



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

OCTOBER 6, 2024

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST WITH COMMUNION

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

10 AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Invocation from "*Melodic Suite*"

Charles Callahan

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

I will worship the Lord all the days of my life;
 I will tell of his glory and will show forth his praise;
 I will sing and rejoice, for the Lord is my stronghold. Alleluia.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

God's Word has been lived among us!
 We gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

Christ is a part of God's ongoing creation.

We gather before the One who is heir to all things.

Long ago, God spoke to our spiritual ancestors.

Today, God continues that revelation through Jesus.

Who are we that God is mindful of us?

Yet God crowns us with glory and honor.

Jesus has named us as brothers and sisters.

We are called to recognize all humanity as children of God.

The realm of God is for all people.

God's dominion is over all creation.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

**We have trusted in you, eternal God,
 and that trust brings us to this time of worship.
 In this place, your steadfast love becomes evident again
 as we sing our songs of thanksgiving and tell of your wondrous deeds.
 We are grateful for the life and witness of Jesus,
 whom you sent among people
 to make possible our reconciliation and healing.
 For the saving grace available wherever you reign, we give thanks.
 Help us to be childlike, to receive your blessing,
 and to welcome your embrace.
 Take us into your arms, we pray.
 Amen.**

* HYMN #20

All Things Bright and Beautiful

ROYAL OAK

Ketrain

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

all things wise and won-der-ful, the Lord God made them all. *Fine*

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2 The pur - ple-head-ed moun-tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

God made their glow-ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky:
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well. *to Refrain*

One of a series of hymns the author wrote for children on the Apostles' Creed, this text (originally in seven stanzas) expands "Maker of heaven and earth." The first stanza became the refrain when the text was later set to a popular tune from the age of King Charles II.

TEXT: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848, alt.

MUSIC: English melody, 17th cent.; adapt. Martin Shaw, 1915; harm. *The Hymnbook*, 1955
 Music Harm. © 1955, ren. 1983 John Ribble (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

ROYAL OAK
 7.6.7.6 with refrain

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Margaret Wetzler

At our best, we seek to be upright and blameless,
 people of integrity who live with unwavering trust in God.
 We aspire to live as brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ,
 faithful and responsive to our Creator.
 But, in truth, we forget God in our hectic busyness,
 and we turn from the way of love in our relationships with others.
 There is much for us to confess.
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
 followed by time for silent personal confession.
 Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All-seeing God, we would like to wash our hands in innocence,
but we cannot escape from the guilt we carry.
We compare ourselves favorably with people
we label worthless or hypocrites,
but that very judgment breaks faith with you.
We avoid bribery and other evil devices,
yet we would still like to have advantages for ourselves over others.
We are not bloodthirsty, but we have not yet adopted the way of peace.
We humbly seek forgiveness as little children
in need of your welcoming love.**

(moment of silent confession)

* KYRIE ELEISON #578 *O Lord, Have Mercy* ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ
**O Lord, have mercy; have mercy on us.
O Christ, have mercy; have mercy on us.**

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

When we come as children,
acknowledging our dependence on God for life and all that sustains it,
we recognize that loving arms surround us,
and hands of blessing rest on our lives.
We are sisters and brothers of Jesus Christ,
who is not ashamed to claim us and to walk with us through life.
Rejoice that God tests our hearts and minds and helps us grow.

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 #582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
Whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose live has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen**

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Please be seated:

Look around you with a sense of awe and wonder.

Even in the most difficult circumstances of life,
we can find beauty and integrity and places where God's abiding glory is evident.

Let us give thanks for God's imprint on our lives,
for the sustaining word that gives purpose to our days,
and for the ministry in which we are engaged together,
as we present our offering.

The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Ubi Caritas

Maurice Duruflé

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsulemus, et in ipso jucundemur,
timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum
et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Where true charity and love dwell, God himself is there.
Since the love of Christ has joined us in one body,
Let us all rejoice and be glad now and always.
And as we hear and love the living God,
So let us in sincerity love all people.

