



YEAR A

Sixth Sunday in Easter

THE OLD STONE CHURCH

MAY 14, 2023

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Kara Bane

NAMI OSC Partnership

INTROIT

Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord! (Louez le Seigneur!)

Arr. Ralph M. Johnson

Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's holy name, Alleluia!
Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's holy name, Alleluia!
Praise God's holy name, Alleluia! Praise God's holy name, Alleluia!
Praise God's holy name, Alleluia! Praise God's holy name, Alleluia!
Alleluia!

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

The God of heaven and earth calls us together.
We come to explore matters of the spirit.

There is so much we do not know or understand.

So much of God is unknown to us.

Let us look carefully at the objects of our worship.

Our attention is easily diverted from God.

We want to worship the One who gives us breath.

We reach for the Reality beyond our understanding.

In God we live and move and have our being.

All that we have and are comes from God.

God is not limited to shrines made by us.

God is everywhere present in the whole universe.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let the sound of praising you be heard among us today,
and in all the places of your dominion.

O God. We believe you are present with us

even when we cannot feel or see or hear you as we would like.

We thank you for the times when you have caught our attention.

We ask for one of those times today.

Shake us out of our complacency and our cherished iniquities.

Hold us in your steadfast love

and call forth within us an awareness of all your blessings.

Stimulate among us an eagerness to live as you intended.

Amen.

* HYMN #282

Come Down, O Love Divine

DOWN AMPNEY

1 Come down, O Love Di - vine; seek out this soul of mine,
2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with your own ar - dor glow - ing.
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing.
shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Come Down, O Love Divine". It is written for three voices (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) and piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the remaining lines. The lyrics are written below the vocal staves, and the piano accompaniment is written on the bottom staff of each system.

O Com-fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear,
And let your glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
For none can guess God's grace, till Love cre - ates a place

and kin - dle it, your ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

This *lauda spirituale*, a kind of vernacular Italian sacred song from the late Middle Ages and Renaissance, was translated into English in the 19th century but received little notice until this tune (named for the composer's birthplace) was created for *The English Hymnal*.

TEXT: Bianco da Siena, c. 1367; trans. Richard Frederick Littledale, 1867, alt.
MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

DOWN AMPNEY
6.6.11.D

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Cheryl Cairns

We have been baptized and claimed in the name of Jesus Christ
for a lifetime of service.
Yet we are often intimidated by our fears and seduced by our fantasies.
We worship autonomy and deny community.
We ignore the commandments God has given us.
We need to face our guilt. God demands our repentance.
Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
followed by time for personal silent confession.

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Cheryl Cairns

O God,
we confess that we have loved our own way more than we love you.
The Spirit of truth does not abide in us,
for our actions belie the words of praise we utter in worship.
We neglect the spiritual disciplines that would draw us close to you
and the caring outreach that would link us with sisters and brothers
who need to know of your love.
We have not witnessed to our faith in ways
powerful enough to evoke opposition or cause us to suffer.
O God, it is hard to follow Jesus!
Forgive us, teach us, help us!

(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

Cheryl Cairns

You are not left to struggle alone.
You have an Advocate who is always with you.
You are not rejected.
God hears your prayers and offers you steadfast love in all circumstances.
Do not be afraid to hope, and to share that hope with others around you.
Claim God's gifts of reverence and gentleness as you testify to the resurrection.
Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?
Alleluia and Amen!

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Cheryl Cairns

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 spiritual ancestors brought sacrifices as offerings to God.
We are invited to join them in bringing our best
to proclaim God's rule over all things.
God claims our labors and the fruit of our labors.
In response we offer them gladly.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

At The River

Aaron Copland

Shall we gather by the river, Where bright angels' feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever Flowing by the throne of God.

Yes, we'll gather by the river, The beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river That flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river, Soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver With the melody of peace.

Yes we'll gather by the river, The beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints by the river, That flows by the throne of God,
That flows by the throne of God.

* 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

Cheryl Cairns

Let us join our voices in prayer:

May all that we give today be used to express your love among us
and beyond us, God of all people.

We are thankful for your gift to us in Christ Jesus,
who was so committed to sharing your love
that he risked rejection and death.

We are grateful that even though his suffering resulted in death in the flesh
you made him alive in the spirit.

May Christ live today in us, in our caring, in our giving,
in our speaking, in our doing.

