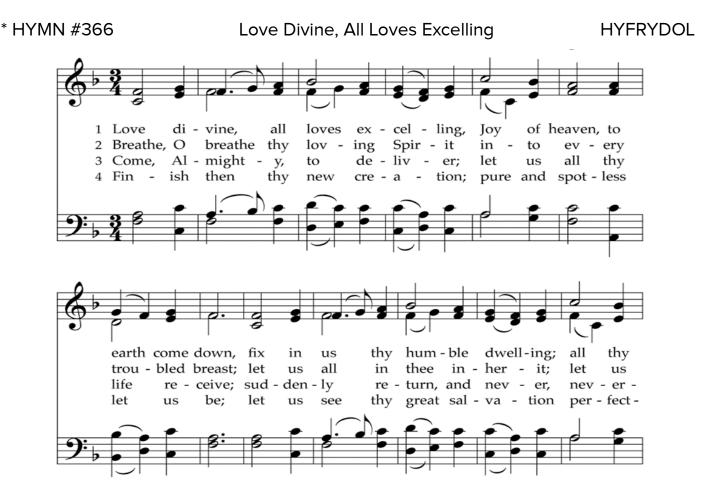
Happy are those who seek God with their whole heart. Their eyes are fixed on all that God commands.

We have come to reflect together on God's law. It is hard to hear, in other places, what God expects. Ready yourselves to receive all that God supplies. Attune your hearts to God's promises and warnings. We expect to be challenged as well as encouraged. We know that our ways are not God's ways. God gives us choices that result in life or death. We can obey or reject the way of life God intends for us. We seek to know and follow the way of life. We want to live according to promises we have made.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

We come to you, gracious God,

as people of flesh whose spirits are underdeveloped and undisciplined. We make decisions without giving consideration to your will for us. We pursue desires that divert our attention away from your call to us. We make gods of our possessions, our work, our hobbies, even our families. We need to experience your presence and power to bring us to obedience. Make yourself known to us, we pray. Amen.





* CALL TO CONFESSION

Alyssa Niepokny

The apostle Paul confronted the church at Corinth with their jealousy and quarreling. Jesus preached about anger, dishonesty, and estrangement in ways that called for radical reconciliation. Everything that strains our relationship with others also distances us from God. Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession, followed by time for personal silent confession.

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O, God, you know the pain of all our broken relationships. Some we have tried to mend, and others we have tried to ignore. We feel your judgment on our estrangements. Hear us as, in silence, we remember them before you. O God, we ask for courage to admit our mistakes and overcome them. Show us what we can do to right the wrongs for which we are responsible, and forgive, we pray, what cannot be changed. Empower us as reconcilers and servants of your way. (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 wants to forgive us, but there is no cheap grace for those of us unwilling to change. To all who seek to give up jealousy, insults, anger, quarreling, adultery, self-centered pride, God offers a new life. There is solid food to nurture us in new ways. God draws us into the community of forgiven and forgiving sinners, in which we support and help one another. 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.

Our spending priorities measure our loyalties. They reveal who or what is really our God. In the church, we return to God a portion of all that God entrusts to our stewardship. Our giving is not to support a budget but to give thanks to God. How thankful are we?

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Let All The World

Kenneth Leighton

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing, "My God and King!" The heav'ns are not too high, God's praise may thither fly; the earth is not too low, God's praises there may grow. Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing, "My God and King!"

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing, "My God and King!" The church with psalms must shout: no door can keep them out. But, more than all, the heart must bear the longest part. Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing, "My God and King!"

* 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 (Please be seated.)

Alyssa Niepokny

Let us pray:

Faithful God,

we give in gratitude for your abundant gifts to us.

You have not forsaken us when we were unfaithful.

You have not abandoned us to hells of our own making.

You keep calling to us when we pursue other gods.

As we offer our tokens of thanks today,

we hear you sending us out to mend broken relationships.

