



# THE OLD STONE CHURCH

DECEMBER 1, 2024  
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT WITH COMMUNION  
**10 AM Sanctuary Worship**

## WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE *Of the Father's Love Begotten* Wilbur Held

WELCOME Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

MINUTE FOR MISSION Emily Collins-City of Cleveland

INTROIT An Advent Prayer Allen Pote

Come holy Jesus, come to free us from our sin.

Come holy Jesus and make us pure within.

Inspire each heart with illumined surprise, enkindle a flame anew.

Increase our faith and strengthen our lives, show us the joy of living life in you.

Come holy Jesus, come to free us from our sin.

Come holy Jesus and make us pure within. Amen.

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Denise Clark Jones

The days are surely coming, says our God,  
when justice and righteousness will appear.

**God's promises will be made known to us,  
and we will declare God's goodness and salvation.**

Lift up your souls in trust and praise;  
open your hearts and minds to God's teaching.

**God's ways will be demonstrated to us,  
and we will seek to walk in them all our days.**

Render thanksgiving to God for all life's benefits.

Watch and pray, in holiness and abiding faith.

**God's mercy and steadfast love will surround us,  
and we will abound in love for one another.**

\* INVOCATION PRAYER

**In obedience and trust, we approach you, God of the covenant.**

**Day by day, your promises are fulfilled among us.**

**Our redemption is drawing near.**

**Help us to prepare ourselves and our communities for Christ's coming.**

**Equip us now to worship you with all the saints,**

**past and present, nearby and far away.**

**Amen.**

ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING

Bruce Kranicz

From deep in the past, Jeremiah calls to us,

“The days are surely coming, says YHWH, when I will bestow on Israel and Judah  
all the blessings I promised them.” (Jeremiah 33:14).

Beloved, the days are surely coming when the yearning of the land;

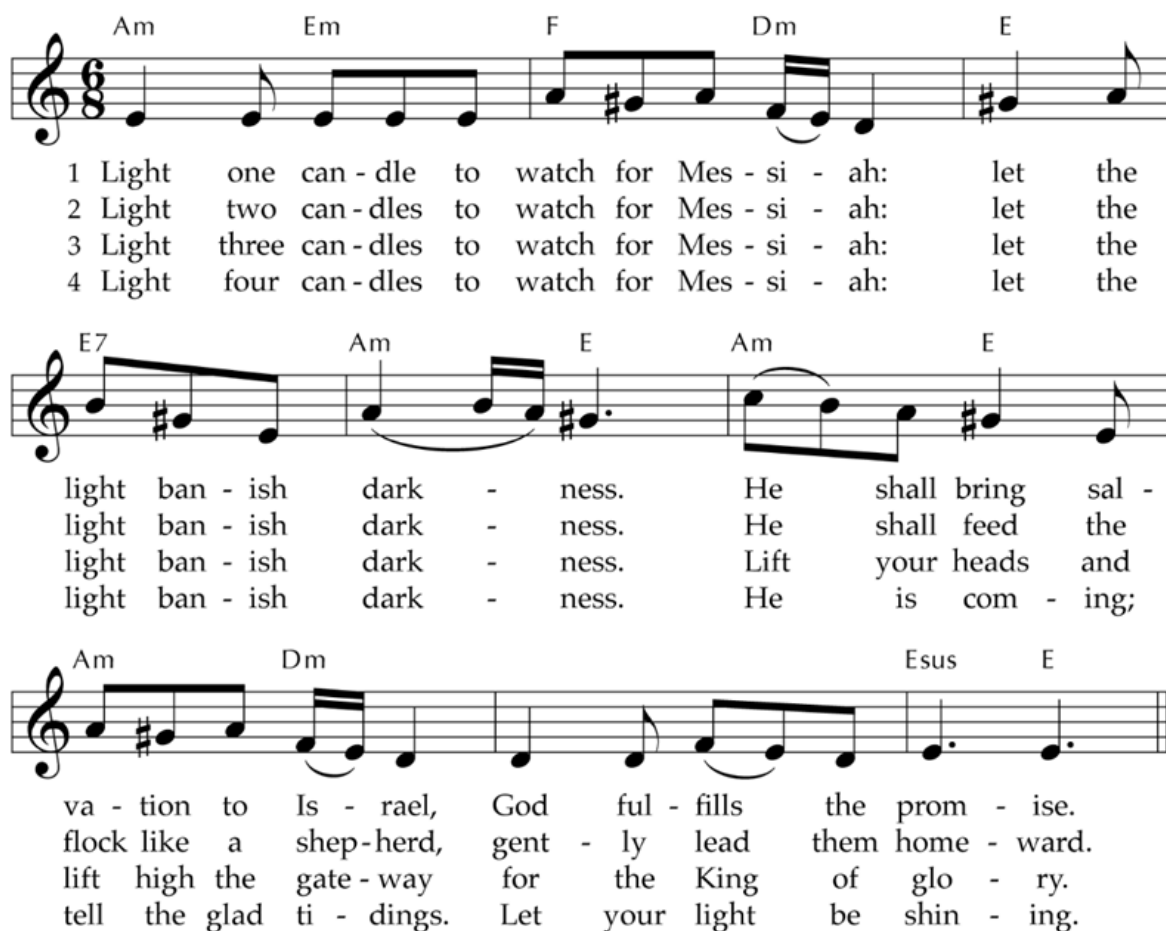
the longing of the sun, moon, and stars;

