



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

MARCH 3, 2024
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT WITH COMMUNION
10 AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE *Ps. 22 You Who Fear the Lord, Praise Him!* Stephen Garchar

WELCOME Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

MINUTE FOR MISSION Noreen Ciaio
Resident, Front Steps

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

This is the time of fulfillment! The reign of God is at hand!

Come worship the Lord who was raised from the dead, was raised from the dead.

This is the time of fulfillment! The reign of God is at hand!

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

The heavens are telling the glory of God.

The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

We celebrate the steadfast love of God, our Creator.

Surely God is faithful to all who live in covenant.

From the sun's rising to its setting, the creation speaks.

Day and night, earth's creatures announce God's work.

The commandments of God are clear, enlightening the eyes.

God's Law is perfect, calling forth our best.

God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.

God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The ordinances of God are true and righteous.

In following them, we gain wisdom and strength.

*** INVOCATION PRAYER**

All-wise and all-loving God,

we are drawn together in this place

because all our knowledge and discernment

is not enough to give meaning to our lives.

All the pieces of our busy days need a center,

and we have come to see that center in the "foolishness" of the cross.

There, Love went the distance for us.

There, the paths of service were lifted

up above our passion for personal gain.

We are frightened by what you might ask of us,

but we long for the wholeness only you can offer.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts

be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

*** HYMN #307**

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
8.7.8.7.8.7.7

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Harriet Niles

The psalmist declared that our souls are revived by God's perfect law.
We are confronted by the law today.
At its center is the law of God revealed in Jesus Christ.
It is more desirable than all the gold in the world.
Let us confess those things in our lives that keep us from realizing that love.
Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
followed by time for silent personal confession.
Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We have come to your temple, loving God,
because this is your place, not ours.
We confess that we sometimes forget whose house this is.
We forget that all the world belongs to you
as we scramble for all we can claim for ourselves.
Our actions deny your love, which is at the heart of your perfect law.
Our minds have justified the bending and breaking of your law
to suit current trends and feelings.
We cry out for forgiveness and the opportunity for a fresh start.
Clear us of hidden faults
and redeem us from those we recognize and confess.

(moment of silent confession)

* KYRIE ELEISON

James Chepponis

Kyrie eleison. Christi eleison. Kyrie eleison.

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

When our prayers become more than pious words;
when, in awe before God, we truly seek forgiveness;
the Almighty becomes for us a guiding presence.
We are healed, strengthened, and set free from our slavery to sin.
In steadfast love, God claims us, saying:
You are my people.
Dare to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

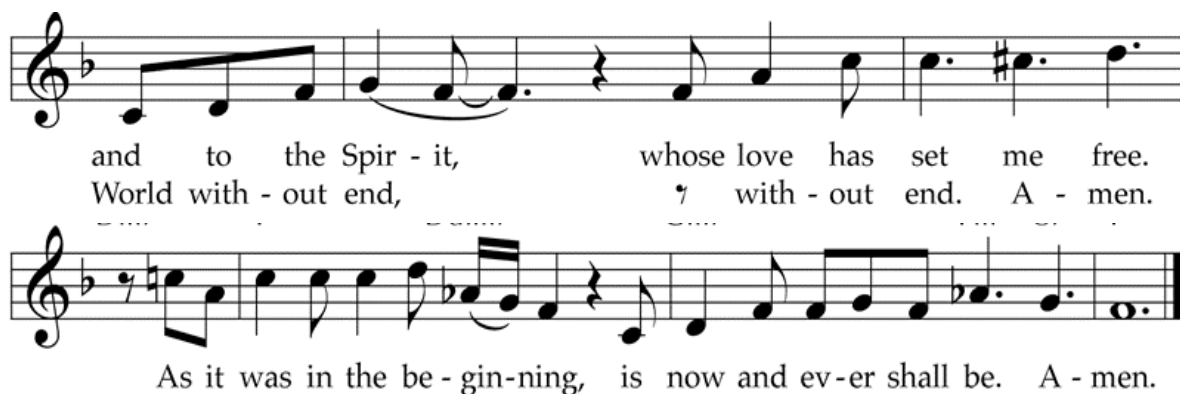
May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Let us offer a sign of peace to one another.

