



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

FEBRUARY 19, 2023
TRANFIGURATION OF THE LORD

10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE *Trumpet Voluntary in D Major* J. Clarke

WELCOME Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT *Sing, O Sing, This Wonderful Morn* D. Wagner

O, sing, O sing, this wonderful morn.
Our highest praises now we bring.
To Christ the morning light we sing.
Alleluia!

* CALL TO WORSHIP

The coming of a new day calls us to anticipate God's dawn.
The day of God's dawning is like a morning star rising.

The light of God is like a devouring fire.

God's brightness is too intense for our gaze.

Come up to the mountain of God's presence.

Wait for God to reveal divine intentions for us.

We are eyewitnesses to God's majesty.

We have sensed God's presence in stories of Jesus.

Look up and do not be afraid.

Jesus, whom you seek, is transfigured before you.

We will serve our God with awe and wonder.

Happy are those whose refuge is in God.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Amazing God,

as leaders of old sought high places of encounter with you,

lift us up above the fogs of our technology and theology

that we might meet you in this hour.

If you have instructions for us, we want to hear them.

If our lives need a change of direction, turn us around.

If there is a prophecy we have ignored, reveal to us its meaning for us.

If the Scriptures hold truth we have overlooked,

awaken our attention and grant us courage

to respond in new and positive ways.

Amen.

* HYMN #191

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

BREWER



1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and
2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows; splen - dor bathes the
3 Strength - ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our



ho - ly place, where we wait with hope and long - ing
flesh - joined Word; Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel
faith de - cline, we like Pe - ter find it tempt - ing



for some to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -
as the heaven-ly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with
to re - main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us



sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, search - ing like those
won - der how the law and proph-ets meet: Christ, with gar-ments
cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, that our dai - ly



first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
drenched in bright-ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Through this Transfiguration hymn runs an implicit comparison between the attitudes and assumptions of the three disciples on that mountain and the expectations of present-day Christians as they gather for worship. This event is reported in Matthew 17:1-9/Mark 9:2-9/Luke 9:28-36.

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1988, alt.
MUSIC: David Ashley White, 1991
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BREWER
8.7.8.7.D

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Dave Eifert

Day after day we are surrounded by the majesty of God,
yet our eyes do not see nor our thoughts comprehend
the wonders of creation or the gift of transcendence.
God calls us to be eyewitnesses of good news,
to believe what we have eyes to see
and to trust in the One beyond our knowing.
Let us come to God, confessing our need.
Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
followed by time for personal silent confession.

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of dazzling splendor,
we confess that we have lived in a cloud,
hiding from your glory and pretending not to notice
the wonders of your majesty.
The mystery of life eludes us
because we take for granted what seems commonplace
and refuse to deal with matters beyond our understanding.
We have tried to put our religion in a compartment
separate from the rest of life.
We have not thought to serve you in everyday encounters.
Shake our complacency, we pray,
and awaken us to new life in all its fullness.
(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

Happy are those who take refuge in God.
We are accepted as God's own children.
To us, the Holy Spirit comes as a gift,
interpreting to us the truth of the Scriptures.
Do not be afraid of the vision God sets before us.
A new day is dawning among us as we become aware that God is with us.
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.

As we encounter the mystery of God's revelation,
we approach the season of Lent with its opportunities for reflection
and waiting on God for forty days and forty nights.
Our church seeks to strengthen its ministry,
not only among those already committed to the journey with Christ,
but to our neighbors and friends.
Our giving is a symbol of our willingness to invest our time and best efforts to
bring God's vision for humanity to life.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Beautiful Savior

F.M. Christiansen

Fair are the meadows, fairer the woodlands. Robed in flowers of blooming Spring.
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer. He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations. Son of God and Son of man.
Glory and honor, praise, adoration. Now and forever more by Thine!

* 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.)*

Dave Eifert

Let us pray:

God of clouds and devouring fire,
we are amazed by the experiences of Moses and the disciples of Jesus.
They point us beyond our everyday attempts to be faithful to you.
Enrich our lives in the season we are entering,
that we may see the lamp of your love shining amid the shadows.
Let your new day dawn among us as we invest ourselves
in your purposes for humanity.
May we sense the morning star rising in our hearts,
giving hope to a world reclaiming the values of your reign among 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

Exodus 24:12-18 (NRSV Updated Version)

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Down to the River to Pray

Curry

*As I went down to the river to pray
studying about that good old way
and who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord, show me the way.*

*O sisters, let's go down, come one down.
O sisters, let's go down,
down to the river to pray.*

*O fathers, let's go down, come on down
O fathers, let's go down,
down to the river to pray*

*O brothers, let's go down, come one down.
O brothers, let's go down,
down to the river to pray*

*O mothers, let's go down, come on down
Come on mothers, let's go down,
down to the river to pray.*

*O sinners, let's go down, come on down.
O sinners, let's go down, down to the river to pray*

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9 (NRSV Updated Version)

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light.

Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said,

"This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"

When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid."

