



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

JUNE 25, 2023

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT *Be Joyful in The Lord* Kendal L. Gunlicks

Be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands!
And serve the Lord with gladness.

Be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands!
Come before his presence with a song.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, nations of the earth, to bow before God.
Distant galaxies proclaim the Creator of all things.

We are humbled by the wonders of creation.

We are amazed by God's mighty works.

This infinite God cares for each one of us.
God hears our cries and responds to our needs.

In our days of trouble, we call on our God.

We are confident that God listens and answers.

Let us also call on God with our prayers of thanks.
Let us celebrate the wondrous things God provides.

God cares for us, even when others reject us.

We gather to glorify God's name.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Holy God, come to us in our distress.

We are weary of conflict

and long for your healing waters of forgiveness and renewal.

You have sent us a teacher to draw us into discipleship,
and we have found fulfillment when we are faithful to Christ's call.

We long to find peace as we serve, but more often we encounter a sword.

Our disagreements are many, and our capacity to forgive is strained.

Send your light that we might not falter in our caring

and in the proclamation of your good news.

Amen.

* HYMN #661

Why Should I Feel Discouraged?

SPARROW



1 Why should I feel dis-cour-aged? Why should the shad-ows come?
2 "Let not your heart be trou-bled," his ten-der word I hear,
3 When-ev-er I am tempt-ed, when-ev-er clouds a-rise,



Why should my heart be lone-ly and long for heaven and home,
and rest-ing on his good-ness, I lose my doubts and fears;
when song gives place to sigh-ing, when hope with-in me dies,



when Je-sus is my por-tion? My con-stant friend is he:
though by the path he lead-eth but one step I may see:
I draw the clos-er to him; from care he sets me free:

his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me;

his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me.

Refrain I sing be-cause I'm hap-py, (I'm hap-py) I sing be-cause I'm free, (I'm free)

for his eye is on the spar-row, and I know he watch-es me.

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Jo'Anna Thomson

God's grace has been poured out among us that we might die to sin.
 Yet, we are persistent in our disobedience,
 as if we thereby give to God more opportunities to be gracious.
 Let us bring to God all of the brokenness of our lives,
 our alienations from our creator,
 from persons we are called to love,
 and even from our own best selves.
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
 followed by time for personal silent confession.
 Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we are poor and needy in matters of the spirit.
You have offered us newness of life, but we are fearful of its cost.
Your gifts place us in debts so vast that we can never repay.
We are not worthy of your love and cannot earn your forgiveness.
How is it that when we accept your grace
we sense a freedom we have never before enjoyed?
O God, we want to be dead to sin and alive to you.
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

As Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of God,
we are lifted up to walk in the newness of life, accepted and forgiven.
You can never be your old self again, for Christ has set you free.
Old divisions and misunderstandings are overcome in the steadfast love of God.
All who give up their self-occupied ways for Christ's sake find abundant life.
This is God's gift to you today.

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.
We have received God's help and comfort.
Let us express our thanks.
We have been called into the community of disciples.
Let us offer the witness of our sharing.
We have been assured of our own worth and value.
Let us dedicate our offerings to building up others in God's love.
The offering will be received at this time.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Gilbert Martin

When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.
See from His head, His hands, His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did ever such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were an offering far too small;
Love, so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen

* 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 join our voices in prayer:

For all the great and wondrous things you have done for us, O God,
we are grateful.
You give us strength to go on when we are troubled and discouraged.
You grant newness of life as we share in Christ's resurrection.
We want to pass on the good news through this offering
and by the way we live each day.
Lead us and guide us in your steadfast love,
that we might channel your gift to all we meet.
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

Epistle

Romans 6:1b-11 (The Inclusive Bible)

What can we say, then? Should we go on sinning so that grace might abound?
Of course not! We're dead to sin, so how can we continue to live in it?

Don't you know that when we were baptized into Christ Jesus, we were baptized into Christ's death? We've been buried with Jesus through baptism, and we joined with Jesus in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by God's glory, we too might live a new life.