* GLORIA #582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me GLORY TO GOD
(Vasile)

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.



OFFERTORY INVITATION

Please be seated:

The commandments invite us to a sabbath time
in which we give ourselves completely to the worship of God.
The gifts we bring are important, but even more,
we are invited to commit ourselves to God's foolishness, to the way of love.
May it be our passion to extend love to all of earth's people.
The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Create in Me

John Purifoy

Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me, I pray.
Restore to me now the joy of salvation and hold me with Thy free spirit.
Create in me, a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me.

* 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

Harriet Niles

Let us join our voices in prayer:

We bring our offerings, O God,
not to buy your favor, but to express our gratitude,
not to support an institution, but to further your mission.
We support the church in its efforts
to challenge the false wisdom that pervades our culture.
We seek to make this community of faith
a center of values that are consistent with your will.
May we be zealous in your service,
willing to sacrifice for love's sake,
and eager to embrace your Word in our everyday living.
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 of Glory,
we cannot hear the heavens proclaim your handiwork,
though the speech of the skies must be magnificent.
We cannot hear what day and night are singing about you,
though their song must be both bright and deep.
Yet, somehow you are made known to us
through our own foolish proclamation.
It is only by the power of the Holy Spirit
that your Word can be heard in our words.
Open our ears to what you are saying to us today, we pray:
and perhaps we may also hear echoes of your glory
in the broad firmament above.
In Christ's name we pray.
Amen.

THE READINGS

Epistle

I Corinthians 1:18-25 (NRSVUE)

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

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

With God's help we are listening.

Psalms 19

Lord, You Have the Words

Michael Joncas

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.
The law of the Lord is perfect; it revives the soul.
The decrees of the Lord are steadfast;
they give wisdom to the simple.
Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The precepts of the Lord are right; they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear; it gives light to the eyes.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The fear of the Lord is pure, abiding forever.

The judgments of the Lord are true;

They are, all of them, just.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

They are more to be desired than gold, than quantities of gold.
And sweeter are they than honey, than honey flowing from the comb.

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Gospel

John 2:13-22 (NRSVUE)

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, with the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

"Love's Foolishness"



WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

* HYMN #522

I Am the Bread of Life

I AM THE BREAD

Leader or All A F#m A C#m

1 "I am the bread of life. You who
 2 "The bread that I will give is my
 3 "Un - less you eat of the
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion;
 5 Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that

D Esus E

come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and
 I am the life. If you be -
 you are the Christ, the

A C#m D E/D A C#m

lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat of this bread, you shall live for -
 drink of his blood, and drink of his
 lieve in me, e - ven though you
 Son of God, who has

F#m F#m/E Bm7 E

me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er; you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to the world.

Refrain All A E A D E

"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,



* INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

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 the Old Stone Church's table,
 It is the table of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
 And all are welcome.

God is with you!
And God is with us all.
 Open wide your hearts.
We open them completely to the Spirit of God.

May God's love nurture your wandering spirits each day.
 May God's light sustain your souls each night.

This is a season of wilderness-
 The season we grasp to understand
 the Divine just a little more.

This is the time for us to reach inwards
 to find the self that God sees.
 This is the chance for us to gaze outwards,
 caring for the Christ in our midst.
 The Lenten roads are long
 yet full of gifts.

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

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

The Lenten paths often seem chilly
yet warm with the winds of the Spirit.
The Spirit of God is the light
that leads us in the hushed nights.
The Christ is our companion on the journey
in the intense sunlight of day.

We remember his time in the wilderness-
The struggles. The hunger. The peace.
And as we seek the Divine in our midst,
on this journey, we crave the bread of life.
On our desert roads, we thirst for the fruit of the vine,
the cup of blessings.

Through Jesus the Christ's story,
we remember the night before his arrest,
the night of serenity, solemnity, and love.
Jesus took in his hands bread from the table.
He broke it and blessed it.

**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.
Eat in remembrance of me, he said.

And after supper, as the night grew long,
Jesus took a cup, and filled it with the fruit of the vine.
As he blessed it, he spoke aloud to them

**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.
Take and drink and always remember me.

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

May the Spirit who traveled with Christ in the wilderness
And fills us with the hope of God
Surround these elements.
May the Spirit speak to us in this season of wilderness
Becoming our strength on this journey
And filling our lives with love. Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

This is the feast prepared for you.
Come and share for all is ready.
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.

