



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

MARCH 5, 2023

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT WITH COMMUNION

10 AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

The New Commonwealth

R. Vaughan Williams

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT

Ave Verum Corpus

Elgar

Ave verum corpus natum ex Maria Virgine,
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine,
cujus latus perforatum vero fluxit et sanguine,
esto nobis praegustatum mortis in examine.
O clemens, O pie, O dulcis Jesu, Fili Mariae.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, where do we put our trust?
Where do we find wholeness and meaning?

We lift our eyes to the hills.

Our help comes from the Creator of heaven and earth.

We are sons and daughters of Abraham and Sarah.

We trust in God, who neither slumbers nor sleeps.

We are followers of Jesus, who proclaimed God's realm.

We are born of the Spirit, born from above.

Our lives are a gift from God, who loves us.

By the grace of God, we are born anew each day.

God loved the world in the gift of Jesus Christ.

Through faith in Christ, we receive eternal life.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let the winds of the Spirit blow in our midst today, loving God.

Let us hear the sound and feel the power.

Open our hearts in new ways to the promise of your healing grace
so we may be a blessing to one another and to your world.

We need courage to face the challenges and struggles of life.

We seek reassurance that you will be with us

in our going out and our coming in.

Strengthen our faith to withstand the trials and temptations
that lead us away from a faithful journey with Christ.

Amen.

* HYMN #14

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

TEXT: Folliott Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt.

MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

DIX

7.7.7.7.7.7

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Jo'Anna Thomson

Spiritual ancestors, like Abraham,
sensed God's call to leave behind the security of the familiar
to venture forward to new places God would show them.
Others, like Nicodemus, were astonished by Jesus' call to rebirth in the Spirit.
Reminded that both calls come also to us,
we bow before God to confess our unfaithfulness.
Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
followed by time for personal silent confession.

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God,
we confess that we have been far more ready to say we believe
than to trust you to lead us to new ventures of faithfulness.
We are afraid of the evil that surrounds us.
We fear rejection, failure, and ridicule.
We admire Jesus, but it is difficult to follow in footsteps that lead to a cross.
In the midst of life as we know it here,
how can we catch a glimpse of eternity?
Save us, we pray, from our timidity,
and use our doubts as an entry to deeper faith.
(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

Our lives are in God's hands.
We can only glimpse the mystery of the Source of love,
"who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist."
Yet, as we look up in trust,
there comes to us an abiding assurance that we are not alone.
Receive, with humility and joy, the rebirth God offers this day and for all eternity.
Thanks be to God.

* 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.
The faith that sustains us is not a commodity to be hoarded and protected.
Rather, faith is an active, dynamic relationship which God calls us to share
with one another, not just in the church, but with everyone.
Our offerings make possible faithful ministries within the church
and our outreach in the world.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

God So Loved the World

Stainer

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,
That whosoever believeth in Him should not perish,
But have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world,
But that the world through Him might be saved.

* 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

Jo'Anna Thomson

Let us pray together:

Thank you, God,
for glimpses of eternity in the daily experiences of life.
We are grateful for encounters that lift the horizons of our vision.
We rejoice in the teaching and care you have provided us.
Bless now the gifts we return to you
for the programs and outreach of the church.
We want to share our faith with the world.
We pray for trustful relationships among all your children.
We rejoice together in the saving ministry of Jesus
that inspires us to give our best.
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

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 (The Inclusive Bible)

What will we say about Sarah and Abraham, our ancestors according to the flesh? Certainly if they were justified by their deeds they had grounds for boasting—but not in God’s view. For what does scripture say? “Sarah and Abraham believed God, and it was credited to them as righteousness.” Now, when a person works, the wages are regarded not as a favor, but as what is due. But when people do nothing but believe in the One who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness. The promise made to Sarah and Abraham and their descendants—that they would inherit the world— did not depend on the Law; it was made in view of the righteousness that comes from faith. For if those that live by the Law are heirs, then faith is pointless and the promise is worthless. The Law forever holds the potential for punishment. Only when there is no Law can there be no violation. Hence everything depends on faith; everything is grace. Thus the promise holds true for all of Sarah’s and Abraham’s descendants, not only for those who have the Law, but for all who have their faith. They are the mother and father of us all, which is why the scripture says, “I will make you the parents of many nations”—all of which is done in the sight of the God in whom they believed, the God who restores the dead to life and calls into being things that don’t exist.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121 (*The Congregation joins in the response.*)

Our help is from the Lord, who made heav - en and earth.

Capo 4: (C) E (Dm/C) F#m/E (Fmaj7) Amaj7 (G) B (C) E

I lift up my eyes toward the mountains; whence shall help come to me?
My help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

May he not suffer your foot to slip; may he slumber not who guards you;
Indeed he neither slumbers nor sleeps, the guardian of Israel.

The Lord is your guardian; the Lord is your shade; he is beside you at your right hand.
The sun shall not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will guard you from all evil; he will guard your life.
The Lord will guard your coming and your going, both now and forever.

A certain Pharisee named Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin, came to Jesus at night. "Rabbi, he said, we know that you're a teacher come from God, for no one can perform the signs and wonders you do, unless by the power of God." Jesus gave Nicodemus this answer: "The truth of the matter is, unless one is born from above, one cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said, "How can an adult be born a second time? I can't go into my mother's womb to be born again!" Jesus replied: "The truth of the matter is, no one can enter God's kingdom without being born of water and the Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh; and what is born of the Spirit is Spirit. So don't be surprised when I tell you that you must be born from above. The wind blows where it will. You hear the sound it makes, but you don't know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." "How can this be possible?" asked Nicodemus. Jesus replied, "You're a teacher of Israel, and you still don't understand these matters?" "The truth of the matter is, we're talking about what we know; we're testifying about what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. I have told you about what we've seen—yet you don't accept our testimony. If you don't believe when I tell you about earthly things, how will you believe when I tell you about heavenly things? No one has gone up to heaven except the One who came down from heaven—the Chosen One. As Moses lifted up the serpent in the dessert, so the Chosen One must be lifted up, so that whoever believes in the Chosen One might have eternal life.

