



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

AUGUST 20, 2023

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Melodic Suite, *III. Invocation*

Charles Callahan

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

O come, ye servants of the Lord, and praise his holy name;
From early morn to setting sun his might on earth proclaim.

His laws are just, and glad the heart; He makes his mercies known:
Ye princes come, ye people too, and bow before his throne.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

This is a Sabbath dedicated to our God.
Let this gathering place be a home for all people.
May God be gracious to us and bless us.
May God's face shine over all the earth's people.
Let all the people praise the God of all nations.
Let us give thanks and enjoy the blessings God gives.
May God grant us understanding and courage.
May faith grow beyond our doubts.
The earth has yielded its blessing.
Let all the ends of the earth revere our Creator.
God brings us together in unity of purpose.
May our circle grow as we welcome newcomers.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

How good and pleasant it is, O God, when kindred live together in unity.
Draw us now into the community you intend for all your people.
Help us to listen and understand,
both your word for us and our sharing with one another.
Keep us from being misled by popular acclaim
and the wisdom of the marketplace.
May we not be unobservant guides to one another
but rather be fully open to your gifts and obedient to your call.
Come to us now with healing and blessing.
Amen.

* HYMN #649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

CHOCTAW

*Shilombish holitopa ma!
 Ishmminti pulla cha
 hatak ilbusha pia ha
 is pi yukpalashke.*

CREEK

*Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet
 ah non ah cha pa kas
 cha fee kee o funnan la kus
 um e ha ta la yus.*

NAVAHO

*Nizhónígo joobá diits' a'
 yisdáshútinigí,
 lah yóóiiyá, k'ad
 shénáhoosdzin,
 doo eesh'íí da út'ée.*

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie
 MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

AMAZING GRACE
 CM

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, and Choctaw © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;
 Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tsosie

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Margaret Wetzler

Both our speech and our actions call into question our faithfulness to God.
 In times of stress, we have made statements that we regret.
 Jealousy and anger have led to deceit, betrayal, and broken relationships.
 Our best intentions sometimes go astray.
 Rather than being distressed with ourselves,
 we bring the wounds of our common life to this time of confession,
 that we may receive God's healing.
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
 followed by time for personal silent confession.
 Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, O God,
for the sin we recognize in ourselves and the wounds we do not see.
Show us how we have hurt one another
and grant us courage to seek forgiveness and reconciliation.
Reveal to us our disobedience to you
and keep us from leading others into our sin.
We seek your mercy for the times we have willfully offended.
Help us to put aside all actions and comments that defile.
Cleanse us for new life in Christ.

(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

God is merciful toward us and listens to our honest prayers.
Our thoughts and deeds are fully known to God,
who is eager to forgive and to lead us to new understandings.
When we earnestly seek God's help,
we are set free to discover new opportunities.
Even in the worst of circumstances,
God works with us to bring some good and to preserve life.
May God be praised!

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.
For many in the world, famine is a constant reality.
Millions lie down at night hungry and without shelter,
with no better hope for tomorrow.
There is no relief from illness for themselves or for their children.
God is a distant unknown.
Their betterment is a part of our mission.
The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *He Stooped to Bless* Edward Margetso

He stooped to bless, and stooping raised us. And the tenderness which looked
in pity on a world of sin, long years ago, still waits in love to call the nations in.

Till all shall know that man may rise in Him to holiness.
Because He stooped so low.

* 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

Margaret Wetzler

Let us join our voices in prayer:

As you have blessed us, O God, we are eager to share.
May we offer more than crumbs from your table.
May none be sent away from the blessings you intend for all.
We want our offerings to preserve and extend life to your children,
here in this place and wherever our influence can reach.
What is in the offering plates is only a part
of what we dedicate ourselves to do and be
that your reign of unity and peace may come.
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

God of All Wisdom, since the dawn of history,
you have spoken to your people to teach us and guide us.
Speak to us again this day,
and let your Holy Spirit open our minds and hearts to understand.
Speak to us, Lord, in this hour.
In the name of that Holy Spirit we pray.
Amen.