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

COMMUNION ANTHEM *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!

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION:

Divine Light of Our Journey-
In a spirit of gratitude
we give thanks for this time at your Holy Meal.
This time at the Table filled us with strength,
knowing that as we continue on this Lenten journey,
We will find your peace surrounding us.
Amen.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name. *Fine*

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.
 your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry. *to Refrain*

This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever.

TEXT: George William Kitchin, 1887; rev. Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916, alt.
 MUSIC: Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916; desc. Richard Proulx, 1985
 Text and Music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company
 Music Desc. © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

CRUCIFER
 10.10 with refrain

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

You have been embraced by God's power and love.
Dare to face the world, bearing God's wisdom.

**We proclaim the crucified one, Jesus Christ.
The power of love is not destroyed by death.**

Be careful in the use of God's name.
Live in awe that God chooses you as a witness.

**The law of God is perfect, reviving the soul.
The precepts of God are right, rejoicing the heart.**

The scriptures will guide us toward God's truth.
God's steadfast love will sustain us.

**We will seek to keep the spirit of the commandments.
Self-giving love toward God and humanity will guide us.**

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Three-fold Amen

Orlando Gibbons

ORGAN POSTLUDE

*Trumpet in Dialogue
(Basse et Dessus de Trompette)*

Louis Nicolas Clerambault

*"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:

Frank Macuga, Lee Rutti, Joe Geraci, Ken Moser, Katelynn and Liam Fawcett,
George Sedlak, Dean, Joyce Sabe, Marlene Henne, Laurie Thomson, Joanne Dawson,
Karen Nestor, JoAnn Hood, Scott Shaffer, Tralaina Dowp, Jackie and Ellis Lenaplis,
North Presbyterian Church, Aaron Beard, Sue Blazek, Sally Drummond and family,
Tony Kordalski and family

We pray for the repose of the soul of Nova Kordalski,
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.

News from North Presbyterian Church

We are very grateful for Old Stone's contribution to North for its continued ministry. We are looking into getting a new pastor when Rev. Charlie Hurst retires next year. Please keep the North community in prayer.

We suggest that you include North in your prayers one Sunday a month as a way to keep in partnership when you are not involved with the meal program.

The North community is grateful for your partnership, and celebrate the faith with your churches at worship each Sunday.



Old Stone Church Welcomes



We welcome residents,

Noreen Ciaio and

James Cobbs,

David Gretick, *Chief Operating Officer*, and
Matthew Anderson, *Development Director* from
Front Steps Services.

A Mission Partner of the Old Stone Church Mission and Urban Wellness Committee.



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



Lent @ The Old Stone Church

The Welcoming and Fellowship Committee will have wooden crosses to decorate in preparation for Easter at a table near the Chapel doors.

Please return them on Palm Sunday March 24, 2024 to be displayed on Easter Sunday.



Next Sunday, March 10, 2024 Daylight Savings Time begins. Please set your clocks and phones ahead one hour on Saturday evening.



@ Old Stone Church

Sunday March 3/Third Sunday in Lent

9:00AM Lenten Study/Gallery

10:00AM Worship with Communion/Sanctuary

11:15AM Mission and Urban Wellness

Committee Meeting/Cuyahoga Room

Wednesday March 6

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

7:00PM Lenten Book Study/ZOOM

Sunday March 10/Fourth Sunday in Lent

9:00AM Lenten Study/Gallery

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:15AM Communion/Chapel

Tuesday March 12

7:00PM Deacons Meeting/ZOOM

Wednesday March 13

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

7:00PM Lenten Book Study/ZOOM

Thursday March 14

2:00PM Worship Committee Meeting/ZOOM

Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:78 Online:165

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

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*

Frederick Peterbark, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

R. Dominic Aragon, *bass*

Margaret Raupp, *alto*

Christopher Clark, *bass*

Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

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

Scott Bailey
Anand Bandari
Bernie Bischel
Carol Hoagland
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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