the desperate need of the people of earth for flourishing and peace  
will receive their fulfillment.

**While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion  
surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope,  
preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God's grace  
already at work in our midst.**

We light this candle of hope as a sign of our commitment to pay attention  
and prepare for the days that are surely coming and are already here—  
the days when God's Kindom of love, justice, and mercy will reign.

*Light the blue candle.*



Am Em F Dm E

1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the  
 2 Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the  
 3 Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the  
 4 Light four can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the

E7 Am E Am E

light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall bring sal -  
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall feed the  
 light ban - ish dark - ness. Lift your heads and  
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He is com - ing;

Am Dm Esus E

va - tion to Is - rael, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
 flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.  
 lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.  
 tell the glad ti - dings. Let your light be shin - ing.

This text works best when used incrementally during the four weeks of Advent. It underscores the “waiting” theme of the season and concludes appropriately with reference to Matthew 25:1–13. The tune name meaning “deep in the forest” comes from the opening of a Yiddish love song.

TEXT: Wayne L. Wold, 1984  
 MUSIC: Yiddish folk song; arr. Wayne L. Wold, 1984  
 Text and Music Arr. © 1984 Fortress Press (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

TIF IN VELDELE  
 10.7.9.6

## \* CALL TO CONFESSION

Caroline Eifert

A new church year is dawning.  
 An air of anticipation challenges us to fresh beginnings.  
 Are we weighed down by the cares of life?  
 Are we deceptive and untrustworthy?  
 Do we project on others our own destructive habits?  
 This is a time to rid ourselves of old ways and embrace the newness God offers.  
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,  
 followed by time for silent personal confession.  
 Thus, we pray together:

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of promises and possibilities,  
we admit that we color the world according to our own limited vision.  
We are often unjust in our judgments and faithless in our relationships.  
We are haunted by sins we have not confessed.  
Hear us as we entrust them to your forgiving care.  
Help us to let go of our transgressions, to renew our covenant with you,  
and to live constructively with one another.  
In the spirit of Jesus Christ,  
whose coming among us we await with great expectation.**

*(moment of silent confession)*

\* KYRIE ELEISON #91                      *Come, Come Emmanuel*      COME, COME EMMANUEL  
**Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.  
Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.**

\* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The mercy of God is new every day.  
We are free to accept the difference it can make in us.  
God's steadfast love is waiting to embrace us as whole people  
to instruct us and to lead us in the paths of truth.  
Put your trust in God, for that is our only security.

**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*                      GLORIA PATRI

**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:

As our love for one another increases and abounds, so does our generosity.

The circle of our concern widens.

Our passion for justice expands.

Our desire to join in Christ's redeeming work extends to the whole human family.