THE READINGS

Epistle Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 (NRSVUE)

I ask, then, has God rejected God's people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected God's people whom God foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Holy Spirit has a word for each of us today.

With God's help we are listening.

Gospel Matthew 15:10-28 (NRSVUE)

Then Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

"You Dog You!"



* 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 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's call to service goes with you from this place.

We cannot escape from God's expectations.

We intend to be faithful to God's call.

We want to make sure no one is excluded.

God's bounty is meant for all to share.

Because we have received so much, we have much to give.

In giving, we also receive so much more.

We learn from those we seek to benefit.

May no evil intent enter hearts cleansed by God.

May the Spirit help us live in unity.

We have received God's abundant mercy.

We depart, intent on showing mercy to all.

Amen.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Sevenfold Amen

Peter Lutkin

POSTLUDE

Amazing Grace

arr. Frederick Swann

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

Psalms 73:26

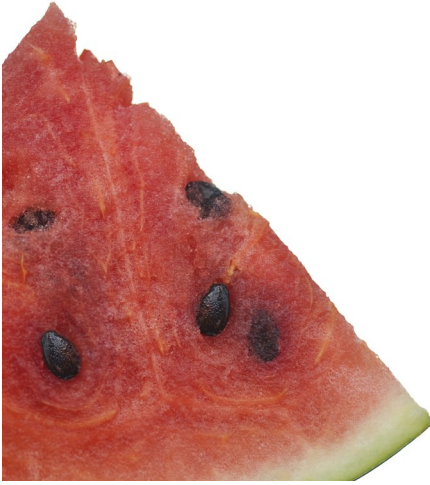


We continue to keep in our prayers:

Gail Reid, Becky Shipp, Mark Merritt, Orette Ayton, Caroline Poirier, Charlotte, Kinza and Maheen, Karen Cogar, Clarence Niles, Marlon, Brennan, Mary Lou Eisaman, Harry Hatters, John Gibbons, Chris Bryan, Joe Geraci, Zach Beaver, Jesse Park, Thomas Kilbane, Jean English, Bruce Arnoff, Margaret Bell, Pam Woody

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 HOMECOMING PICNIC

*Sunday, September 10, 2023 2:30–5:30PM

*North Olmsted Community Cabin

28114 Lorain Road North Olmsted, Oh 44070

*Raffle to benefit Compassionate Friends Fund

*Dinner, Fellowship, Games

*Bring a Side Dish or Dessert to share

Sign up sheets are located outside of the Chapel
and at the Public Square entrance.

Thank you to the Old Stone Deacons for organizing the picnic!

WALK WITH NAMI IN 2023

It's not how far we walk at **NAMIWalks Greater Cleveland** on **September 23 at Edgewater Park**,
but how far we've come to make our milestones count.

With your support and high spirits, we intend to make an unprecedented impact on mental health in
our community.

NAMIWalks 2023 represents a powerful chance to leave a significant mark on the local mental
health landscape.

Whether you're a previous participant or a new voice waiting to be heard, we're pretty sure you'll find
the festivities inspired *and* inspiring.

9AM Check-in/10AM NAMIWalks steps off.



@ Old Stone Church

Sunday August 20, 2023 11:00AM

Deacons Meeting/Chapel

Tuesday August 22, 2023 6:30PM

Session Meeting/ZOOM

Last Sunday Attendance

In-Person:69

Online:148

August 20-August 27

Sun Aug 20 10:00am Worship

11:00am Deacon Meeting

1:00pm Guardians/Tigers

Tue Aug 22 6:30pm Session/ZOOM

Wed Aug 23 10:30am Team Meeting

Thu Aug 24 All day Cruise Ship Cleveland

Sun Aug 27 All day Cruise Ship Cleveland

10:00am Worship

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

Minister of Music: David L. Dettloff

The Old Stone Quartet

Leah Jennings, *soprano*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

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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