And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

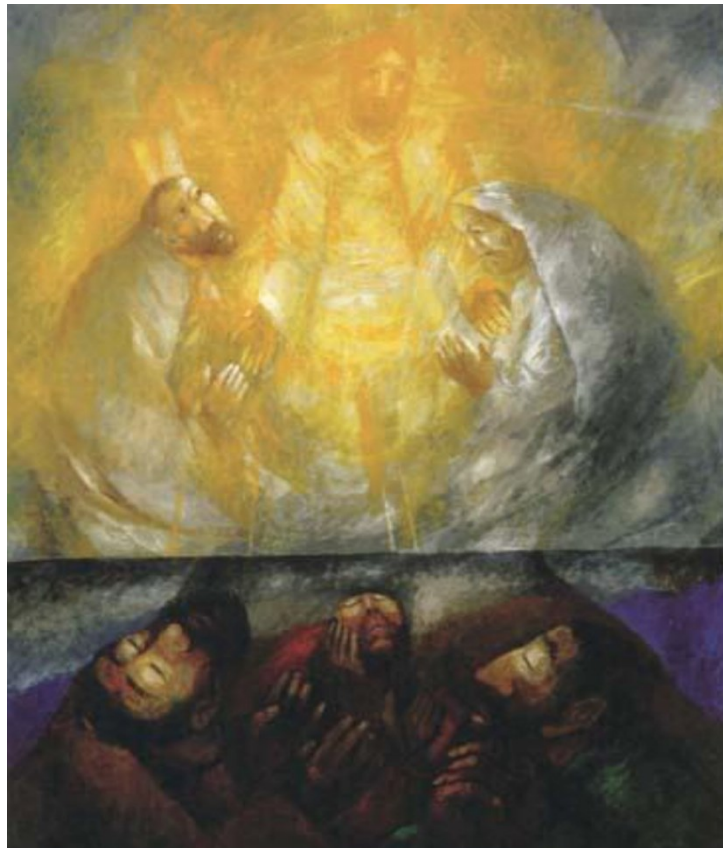
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

"Look up, and do not be afraid."



1 Sing of God made man - i - fest in a child ro - bust and blest,
 2 Sing of God made man - i - fest when at Jor - dan John con - fessed,
 3 Sing of God made man - i - fest when Christ came as wed - ding guest
 4 Sing of God made man - i - fest on the cloud - capped moun - tain's crest,

to whose home in Beth - le - hem where a star had guid - ed them,
 "I should be bap - tized by you, but your bid - ding I will do."
 and at Ca - na gave a sign, turn - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 where the law and proph - ets waned so that Christ a - lone re - mained:

ma - gi came and gifts un - bound, signs mys - te - rious and pro - found:
 Then from heaven a dou - ble sign—dove - like Spir - it, voice di - vine—
 fur - ther still was love re - vealed as he taught, for - gave, and healed,
 glimpse of glo - ry, pledge of grace, given as Je - sus set his face

myrrh and frank - in - cense and gold grave and God and king fore - told.
 hailed the true A - noint - ed One: "This is my be - lov - ed Son."
 bring - ing light and life to all who would lis - ten to God's call.
 towards the wait - ing cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

"Epiphany" means "manifestation" or "showing forth," and this text cites key disclosures of Jesus as Messiah: the coming of the Magi, his baptism by John the Baptist, the wedding at Cana. All are summed up in the Transfiguration, recalled on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany.

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 #662

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

RATISBON

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies; Christ, the true, the on - ly light;
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa-nied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Sun of Righ-teous-ness, a - rise; tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
joy - less is the day's re - turn till thy mer-cy's beams I see;
fill me, ra - dian - cy di-vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;
Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

This well-crafted morning hymn opens by celebrating daylight as an image of Christ, the true Light, then ponders life without light, and culminates in a prayer for inward light. The tune's name honors its German roots: Ratisbon is the former English name for Regensburg.

* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

We have been to the mountaintop with Moses.

We know that God's established order brings life.

God is our refuge and our inspiration.

Prayer empowers our thinking and our doing.

We have caught the vision of the disciples.

We will know life abundant as followers of Jesus.

Christ expands our horizon day by day.

We are amazed at the possibilities Christ offers.

Days of waiting and watching bring revelation.

Times of loving service bring fulfillment and joy.

The Spirit sends us into the world to serve.

We share the message: We are beloved by God.

* 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

Fanfares

J. 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:

Margaret Bell, Becky Carpenter, Alan Gillespie, Marilyn Graham , 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

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

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News from Session

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

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

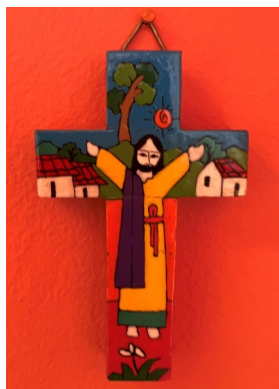
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Offering Envelopes Are Here

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.

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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 today near the Chapel Doors.

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

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

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 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