WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

*Preludio* on "Nettleton"  Phil Lehenbauer

WELCOME  Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT

*Lead Me, Lord*  Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness;
make thy way plain before my face.

For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only,
that makest me dwell in safety.

* Those who are able are requested to stand  Please silence all electronic devices.
* CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us out of places known and secure.
God invites us into a living, trusting relationship.

Happy are those whom God chooses as a heritage.
God's counsel to every generation comes to us.
God continues to bring new worlds into being.
God is constantly offering new opportunities to us.

We are called away from empty pursuits.
God wants to employ our talents for the common good.

Let us worship God with our whole being.
Let us use all our talents to praise our creator.

Praise God with instruments we have made.
Sing praises with voices God has given.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

God Most High,
it is hard to hear you calling us,
for there are many competing voices vying for our attention.
It is difficult to believe your promises
because we have been misled by so many empty commitments.
We are hesitant to hope for healing and fulfillment
amid the living death so many experience in our times.
Yet, as we gather here to touch the Unseen Presence,
we are moved to rejoice.

We stand in awe before you, eager to live by faith,
anticipating your mercy, giving thanks for your word.

* HYMN #515

I Come with Joy

DOVE OF PEACE

Capo 3: (D)  (G)  (A)  (D)  (Bm)
F  Bb  C  F  Dm

1 I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and
2 I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division
4 The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever
5 Together met, together bound by all that God has

(Asus)  (Am)  (G)  (F#m)  (D)
Csus  Cm  Bb  Am  F

free, the life of Jesus to recall, in
fed, the new community of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friendship better known, a-
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the
How tempted we are to resist the idea that we are numbered among the sinners who need periods of confession. We deplore such thinking as negative, ignoring the positive value of self-examination and penitence. We are more ready to trust our own judgments than to rely on God’s direction. Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession, followed by time for silent personal confession. Thus, we pray:

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Margaret Wetzler

God of justice and righteousness, we come to you, as tax collectors and sinners flocked to Jesus long ago. We have wavered in distrust of your promises, yet cling to their truth. We believe that your ways are far more fulfilling than any we can devise, yet we shrink from following where Christ leads. Forgive our pursuit of lesser gods we create, and wean us away from our fascination with the false values that tempt us. Draw us closer to you, we pray.

(moment of silent confession)

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

John Merbecke

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

* KYRIE ELEISON

John Merbecke

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.
* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rejoice, for God gives life to the dead
and calls into existence possibilities we could not imagine.
Christ died for our sins and rose to new life that we might be justified.
Let us explore together what that means
in the assurance that God is able and willing to fulfill all the promises made to us.
God takes us by the hand and lifts us up to abundant life.
Praise God!

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, 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.
Through our giving to the church,
we build altars for the worship of God,
not just in sanctuaries made with hands,
but in lives enriched by caring and sharing.
We bring our offerings in thanksgiving to God,
remembering that we are but temporary stewards over all we possess.
The offering will be received at this time.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

I will sing of God's mercy every day, every hour, He gives me power.
I will sing and give thanks to Thee for all the dangers toils and snares
that He has brought me out. He is my God, and I'll serve Him no matter what the test.
Trust and never doubt, Jesus will surely bring you out. He never failed me yet.

I know God is able to deliver in time of storm. I know that He'll keep you safe from all earthly harm.
One day when my weary soul is at rest, I'm going home to be forever blessed.
Trust and never doubt, Jesus will surely bring you out. He never failed me yet.

Didn't my God deliver Moses from King Pharaoh?
And didn't He cool the fiery furnace for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?
When I think of what my God can do, He delivered Daniel, I know He will deliver you.
Trust and never doubt, Jesus will surely bring you out. He never failed me yet.

* DOXOLOGY #607

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
Let us join our voices in prayer:
Thank you, God, for hearing our prayers and restoring our strength.
Thank you for drawing us apart from our selfish ways and self-serving pursuits.
Let our offering today fulfill your purposes, not ours.
Let these gifts summon others to follow Christ.
Let them know the joy of breaking bread with the Great Physician who offers healing to all who dare to trust your mercy.

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,
able us to love,
conspire to make us one with You
for the world You so deeply love. Amen.

THE READINGS
Epistle Romans 4:13-25 (NRSVUE)
For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore “it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.
As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners.”

While Jesus was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.” And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she was saying to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.” Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And the woman was made well from that moment.

When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, “Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread through all of that district.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

The Honorable Justin M. Bibb
Mayor, City of Cleveland, OH
* 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.

* LIGHTING OF CANDLES, 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
Standing on the Promises

1 Standing on the promises of Christ my king,
   through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.

2 Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
   when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God.

3 Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
   bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
standing on the promises of God.

4 Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
   listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God.
Refrain

Stand - ing, stand - ing,
stand - ing on the prom - ises, stand - ing on the prom - ises,

stand - ing on the prom - ises of God my Sav - ior;

stand - ing on the prom - ises, stand - ing on the prom - ises,

I’m stand - ing on the prom - ises of God.