For if we have been united with Christ in the likeness of Christ's death, we will also be united with Christ in the likeness of Christ's resurrection.

We must realize that our former selves have been crucified with Christ to make the body of sin and failure completely powerless, to free us from slavery to sin: for when people die, they have finished with sin. But we believe that, having died with Christ, we will also live with Christ—knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again: death is now powerless over our Savior.

When Christ died, Christ died to sin, once for all, so that the life Christ lives is now life in God. In this way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin—but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Matthew 10:24-39 (The Inclusive Bible)

“A student is not superior to the teacher; the follower is not above the leader. The student should be glad simply to become like the teacher, the follower like the leader.”

“If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of the household!”

"Don't let people intimidate you. Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, and nothing is hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in darkness, speak in the light. What you hear in private, proclaim from the housetops.

Don't fear those who can deprive the body of life but can't destroy the soul. Rather, fear the one who can destroy both body and soul in Gehenna.

"Are not the sparrows sold for pennies? Yet not a single sparrow falls to the ground without your Abba God's knowledge. As for you, every hair of your head has been counted. So don't be afraid of anything—you are worth more than an entire flock of sparrows."

"Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will acknowledge before Abba God in heaven. Whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before Abba God in heaven."

"Don't suppose that I came to bring peace on earth. I came not to bring peace, but a sword. I have come to turn a son against his father, a daughter against her mother, in-law against in-law. One's enemies will be the members of one's own household."

"Those who love mother or father, daughter or son more than me are not worthy of me. Those who will not carry with them the instrument of their own death—following in my footsteps—are not worthy of me."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams
"The Paradox of the Gospel"



* THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

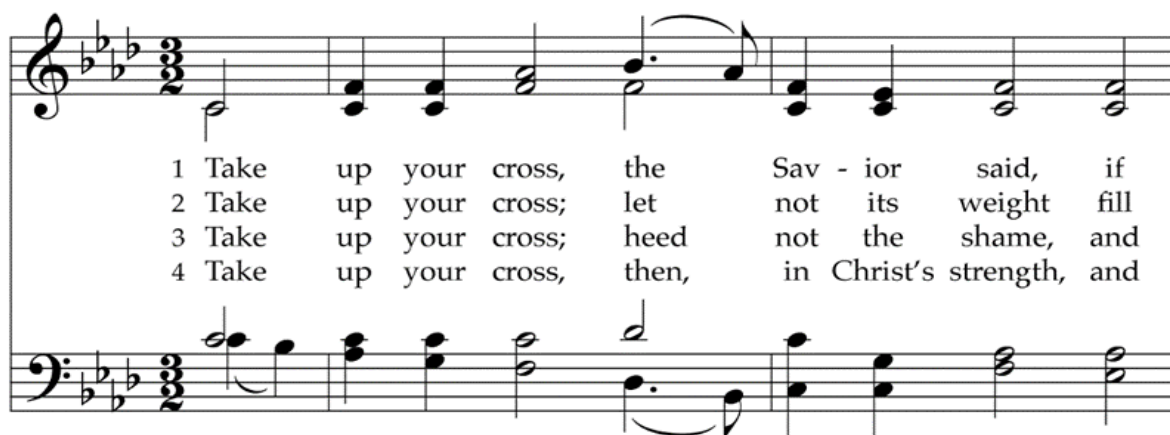
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the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