We rededicate ourselves to your service.
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

Acts of the Apostles

Acts 17:22-31 (NRSVUE)

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, God who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is God served by human hands, as though God needed anything, since God Godself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor God made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and God allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for God and find God—though indeed God is not far from each one of us. For 'In God we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we, too, are his offspring.'

"Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now God commands all people everywhere to repent, because God has fixed a day on which God will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom God has appointed, and of this God has given assurance to all by raising Christ Jesus from the dead."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 66 (*Congregation joins in the response.*)

The musical score is for a 3/4 time signature. The top staff is a single melodic line with lyrics: "Let all the earth cry out to God with joy." The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with two staves (treble and bass clef). Above the piano staff, the following chords are indicated: C, F/C, G/C, F/C, Dm7/G, and C. The piano part features a steady bass line and a treble line with chords and single notes.

Shout joyfully to God, all the earth, sing praise to the glory of his name;
proclaim his glorious praise. Say to God, "How tremendous are your deeds!

Let all on earth worship and sing praise to you, sing praise to your name!"
Come and see the works of God, his tremendous deeds among the children of Adam.

He has changed the sea into dry land; through the river they passed on foot;
therefore let us rejoice in him. He rules by his might forever.

Hear now, all who fear God while I declare what he has done for me.
Blessed be God who refused me not my prayer or his kindness!

Gospel

John 14:15-21 (NRSVUE)

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask Abba God, and God will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees the Spirit nor knows the Spirit. You know the Spirit because the Spirit abides with you, and the Spirit will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in God, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by Abba God, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

"In God we live and move and have our being"

* THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,

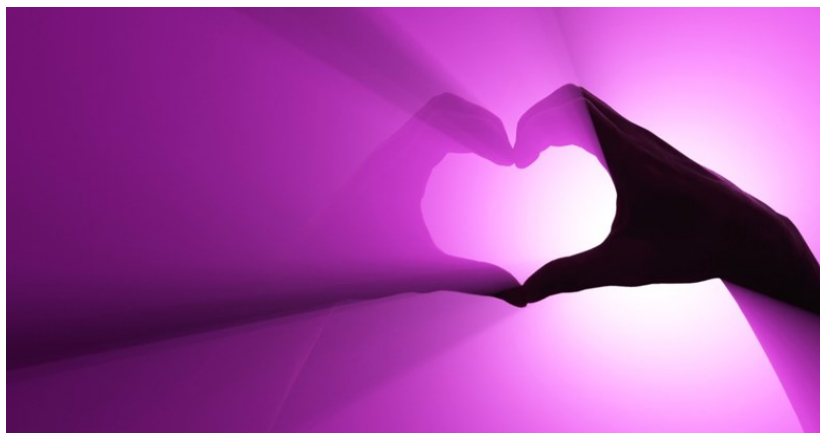
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead,

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

* 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

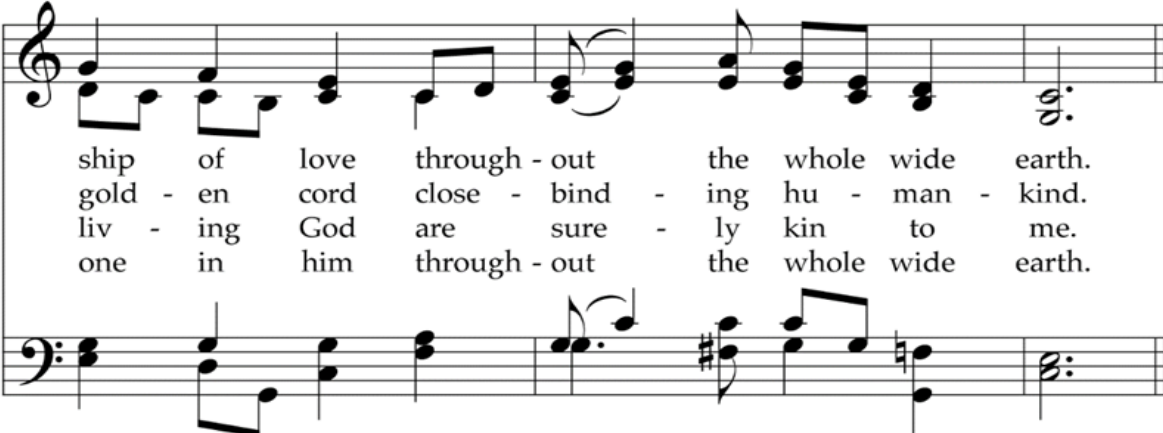




1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com -
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet



south or north, but one great fel - low -
 mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 race may be. All chil - dren of the
 south and north. All Christ - ly souls are



ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

This setting expands and enhances the thematic inclusiveness of an early 20th-century text by adapting the melody of a traditional spiritual to carry these words. This 1940 pairing marked the first use of African American musical material in a mainline North American hymnal.

BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

God has listened to our prayers and abides with us.

God's blessing rests on us as we scatter to serve.

The Spirit lives within us and among us.

We seek to live as resurrection people.

Daily, God will add to your understanding if you ask.

Do not fear to seek after the truth God will reveal.

Everyday can be an adventure in faith.

All our encounters can link us more closely with God.

Our Creator draws us into community.

Our spiritual journey is linked to others' stories.

Together we will seek to know God more fully.

We will remember one another in prayer.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Guide My Feet

Arr. Avis D. Graves

Guide my feet while I run this race. Guide my feet while I run this race.

Guide my feet while I run this race. 'cause I don't want to run this race in vain.

Lord, guide my feet, direct my path, and keep my way. Can't make a step without you.

I don't want to run this race in vain.

POSTLUDE

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

Psalms 73:26



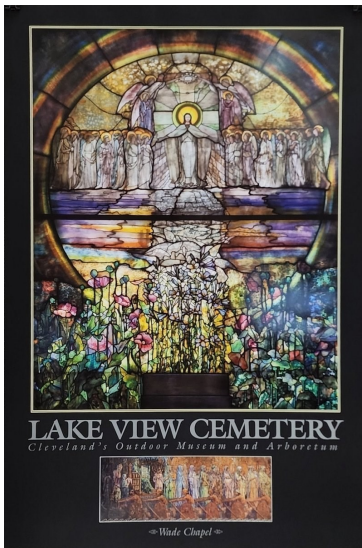
We continue to keep in our prayers:

Lindsay Fritz and baby Evie, Michelle Baron, Chris Bryan, Joe Geraci, Zach Beaver, Holly Hubert, Jesse Park, Thomas Kilbane, Jean English, Bruce Arnoff, Margaret Bell, Pam Woody, Cindy Case and family, the Miskovic family, Covenant Presbyterian Church in Butler, PA.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Bob Case,
may his memory be a blessing.

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.



Join OSC for a tour of Lake View Cemetery

Largely regarded as a crown jewel of Cleveland,
 join Old Stone Church for a walking tour of
 Lake View Cemetery
 on Saturday, May 20th at 10:00 AM
 The tour will last between 1.5 and 2 hours and is being
 presented to OSC members as part of the
 Welcoming & Fellowship Committee.
 For more information and to reserve your spot,
 please email Lee Ann Rader at
rader.leeann@yahoo.com

National Mental Health Awareness Month

May is National Mental Health Awareness Month and the
 Mission and Urban Wellness Committee
 is planning on having a Minute for Mission each Sunday in May
 to address The Old Stone Church's support of mental health issues.

The Mission and Urban Wellness Committee has supported
 NAMI's Walk for Awareness at the Platinum level.

Last Sunday Attendance

In-Person: 75

Online: 206

May 14-May 30

Sun May 14 8:30am - 9:30am Choir Rehearsal
 10:00am - 11:00am Worship/Mother's Day
 1:00pm - 4:00pm Guardians/Angels
 Tues May 16 10:00am - 11:30am Staff Meeting
 Thu May 18 Ascension Day
 7:00pm - 9:00pm FPS Director's Meeting/Conference Room
 Sat May 20 Cleveland Marathon
 Sun May 21 Cleveland Marathon
 8:30am - 9:30am Choir Rehearsal
 10:00am - 11:00am Worship/In Person
 Mon May 22 6:30pm - 8:00pm Stated Meeting of the PWR/ZOOM
 Tue May 23 10:00am - 11:30am Staff Meeting
 Thu May 25 10:00am - 12:00pm Jayne Z. Senior Citizen of the Year Luncheon
 Sun May 28 8:30am - 9:30am Choir Rehearsal
 10:00am - 11:00am Worship/Pentecost
 1:00pm - 4:00pm Guardians/Cardinals
 Mon May 29 Memorial Day/ Building and Offices Closed
 Tue May 30 10:00am - 11:30am Staff Meeting
 6:30pm - 8:30pm Session/ZOOM

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 Pianist: Gastón Frydman

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

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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.