Perhaps because this hymn is so well known, its language sounds vaguely scriptural; but while there are various biblical uses of “stand” and “promise(s),” the two words are never combined. The confidence here is similar to that of “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” (see no. 353).
* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

Happy are the people whom God has chosen.
We are inheritors of God’s grace and mercy.

God’s counsel is available to us every day.
By faith we receive God’s gracious promises.
God sends us to places unknown and full of risk.
The Spirit provides the resources we need.
We live by hope, even when the way is unclear.
We seek to be faithful to God’s intention for us.
Jesus says to us, “Follow me,” and we respond.
Christ answers our needs with a healing touch.
We are inheritors of God’s grace.
Rejoice with us in the blessings God provides.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Go Forth In Peace
Albin C. Whitworth

Go Forth in peace, go forth in love to do the Master’s will. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God
Sigfried Karg-Elert

“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:
Bill Stinchcomb, Mary Lou Eisaman, Harry Hatters, Mardia Long, John Gibbons,
Eric Zaslov, Michelle Baron, Chris Bryan, Joe Geraci, Zach Beaver, Holly Hubert,
Jesse Park, Thomas Kilbane, Jean English, Bruce Arnoff,
Margaret Bell, Pam Woody, Dwayne Ware Sr. and family
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.
Old Stone Church is pleased to welcome today
Cleveland's 58th Mayor,
The Honorable Justin M. Bibb

Old Stone Church New Member Retreat
Saturday June 17, 2023
11:00AM-3:00PM

Last Sunday Attendance
In-Person: 79
Online: 281

June 11-30, 2023
Sun Jun 11 10:00am - 11:00am Worship/Mayor Bibb
1:00pm - 4:00pm Guardians/Astros
4:00pm - 6:00pm Celebrity Chef/Brandon E. Chrostowski/EDWINS
Tue Jun 13 10:00am - 11:30am Staff Meeting
3:00pm - 3:45pm Tour YMCA Seniors' Group
Wed Jun 14 10:00am - 10:30am Tour of Sanctuary - Stow Women's Group
Thu Jun 15 7:00pm - 9:00pm FPS Director's Meeting
Sat Jun 17 11:00am - 3:00pm New Member Retreat
Sun Jun 18 10:00am - 11:00am Worship/Fathers' Day
Mon Jun 19 All day Juneteenth
Tue Jun 20 10:00am - 11:30am Staff Meeting
Sun Jun 25 10:00am - 11:00am Worship/In Person
1:00pm - 4:00pm Guardians/Brewers
Tue Jun 27 10:00am - 11:30am Staff Meeting
6:30pm - 8:30pm Session/ZOOM
Thu Jun 29 4:00pm - 5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal - Wu/Kole
Fri Jun 30 3:00pm - 5:00pm Eda Wu/Kyle Kole Wedding 4PM
There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

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<tr>
<th>Online Giving:</th>
<th>Mobile Giving:</th>
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<tr>
<td>oldstonechurch.org/giving/</td>
<td>Text the keyword “oldstonecle” to 73256</td>
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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

### Minister of Music:
David L. Dettloff

### The Old Stone Singers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soprano</th>
<th>Tenor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Leah Jennings Brown</td>
<td>Ian Atwood</td>
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<td>Cicely Schonberg</td>
<td>Frederick Peterbark</td>
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<td>Val Sibila</td>
<td>Andrew J. Schoenhofer</td>
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<th>Alto</th>
<th>Bass</th>
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<td>Rayna Brooks</td>
<td>R. Dominic Aragon</td>
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<tr>
<td>McKenna Jones</td>
<td>Joseph K. Breslau</td>
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<td>Emma Nossem</td>
<td>Seth Hobi</td>
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### Church Elders:

**Clerk of Session:** Beth Buchanan

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<tr>
<th>Class of 2023</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beth Buchanan</td>
<td>Michelle Baron</td>
<td>Kara Bane</td>
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<td>Robert Hubert Jr.</td>
<td>Janie Chambers</td>
<td>Willie Brown</td>
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<td>Judy Macuga</td>
<td>Fred Heider</td>
<td>Dave Finley</td>
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<td>Harriet Niles</td>
<td>Bernard Medie</td>
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<td>Lee Ann Rader</td>
<td>Bob Reid</td>
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<td>Marty Vassel</td>
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<td>John Young</td>
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### Church Deacons:

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<th>Class of 2023</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Maffia</td>
<td>Scott Bailey</td>
<td>Elie Medie</td>
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<td>Pete Maffia</td>
<td>Bernie Bischel</td>
<td>Mark Pichler</td>
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<td>Mary Mikula</td>
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<td>Michael Rolen</td>
<td>Amy Wheeler</td>
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<td>Penni Rolen</td>
<td>John Wheeler</td>
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<td>Alyssa Niepokny</td>
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