

The Old Stone Church

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Lead, Kindly Light

Dale Wood

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

INTROIT

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest, Thy perfect love close in my breast That I thee love and never rest; and make me love thee of all thinge best, And wounde my heart in thy love free, that I may reign in joy evermore with thee.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

God summons us from the sun's rising to its setting. Listen, for the Mighty One speaks to us.

Our God comes and does not keep silence.

Through fire and tempest, God is with us.

God gathers those faithful to the covenant.

Be quick to respond to God's invitation.

We seek a double share of the prophet's spirit.

We look for a vision to claim our souls.

Open your ears to the good news of the gospel. Open your eyes to the glory of God.

We come to share knowledge of Jesus Christ. We gather, seeking transformation and empowerment.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Speak to us, Mighty One, for we are eager to listen. Bless us, as we cry out to you for strength and vision. You have acted in times past to save your people. Save us now.

You have sent prophets to change the world. Change us now.

You have granted light in Jesus Christ. Shine on us now. Let us see your glory.

Lift us to the mountaintop in this time of prayer.

Stay close to us to melt away our doubts,

and do not leave us, we pray, through Christ. Amen.

* HYMN #189

O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair

DEO GRACIAS



Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This translation of a 15th-century Latin devotional text is set here to a majestic 15th-century tune celebrating the victory of an English king; they combine to evoke the awe and wonder of that moment of revelation the three disciples experienced in Christ's Transfiguration.

* CALL TO CONFESSION

The whirlwind pace of our lives becomes so all-consuming that we may forget our origins.

Our busyness separates us from knowledge of God's glory in the face of Christ. Now in these quiet moments apart from our everyday distractions,

we seek to renew our relationship with God and be restored to wholeness.

Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,

followed by time for silent personal confession.

Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When the gospel is veiled from us, mighty God, we feel alone. How easy it is to lose our direction and go the wrong way! At times, we feel as if we are perishing under the demands of our day, unable to see clearly what is most important. We become enslaved to our routines and enticed by shallow distractions. We fill all our hours with doing so there is no time for reflection and prayer.

Forgive us, O God, and restore balance to our lives.

(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 promises light for our nighttime and guidance on our way. In Christ, God lifts the veil so we can catch a glimpse of glory. There is peace to be found in the midst of turmoil. There is freedom and quiet even amid our busyness. We are released from our slavery to things, and lifted up beyond the limitations of our habits. God forgives us and offers new meaning to our lives. 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. Through our offerings, we support prophetic leadership, provide possibilities for mountaintop experiences, and enable the teaching ministry of our church. Our generosity can make a difference in the lives of people we will never know and in our own lives as well.

Let us give from our hearts in deep thanksgiving.

The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Holy Ground

Geron Davis arr. Lloyd Larson

When I walked through the door I sensed his presence, and I knew this was a place where love abounds; For this is a temple, Jehovah God abides here, and we are standing in his presence on holy ground.

R/. We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around. Let us praise Jesus now; we are standing in his presence on holy ground.

In his presence there is joy beyond all measure, and at his feet peace of mind can still be found. If you have a need I know he has the answer. Just reach out and claim it, for you are standing on holy ground. **R**/.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

* 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

Brad Oglesby

Let us join our voices in prayer:

Use our gifts, mighty God, to bring light where there is gloom, hope where there is despair, peace where there is turmoil. May Jesus Christ be proclaimed among us and around your world. May righteousness and justice prevail in spite of differences. May we inherit a double portion of the prophets' spirit to discern clearly the ways you would have us go. We dedicate ourselves and our offerings to these ends. 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

Speak to us, O Lord our God, and let the fire of your Spirit burn brightly in our hearts. Open our minds to receive the wisdom of the law, the hope of the prophets, and the life of the gospel: Jesus Christ, your living Word. Amen.