* 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 long ago you spoke through the prophets,
speak now through us
and through the fruits of our labor which we share.
We dedicate to your service all the good things
we have received from your hand.
May we proclaim your name
to our brothers and sisters in this congregation.
May our gifts carry the good news throughout our community,
making a difference in the quality of life
experienced by many, near and far.
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:

**Lord God, as you spoke long ago
through the voices of the prophets,
speak to us here, speak to us now,
through the power of the Holy Spirit
and the promises of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

THE READINGS

Torah

Genesis 2:18-24 (Inclusive Bible)

Then YHWH said, "It is not good for the earth creature to be alone; I will make a fitting companion for it." So from the soil YHWH formed all the various wild beasts and all the birds of the air, and brought them to the earth creature to be named. Whatever the earth creature called each one, that became its name. The earth creature gave names to all cattle, all the birds of the air and all the wild animals. But none of them proved to be a fitting companion, so YHWH made the earth creature to fall into a deep sleep, and while it slept, God divided the earth creature into two, then closed up the flesh from its side. God then fashioned the two halves into male and female, and presented them to one another. When the male realized what had happened, he exclaimed,

"This time, this is the one! Bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh! Now she will be Woman, and I will be Man, because we are of one flesh!"

This is why people leave their parents and become bonded to one another, and the two become one flesh.

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

With God's help we are listening.

Some Pharisees approach Jesus and, as a test, asked, “Is it permissible for husbands to divorce their wives?” In reply Jesus asked, “What command did Moses give?” They answered, “Moses permitted a husband to write a decree of divorce and to put her away.” But Jesus told them, “Moses wrote the commandment because of your hardness of heart. From the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female. This is why one person leaves home and cleaves to another, and the two become one flesh.’

They are no longer two, but one flesh.

What God has united, therefore, let no one divide.”

Back in the house again, the disciples questioned Jesus once more about this. He told them, “If a man divorces his wife and marries another, he commits adultery against her, and if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

People were bringing children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples scolded them for this. When Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not stop them. It is just such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs. The truth is, whoever doesn’t welcome the Kingdom of God as a little child won’t enter it.” And Jesus took the children in his arms, and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“Created for Relationship”



WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

How God Loves

John Mark McMillan
HOW HE LOVES

God is jealous for me. Love's like a hurricane,
I am a tree bending beneath the weight of God's wind and mercy.
And all of a sudden I am unaware of these afflictions eclipsed by glory,
and I realize just how beautiful You are, and how great Your affections are for me.

And oh, how God loves us. oh. Oh, how God loves us, how God loves us all.

And we are God's portion and God is our prize,
drawn to redemption by the grace in God's eyes.
If God's grace is an ocean, we're all sinking.
And heaven meets earth like an unexpected kiss,
and my heart turns suddenly inside of my chest.
I don't have time to maintain these regrets
when I think about, the way that God loves us.

* INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The Holy One be with you

And also with you

Open your hearts to the One who is Love

We open our hearts to you, O God

Let us give thanks to God, our life-breath

To the One who sustains us, we rejoice in your presence!

With gratitude, O God,

we remember that it is through you we are made truly alive.

Every creature and creation –

the tiny ones, the scaly ones, the human ones, the leafy ones –

all that is has been shaped by you.

There is nothing on this earth that has not been touched by your Sacred hand.

In your love for us, you claim us – individually and as a whole – as your beloveds.

You will for us life abundant

and you invite us into co-working with you

towards a world where harmony among all life is restored.

And yet, daily, we turn away from you and one another.

Destructive and divisive powers lure us away from connection and relationship.

We forget that we need each other.

We pretend that our lives are not deeply entangled.

When injustice threatens our neighbors, we too easily cower or hide.

Like those who turned on Jesus when things became too difficult, we too are
tempted to desert those most vulnerable.

But you do not abandon us to our fear or sin.

In the life of Jesus, Love enfleshed, we are shown
that the invitation to join in your work
of transforming and healing and restoring is always open.

We pray for all in need of healing, whether it be in body, mind, or spirit...

Joe Geraci, Kimberly Williams, Amy Wheeler, Michael Rekoric,
Sunny Kunche, Father McNulty, Sister Corita, Thomas L. Azare, Matt and family

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
let us pray as our Savior has taught us:

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.

(Please be seated)

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

No matter our past.

No matter our regrets.

No matter the wrong done to us or the wrong we have done to others,
you keep calling us back to you.

This relentless invitation of yours

that entices with freedom and joy and forgiveness

is such a threat to empires

that it still attempts to crucify every incarnation of your love today.

And so, we are reminded of the example given to us in the person of Jesus.

On the night of his arrest, he gathered around table with his companions.

He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said,

**Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha'olam
hamotzi lekhem min ha'aretz.**

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
who brings forth bread from the earth.