What a privilege to have so much to share!

The offering will now be received.

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Advent Kyrie

David Lantz III

Ceilings of cedar, lampstands of gold, bronze covered pillars, beauty untold;

Yet in the splendor of all we behold, our hearts lie barren and cold.

Kyrie, we pray for mercy. Kyrie, show us the way. Kyrie, send us a Savior. Kyrie.

Sign of deliverance, glimmer of peace, dreams of Messiah, visions increase;

Father in heaven, give us a sign. Send Your Redeemer divine.

Kyrie, we pray for mercy. Kyrie, show us the way. Kyrie, send us a Savior. Kyrie.

\* DOXOLOGY #608      *Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow*      PRAISE GOD

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

\* OFFERTORY PRAYER      Caroline Eifert

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**Thank you, God, for this family of faith,  
which enriches our lives and enables us to share.**

**Thank you for making us aware that some faint with fear  
and others dwell in hopelessness.**

**We are grateful that you show us ways  
to lift the burdens of our sisters and brothers.**

**May our offerings further this ministry  
among us and beyond our community.**

**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:

**God our salvation,  
there is wisdom, peace and joy  
for those who keep your Word.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
lead us in your truth  
and teach us to do your will;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## THE READINGS

Hebrew Scripture

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (NRSVUE)

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety.

And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

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

**With God's help we are listening.**



“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Denise Clark Jones

“Hopeful Waiting”



# WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

\* HYMN # 84

*Creator of the Stars of Night* CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -  
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in  
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all  
4 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,  
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child  
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you, hear us when we call.  
of Mar - y, blame - less moth - er mild.  
like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.  
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

\* INVITATION TO THE MEAL

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

This is the joyful feast of the People of God.  
Men and women, youth and children,  
come from the east and the west,  
the north and the south and gather about Christ's table.  
This table is for all who wish to know  
the presence of Christ  
and to share in the community of God's people.  
It is not my table,  
It is not Old Stone First Presbyterian Church's table,  
it is the table of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,  
and all are welcome to receive.



The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy  
to give you thanks and praise,  
O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

We give thanks, O Lord,  
that the days are surely coming when all the world will see  
the fulfillment of your promise of salvation.  
You alone are our righteousness,  
our only hope for justice and peace.  
Therefore, we praise you,  
joining our voices with choirs of angels,  
with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,  
and with all the faithful of every time and place  
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

\* HYMN #552

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

LAND OF REST

F C F B<sup>b</sup> C F

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of the  
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(A) C (D/F<sup>#</sup>) F/A (F<sup>#</sup>m) Am (G) B<sup>b</sup> (A) C (Bm) Dm

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(G) B<sup>b</sup> (D) F (A) C (Bm) Dm (Em7) Gm7 (A) C (Dsus) F#sus (D) F

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.  
 In Christ, the tree of life, we have seen the first fruits of your holy realm.  
 Though heaven and earth may pass away, Christ's word stands secure.  
 Even now, we look for the day of his coming in power and great glory.  
 Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation  
 this bread and the fruit of the vine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,  
 as we await the day of his coming.  
 With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves  
 to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.  
 Great is the mystery of faith:

\* HYMN # 553

*Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen*

LAND OF REST

Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

*(Please be seated)*

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night of his arrest, Jesus gathered around table with his companions.  
 He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said,

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

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

“This is the new covenant sealed in my blood.  
 Whenever you drink of it, do this in remembrance of me.”

## PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and the fruit of the vine,  
that the bread we break and the cup we bless  
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.  
By your Spirit, unite us with Christ  
and with your church in all the world.  
Teach us to pray night and day  
that we may see you face to face.  
Strengthen us in holiness, faithfulness, joy,  
and love so that we may be ready  
at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.  
We pray for all in need of healing,  
whether it be in body, mind, or spirit...