Our offering is not a substitute for our own engagement in your reconciling work. Go with us to help us as we accept assignments you give us. 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

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (NRSV Updated Version)

"See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Give Me Jesus

Moses Hogan

I heard my mother say, I heard my mother say, "Give me Jesus." Give me Jesus, Give me Jesus, You may have all this world, Give me Jesus. Dark midnight was my cry, Dark midnight was my cry, "Give me Jesus." Give me Jesus, Give me Jesus, you may have all this world, Give me Jesus. Oh, when I die, Oh, when I die, Oh when I die, Give me Jesus. Give me Jesus, Give me Jesus, You may have all this world, Give me Jesus, Give me Jesus, You may have all this world, Give me Jesus, Give me Jesus, You may have all this world, Give me Jesus, You may have all this world, Give me Jesus,

Gospel

Matthew 5:21-37 (NRSV Updated Version)

"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder,' and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment, and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council, and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

DETROIT

CM

"Blessings and Curses—Choose Life"

* HYMN #444 Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive DETROIT Capo 5: (Am) (C) (Em) (Dm) (Am)(Am)Dm Gm Dm F Dm Am for - give," you taught us, Lord, to "For - give our sins 1 as we pray, How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for-giv - ing heart 2 blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew: In 3 Lord, cleanse the depths with-in our souls and bid 4 re-sent-ment cease. (F) (Em) (C) (Dm) (Em)(Am)Вþ F Am Gm Am Dm you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we but say. that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part? what triv - ial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to vou! your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace. Then, by Few petitions of the Lord's Prayer are as difficult to pray as this one, and we would not dare to pray it if we had to depend on ourselves rather than the example of forgiveness we are given in Jesus Christ. The shape

note tune sets these words with appropriate spareness.

TEXT: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1969, 1983, alt.

MUSIC: Supplement to Kentucky Harmony, 1820; harm. Margaret W. Mealy, 1985

Text © 1969, 1983 Rosamond E. Herklots Music Harm. © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

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



(D) F	(G) B♭	(F#7) A7	(Bm) Dm	Refrai (Em) Gm	n (Bm) Dm
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love one share bring house		faith feast fear		sus: us: all ger:	are wel-come;
(F [#] m)	(Em)	(D)		(Em) (A7)	(D) (G) (D)
^ ^{Am}	Gm	F		Gm C7	F B♭ F
				0 0	0
all	are wel-come;	all a	are wel-come	in this	place.

* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

Go out as people confronted by the living God.

Dare to be reconcilers, recognizing your own need.

God sends us out to mend broken relationships.

May we do no wrong, and walk in God's ways.

Choose life, by loving and obeying God.

Seek daily to partake of spiritual food.

We will study to know what God expects of us.

May we learn and keep God's righteous ordinances. God will bless those who walk in Christ's way.

Beloved, you will be strengthened to keep your vows.

We will praise God with upright hearts.

May our ways become steadfast in doing good.

* CHORAL RESPONSE	God Be in My Head	John 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	Dance	Bales

"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:

Bruce Arnoff, Bill Cairns, Alan Gillespie, Lee Rutti, Bonnie Savage-Farinacci, Dwyane, 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 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.



Lent @ The Old Stone Church

Ash Wednesday Service on February 22, 2023 will be at 12:15 PM in the Sanctuary.

A Lenten Daily Devotional based on the Psalms will be available next Sunday.

The Welcoming and Fellowship Committee will have wooden crosses to decorate in preparation for Easter starting in Lent.

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

Elders and Deacons Retreat Saturday February 18, 2023 11AM - 4PM

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

Session Meeting Tuesday February 28, 2023 6:30PM - 8PM

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!

Offering Envelopes Are Here

If you requested Offering Envelopes for your Pledge this year you may pick them up from the table outside of the Chapel.

If you would like envelopes, please put your name on the signup sheet and we will get them for you.

There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

Online Giving:	Mobile Giving:
oldstonechurch.org/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 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* lan 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

<u>Class of 2023</u> Beth Buchanan Robert Hubert Jr. Judy Macuga Harriet Niles Lee Ann Rader Marty Vassel John Young <u>Class of 2024</u> Michelle Baron Janie Chambers Fred Heider Bernard Medie Bob Reid <u>Class of 2025</u> Kara Bane Willie Brown Dave Finley

Church Deacons:

<u>Class of 2023</u> Melissa Maffia Pete Maffia Mary Mikula Michael Rolen Penni Rolen Alyssa Niepokny <u>Class of 2024</u> Scott Bailey Bernie Bischel Carol Hoagland Amy Wheeler John Wheeler <u>Class of 2025</u> Elie Medie Mark Pichler