“This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

He did the same with the cup after the supper, saying,

**Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha'olam
borei p'ri hagafen.**

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
who creates the fruit of the vine.

“This cup that is poured out is the new covenant.”

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

And so in remembrance of the One who never gave up on love,
we pray that the Spirit would make us one in our commitment
to the liberation of all your creatures and creations.

Pour out your Spirit on this bread and this cup, that through these ordinary gifts,
we might taste a glimpse of your Kingdom.

May they be for us a reminder of what we are capable of becoming
and what we are capable of accomplishing together. Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Please partake of the elements as you receive them,
and then place the cup back into the tray.

You may then light a candle in petition of prayer
or in remembrance.

Take this bread, share the fruit of the vine.

In these Christ comes to us
with love from God.

The gifts of God
for the people of God.

Starting from the back of the sanctuary
you are invited to come forward at this time.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Consecration

John Ness Beck

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.
Take my voice, and let it sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use every power as Thou shalt choose.
Take my will and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.
Take my love; my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION AND CONSECRATION OF PLEDGES:

**God, we give you thanks for this meal that nourishes us, body and soul.
May it sustain us as we confront evil
that keeps us from living the lives you intended for us
and for all your creatures and creations.
Until every life can be lived abundantly,
be our guide, be our hope, be our comforter.
Amen.**

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
 3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come,
 4 Just as I am, thy love un-known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, and that thou biddest me
 con - flict, man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with -
 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise
 ev - ery bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea,

come to thee,
 in, with - out,
 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come; I come!
 thine a - lone,

SPANISH

1 *Tal como soy de pecador,
 sin más confianza que tu amor;
 a tu llamada vengo a ti,
 ¡Cordero de Dios, heme aquí!*

KOREAN

1 큰-죄에 빠-진 날 위해
 주보-혈 흘려주시고
 또-나를 오-라하시니-
 주께 로거-저 갑니다

When illness limited her involvement in a bustling household, the author wrote this hymn that helped her both to achieve and to express a renewed sense of worth grounded in Christ's self-giving. Its simple, direct, and deeply felt language has made it a source of comfort to many.

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

For this little while, we have been in the arms of God.

Hands of blessing have rested lightly on our heads.

We have recognized one another as children of God.

Our rivalries are turned to awe and wonder.

We have brought our pain to the suffering Savior.

Christ has welcomed us as sisters and brothers.

We are united in love that lasts for eternity.

The reign of God has already begun here and now.

Walk with integrity through the storms of life.

God crowns you with glory and honor.

The imprint of God's love is on our lives.

It is a privilege to reflect God's glory each day!

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Three-fold Amen

Orlando Gibbons

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Festal Piece

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:

Joe Geraci, Kimberly Williams, Amy Wheeler,
Michael Rekoric, Sunny Kunche, Father McNulty, Sister Corita,
Thomas L. Azare, Matt 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.

**The 2025 Stewardship Campaign
Please present your pledge cards during Communion.**



A Priceless Invitation

Consecration Sunday is today, October 6, 2024

A Potluck Luncheon will follow Sunday worship.

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Andrew Sords in Concert



Old Stone Church is pleased to announce that violinist Andrew Sords will perform today, Sunday, October 6, 2024, at 1PM, as part of Old Stone Church Concert Series. A reception will follow the concert in the Gallery to meet Andrew Sords.

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Discipleship Opportunities This Fall **@ First Presbyterian Church-Cleveland**

Bible Study with Pastor Denise
Sundays 9AM/Gallery/Beginning September 22, 2024

Commentary on the Gospel of John with Bob Heath
Tuesdays 7PM/ZOOM/Beginning September 17, 2024

Book Study/Romans: A Letter for Today with Pastor Stephen
Wednesdays 7PM/ZOOM/ Beginning November 6, 2024



Old Stone Church's Welcoming & Fellowship Committee invites you to join OSC on a special tour of Holden Arboretum on Sunday, October 20th, at 1:30 PM to enjoy the fall foliage.

OSC has a 13-person tram booked for the tour.

Tickets are \$25 per person, and scholarships are available.

Those interested in reserving their seat on the tour can email member Bram Chisholm.



On Sunday, November 3, 2024, Old Stone Church will celebrate All Saints Sunday.

The Necrology will be read during the day's worship service.