Billy Augustus, JoAnn Hood, Donna Sue Buchanan, Darlene, Francis Sequeira,  
Clayton Rohrer, Shirley Daly, Barbara Haynes, Hannah Reid, Kimberly Williams,  
Amy Wheeler, Shelley Wheeler, Madison, Olivia Costa, Cathy Clegg, Linda White,  
the Oglesby family, the Warfel family, the Daly and Hutchings families

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.**

Sanctify and shape us into the image of Christ's body,  
so that our lives may be a holy offering of love and praise.  
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

HYMN # 554

*Amen*

LAND OF REST



## 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

*Ave Verum*

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Ave, verum corpus  
natum de Maria Virgine,  
Vere passum immolatum  
In cruce pro homine,  
Cujus latus perforatum  
Vero fluxit sanguine,  
Esto nobis praegustatum  
in mortis examine.

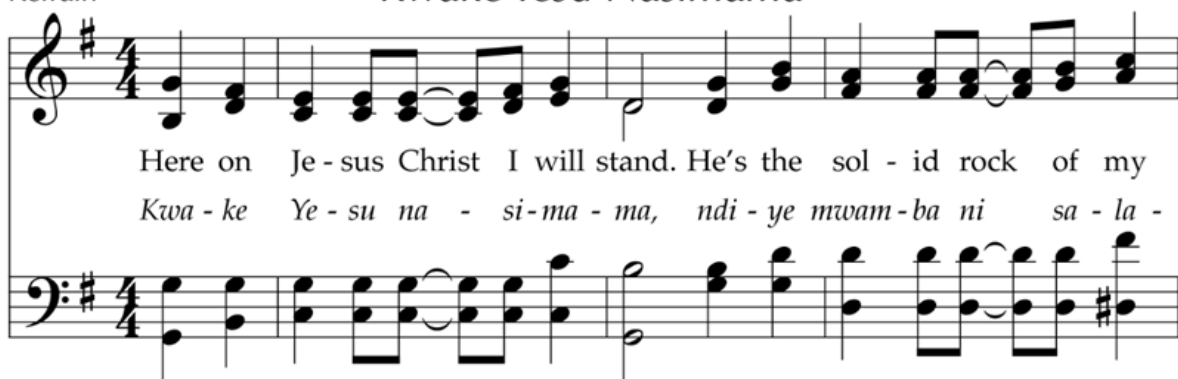
Hail, true body  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
Who truly suffered, sacrificed  
on the Cross for man,  
Whose pierced side overflowed  
with water and blood,  
Be for us a foretaste  
In the test of death.

### \* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

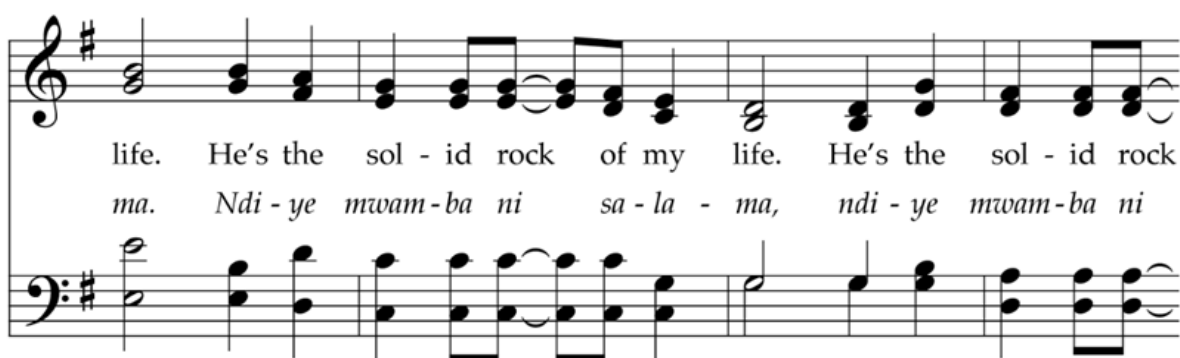
**O God, through this bread and this cup,  
you have made us one with You  
and with each other.  
May the unity we find at this table  
be a gift we carry out into Your world.  
May this unity empower us  
to make room for all of God's people. Amen.**