THE READINGS

Epistle

2 Corinthians 4:3-6 (NRSVUE)

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing clearly the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus's sake. For it is the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

The Holy Spirit has a word for each of us today. With God's help we are listening.

Gospel

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling bright, such as no one on earth could brighten them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams "Becoming Light to the World"



* THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God. eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made. of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate: he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures: he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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.

Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining SHINE, JESUS, SHINE



* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

It has been good for us to be together.

Now we scatter to share good news.

God has visited earth in human form.

In Jesus Christ, the beloved of God, humanity is blessed.

Light from the gospel has been revealed to us.

We are becoming lights to the world.

It is an awesome responsibility to reflect God's glory.

Ours is a wonderful opportunity to show God's love.

God will not leave us or forsake us.

God's presence is constant and dependable.

We depart with confidence and joy.

We will carry the knowledge of Christ in our hearts.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

Agincourt Hymn

John Dunstable

"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:

Lee Rutti, Kim Williams, Joe Geraci, Ken Moser, Katelynn and Liam Fawcett, George Sedlak, Dean, Joyce Sabe, Nova and Tony Kordalski, Marlene Henne, Laurie Thomson, Joanne Dawson, Shirley Daly, Karen Nestor, JoAnn Hood, Louis Handler, Scott Shaffer, Tralaina Dowp, Jackie and Ellis Lenaplis, David, John and Alan, the Dunn 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.

Lenten Studies



Pastor Stephen will be offering a 6-week Lenten Book Study on the Psalms, which will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday evenings throughout Lent, beginning Wednesday, February 14th, through Wednesday, March 20th via ZOOM.

The book is titled *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms* by Elizabeth F. Caldwell.

Old Stone Church has a limited number of copies preordered and they can be purchased at the church office for \$10.20 a copy. Please contact <u>Anthony@oldstonechurch.org</u> for more information or to order your copy and to participate.



Pastor Denise is offering A Journey to the Cross with Mark that she has written as a daily devotional for Lent. There are readings, study notes, reflection questions, and prayers for each day.

Pastor Denise will then offer a time on Sunday mornings at 9AM in the Gallery to gather, discuss and reflect on the weeks' offerings.

Copies may be picked up near the Chapel doors or by the Public Square doors.



@ Old Stone Church

Sunday February 11/ Transfiguration Sunday 10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary Wednesday February 14/ Ash Wednesday 12:15PM Worship/Sanctuary 7:00PM Lenten Book Study/ZOOM Sunday February 18/ First Sunday in Lent 9:00AM Lenten Study/Gallery 10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary 11:15AM Deacons Meeting/Chapel Wednesday February 21 7:00PM Lenten Book Study/ZOOM Saturday February 24 11:30AM Funeral Jean C. Cooke/Sanctuary

Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:75 Online:154

There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

Online Giving:	Mobile Giving:
oldstonechurch.org/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 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

> Rayna Brooks, *alto* Margaret Raupp, *alto* Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

lan Atwood, *tenor* Stephen Brown, *tenor* Frederick Peterbark, *tenor*

R. Dominic Aragon, bass Christopher Clark, bass Albert Donze, bass

Church Elders:

Clerk of Session: Beth Buchanan

<u>Class of 2024</u> Michelle Baron Janie Chambers Fred Heider Bernard Medie Bob Reid <u>Class of 2025</u> Dorothy Baunach Willie Brown David Eifert Dave Finley Robert Hubert Jr.

Church Deacons:

<u>Class of 2024</u> Scott Bailey Anand Bandari Bernie Bischel Carol Hoagland Amy Wheeler John Wheeler <u>Class of 2025</u> Valorie Hempstead Eileen Kelly Elie Medie Mark Pichler <u>Class of 2026</u> Beth Buchanan Judy Macuga Melissa Maffia Harriet Niles Marty Vassel

Class of 2026 Mark Corey

Forrest Diehl Pam Daly Ruth Finley Alyssa Niepokny Charlene Thornton

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