If you would like to include a photograph of those to be remembered, they will be displayed during the reading of the names.

Please email Anthony@oldstonechurch.org by Wednesday, October 30, 2024 so that the names may be included in service that Sunday.



Wednesdays at 12:15 PM please join us in the Sanctuary for a Mid-Week Communion Service.

@ Old Stone Church

Sunday October 6 Consecration Sunday

- 9:00AM** Bible Study-Pastor Denise/Gallery
- 10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary /Communion
- 11:30AM** Mission & Urban Wellness Committee Meeting/
Cuyahoga Room/Second Floor
- 11:30AM** Stewardship Potluck Luncheon/Memorial Hall
- 1:00PM** Andrew Sords Concert /Sanctuary

Tuesday October 8

- 7:00PM** Commentary on the Gospel of John/ZOOM

Wednesday October 9

- 12:15PM** Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Thursday October 10

- 2:00PM** Worship Committee Meeting/ZOOM

Sunday October 13

- 9:00AM** Bible Study-Pastor Denise/Gallery
- 10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary
- 11:30AM** Communion/Chapel
- 11:30AM** Deacons Meeting/Conference Room/First Floor

Tuesday October 15

- 7:00PM** Commentary on the Gospel of John/ZOOM

Wednesday October 16

- 12:15PM** Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Thursday October 17

- 7:00PM** FPS Directors Meeting/Conference Room/First Floor

Sunday October 20

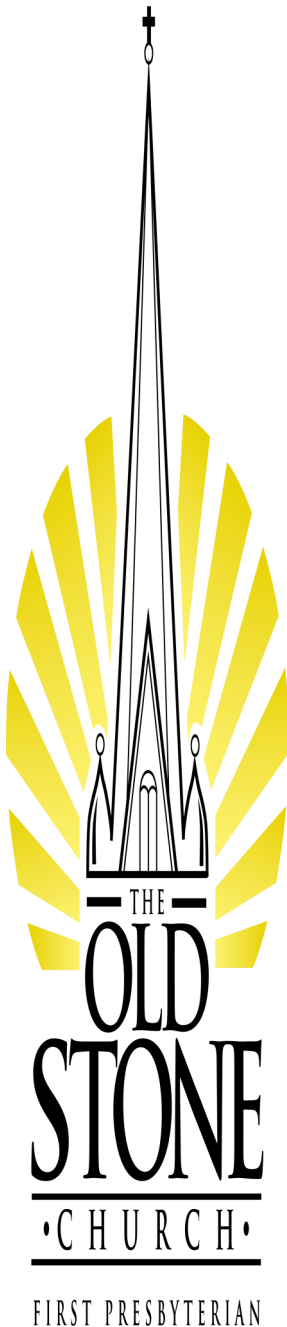
- 9:00AM** Bible Study-Pastor Denise/Gallery
- 10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary
- 11:30AM** Communion/Chapel
- 1:00PM** Browns/Bengals
- 1:30PM** Holden Arboretum Tour

Tuesday October 22

- 7:00PM** Commentary on the Gospel of John/ZOOM

Wednesday October 23

- 12:15PM** Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary



Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:72 Online:196

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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Phone: 216-241-6145 **Fax:** 216-241-6149

Website: www.OldStoneChurch.org **E-Mail:** info@OldStoneChurch.org

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Senior Pastor: Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

Parish Associate: Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

Minister of Music: David L. Dettloff

The Old Stone Singers

Leah Jennings Brown, *soprano*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*

Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Samuel Jungman, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

R. Dominic Aragon, *bass*

Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

Christopher Clark, *bass*

Albert Donze, *bass*

Church Elders:

Clerk of Session: Beth Buchanan

Class of 2024
Michelle Baron
Janie Chambers
Fred Heider
Bernard Medie
Bob Reid

Class of 2025
Dorothy Baunach
Willie Brown
David Eifert
Dave Finley
Robert Hubert Jr.

Class of 2026
Beth Buchanan
Judy Macuga
Melissa Maffia
Harriet Niles
Marty Vassel

Church Deacons:

Class of 2024
Anand Bandari
Bernie Bischel
Amy Wheeler
John Wheeler

Class of 2025
Valorie Hempstead
Eileen Kelly
Elie Medie
Mark Pichler

Class of 2026
Mark Corey
Forrest Diehl
Pam Daly
Ruth Finley
Alyssa Niepokny
Charlene Thornton

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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.