Refrain

Kwake Yesu Nasimama

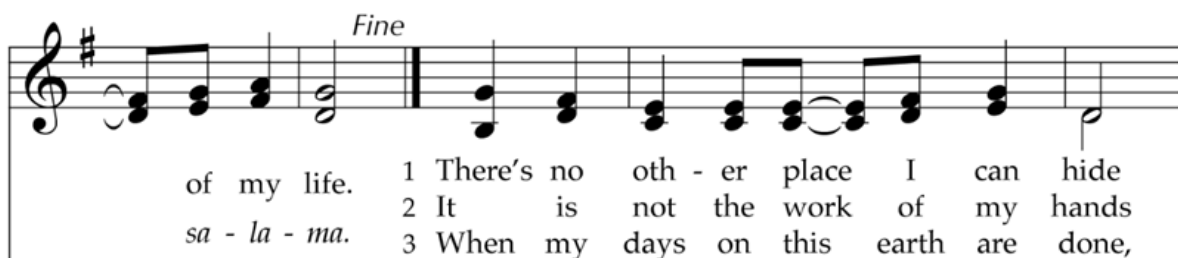


Here on Je - sus Christ I will stand. He's the sol - id rock of my  
Kwa - ke Ye - su na - si - ma - ma, ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la -

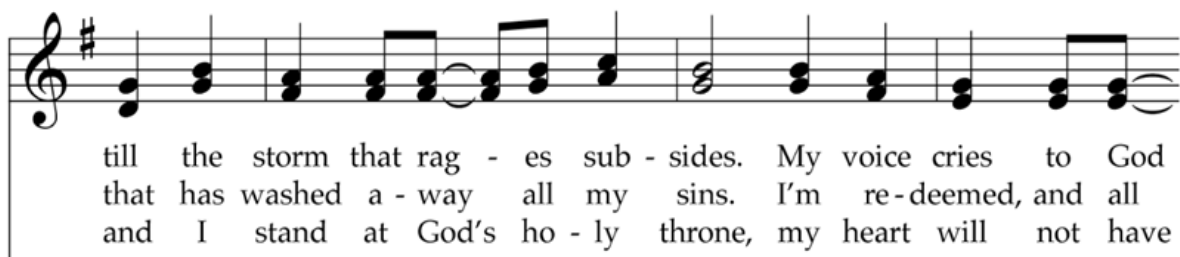


life. He's the sol - id rock of my life. He's the sol - id rock  
ma. Ndi - ye mwam - ba ni sa - la - ma, ndi - ye mwam - ba ni

*Fine*

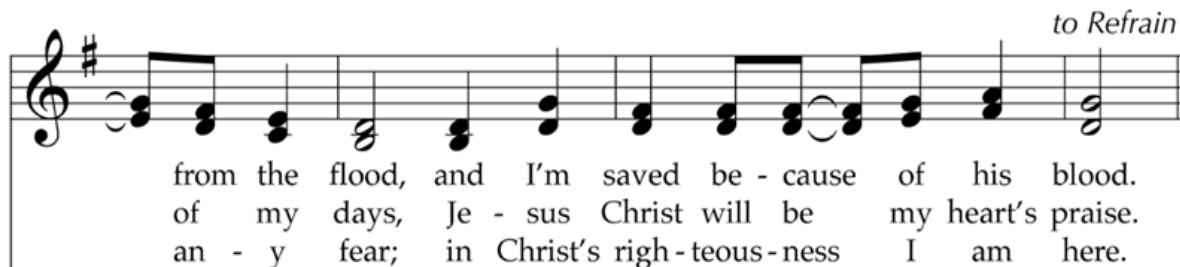


of my life. 1 There's no oth - er place I can hide  
sa - la - ma. 2 It is not the work of my hands  
3 When my days on this earth are done,



till the storm that rag - es sub - sides. My voice cries to God  
that has washed a - way all my sins. I'm re - deemed, and all  
and I stand at God's ho - ly throne, my heart will not have

*to Refrain*



from the flood, and I'm saved be - cause of his blood.  
of my days, Je - sus Christ will be my heart's praise.  
an - y fear; in Christ's righ - teous - ness I am here.

\* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Watch and pray, seeking the strength Christ offers.  
Live as thankful stewards of all God's gifts.