"Yes, God so loved the world as to give the Only Begotten One, that whoever believes may not die, but have eternal life.

"God sent the Only Begotten into the world not to condemn the world, but that through the Only Begotten the world might be saved.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

"Born of Love."

WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

* HOLY COMMUNION

* HYMN #440 Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past.
Safe into the haven guide. O receive my soul at last!

* 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 #440 Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee.
Leave, ah! leave me not alone; still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed; all my help from thee I bring.
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

* 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 #440

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin.
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art; freely let me take of thee.
Spring thou up within my heart. Rise to all eternity.

* 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 melek 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 melek 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

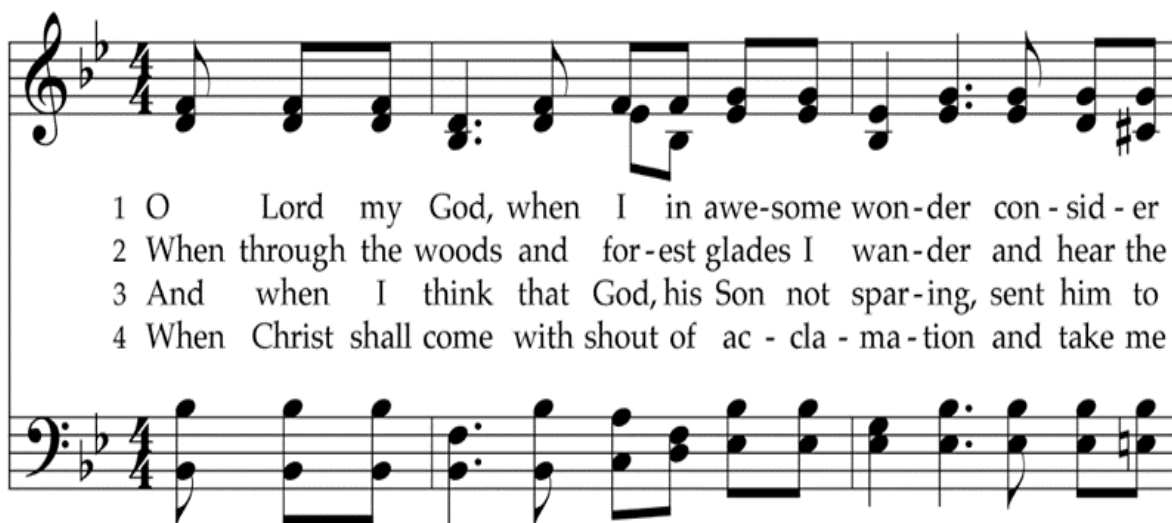
Gjeilo

Ubi Caritas et amor Deus ibi est
Congregavit nos in unum Christ amor.
Ubi Caritas et amor Deus ibi est
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur
Timeamus et amemus deum vivum
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur
Timeamus et amemus deum vivum Teum vivum
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero
Et excore diligamus nos sincero
Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor
Amen

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

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.





1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der and hear the
3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion and take me



all the *worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees, when I look down from
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then *I shall bow in



hear the *roll-ing thun-der, thy power through-out the
loft-y moun-tain gran-deur and hear the brook and
bur-den glad-ly bear-ing, he bled and died to
hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion, and there pro-claim, "My

Refrain



u - ni - verse dis - played:
feel the gen - tle breeze: Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to
take a - way my sin:
God, how great thou art!"



thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my



Sav - ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!



* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

We rejoice that God has gathered us for worship.

Now we depart to see where God sends us.

We are God's messengers wherever we go.

We are called to be Christian in all our dealings.

In our work and in our leisure, may we serve faithfully.

By God's grace, we are empowered to do so.

Winds of the Spirit will daily refresh us.

Faith finds new birth in us every day.

God promises to be our helper whenever we call.

God's love surrounds us even when we do not ask for it.

With joy, we will go where God sends us.

With confidence, we will share our faith with others.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Ninefold Amen

Laurie

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Fanfare

N. J. Lemmens

*"My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."*

Psalms 73:26



We continue to keep in our prayers:

Jean English, Bruce Arnoff, Becky Carpenter, Marilyn Graham,
Lee Rutti, Bonnie Savage-Farinacci, Greg, Bob and Gail Reid,
Jackie Cole and family, the Griebel family,

We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, homebound or in need.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Bill Cole,
may his memory be a blessing.

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



Lent @ The Old Stone Church

A Lenten Daily Devotional based on the Psalms
is available today near the Chapel and Public Square Doors.

The Welcoming and Fellowship Committee will have
wooden crosses to decorate in preparation for Easter
at a table near the Chapel doors.

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.

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: David Dettloff

The Old Stone Singers

Leah Jennings Brown, *soprano*

Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*

Frederick Peterbark, *tenor*

Andrew J. Schoenhofer, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

McKenna Jones, *alto*

Emma Nossem, *alto*

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 Rolen
Penni Rolen
Alyssa Niepokny

Class of 2024
Scott Bailey
Bernie Bischel
Carol Hoagland
Amy Wheeler
John Wheeler

Class of 2025
Elie Medie
Mark Pichler