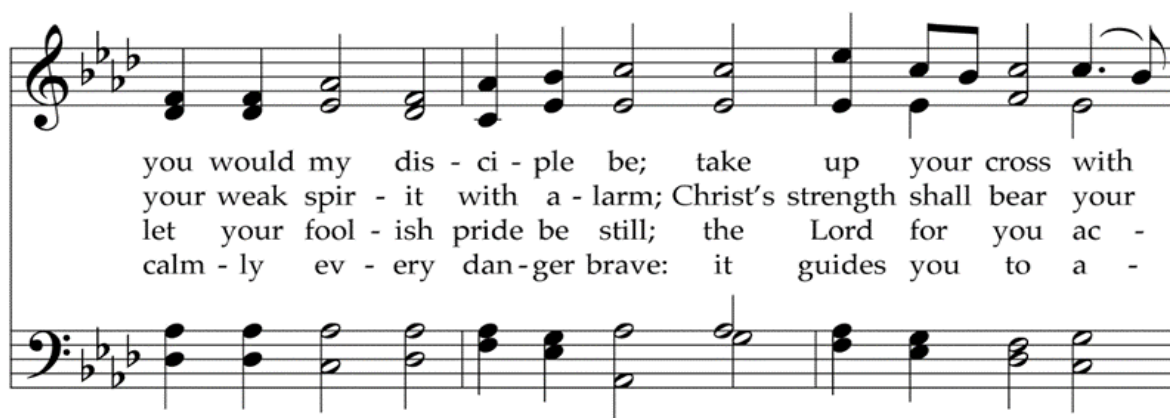
LIGHTING OF CANDLES, PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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



1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
 3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
 4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and



you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
 your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
 let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -



will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
 spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

Written by a nineteen-year-old in Connecticut, this challenging text has been widely printed on both sides of the Atlantic. It is strengthened by its resolute repetition of the same four words at the beginning of each stanza and by the appropriately stark shape note tune.

* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

The Teacher has called you as disciples.

Learn from Christ to serve without fear.

We expect to learn daily from our Teacher.

We commit ourselves anew to Christ's service.

You have been baptized into Christ's death.

Live, with Christ, your resurrection faith.

We are not afraid of the cross.

It calls us to fullness of life, spent for others.

Let God's love be your first awareness each day.

Let that love flow through every activity.

We bow down to glorify God's name.

We rejoice that God makes a place for our witness.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Sevenfold Amen

Peter Lutkin

POSTLUDE

Allegro Maestoso from "Water Music"

G. F. Handel

*"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:

Martha Simmons, Brennan, Bill Stinchcomb, Mary Lou Eisaman, Harry Hatters,
Melvin Hilliard, Mardia Long, John Gibbons, Eric Zaslov, Chris Bryan, Joe Geraci,
Zach Beaver, Jesse Park, Thomas Kilbane, Jean English, Bruce Arnoff,
Margaret Bell, Pam Woody, Dwayne Ware Sr. and family

We pray for the repose of the soul of Nora A. Gentile,
may her 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.



@Old Stone Church

Deacons Meeting/Chapel

Sunday June 25, 2023 11:30AM

Stated Session Meeting/ZOOM

Tuesday June 27, 2023 6:30PM-8:30PM

MUW Meeting/Hybrid

Sunday July 2, 2023 11:15AM

Last Sunday Attendance

In-Person:69

Online:192

June 25-July 4, 2023

Sun Jun 25 All day Cruise Ship Cleveland

10:00am - 11:00am Worship

11:30am - 12:30pm Deacon Meeting

1:00pm - 4:00pm Guardians/Brewers

Tue Jun 27 10:00am - 11:30am Staff Meeting

11:00am - 1:30pm City Club Lecture/Public Square

6:30pm - 8:30pm Session/ZOOM

Thu Jun 29 4:00pm - 5:00pm Wedding Rehearsal - Wu/Kole

Fri Jun 30 All day Cruise Ship Cleveland

3:00pm - 5:00pm Eda Wu/Kyle Kole Wedding 4PM

Sun Jul 2 10:00am - 11:00am Worship/Communion

11:15am - 12:15pm MUW hybrid meeting

Tue Jul 4 All day Fourth of July/ Building and Offices Closed

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

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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 Quartet

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Frederick Peterbark, *tenor*

Emma Nossem, *alto*

R. Dominic Aragon, *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 Rolén
Penni Rolén
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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