**Our souls are lifted up to trust in God;  
our spirits rejoice to learn God's ways.**

Those who are humble will discern new paths.  
For God is teaching us, day by day.

**Secure in God's love, we venture with confidence.  
We are willing to try a new way of being.**

God's steadfast love never fails  
God will keep covenant and lead us in all truth.

**We will look for signs that God's realm is near;  
we will rely on God's word to guide us.**

As you leave this place,  
may the God of justice and righteousness guide your steps  
and may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Amen*

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

*March Triumphant Into Jerusalem*

Robert W. Thygerson

*“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:**

Billy Augustus, JoAnn Hood, Donna Sue Buchanan, Darlene, Francis Sequeira,  
Clayton Rohrer, Shirley Daly, Barbara Haynes, Hannah Reid, Kimberly Williams,  
Amy Wheeler, Shelley Wheeler, Madison, Olivia Costa, Cathy Clegg, Linda White,  
the Oglesby family, the Warfel family, the Daly and Hutchings families

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.*



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

# The FRONT STEPS Giving Tree

Please take a moment to sign up for an Essential Christmas Gift for the residents of Front Steps Housing and Services. A table is set up outside the Chapel with a list of essential needs and gift tags of each resident for your gift bag.

**Gift packages are due back NEXT Sunday December 8, 2024**

## @ Old Stone Church

### Sunday December 1 Advent I

**9:00AM** Bible Study-Pastor Denise/Gallery

**10:00AM** Worship with Communion/Sanctuary

### Tuesday December 3

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

### Wednesday December 4

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

**7:00PM** Romans: A Letter for Today/ZOOM

### Sunday December 8 Advent II

**9:00AM** Bible Study-Pastor Denise/Gallery

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Communion/Chapel

**11:30AM** Mission and Urban Wellness Committee Meeting/  
Cuyahoga Room/Second Floor

**1:00PM** Messiah Concert/Sanctuary

### Tuesday December 10

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

### Wednesday December 11

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

**7:00PM** Romans: A Letter for Today/ZOOM

### Thursday December 13

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

### Sunday December 15 Advent III

**9:00AM** Bible Study-Pastor Denise/Gallery

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Communion/Chapel

**1:00PM** Browns/Chiefs

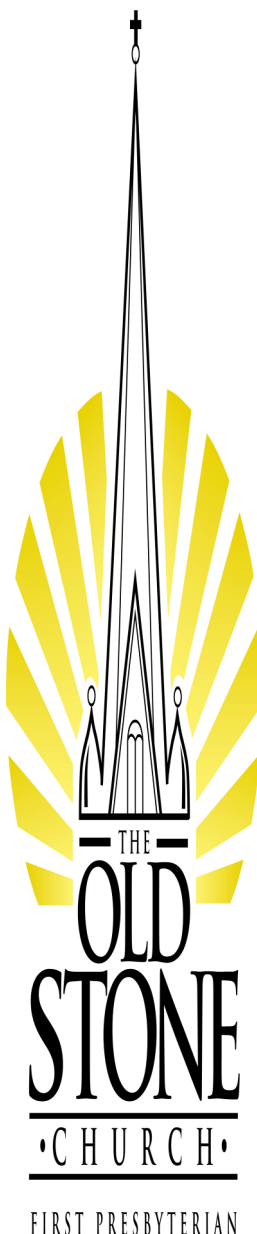
### Tuesday December 17

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

### Wednesday December 18

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

**7:00PM** Romans: A Letter for Today/ZOOM



**Last Sunday Attendance** In-Person:91 Online:246



There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

Online Giving: <a href="http://oldstonechurch.org/giving/">oldstonechurch.org/giving/</a>	Mobile Giving: Text the keyword “ <b>oldstonecle</b> ” 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](http://www.OldStoneChurch.org) **E-Mail:** [info@OldStoneChurch.org](mailto:info@OldStoneChurch.org)

Music copied under ccli#1638695  
onelicense#A-742406

**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*

Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

Samuel Jungman, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

R. Dominic Aragon, *bass*

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.