



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

APRIL 14, 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER WITH BAPTISM

10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth, from “Messiah”
Cicely Schonberg, *Soprano*

G. F. Handel

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT

Surrexit Christus / The Lord Is Risen

Jacques Berthier

The Lord is risen, alleluia!
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for God's love has no end.
The Lord is my strength, the Lord is my song, God has been my Savior.
I shall not die, I shall live. I shall live and recount God's deeds.

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

God has set apart those who are faithful.
Our Creator will hear us when we call.

**God puts gladness in our hearts and minds.
We will lie down in safety and sleep in peace.**

Beloved, we are God's children now.
What we will be has not yet been revealed.

**We are alive to remember Jesus Christ.
We want to be like the One who lived by love.**

Our faith strengthens us for each day's living.
God empowers our ministries of caring.

**We trust God whose children we are.
We look forward to what God will reveal to us.**

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**God of our ancestors, author of life, source of Easter good news,
we are drawn together again by the mystery of life and death.**

**We call on you, so far beyond our knowing,
with a mixture of faith and doubt.**

Let your face shine on us as we put our trust in you.

**Draw together the fragments of our busy lives
around the central core of love which you provide,
that we might relate to one another as whole people.**

**Grant us a fuller sense of what is right
and help us to live at our best.**

Amen.

* HYMN #248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with three verses. The first verse is: "1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!". The second verse is: "2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.". The third verse is: "3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.".

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Jessica Atwood

In his preaching, the disciple Peter reminded his listeners that no one can escape the collective guilt that allows innocent people to suffer. The mob action that sent Jesus to the cross was fed by fears and anger we are reluctant to claim. Yet we, too, reject the Holy One, by our neglect if not by deliberate intent. Peter invites us to repent and turn to God that our sins may be wiped away. 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

**We are disturbed and distressed, O God, by the evil that surrounds us.
It is hard to view many people we see as your children:
murderers, abusers, those who cheat others
and profit at their expense.
We feel like victims.
Why should we confess our sins
when there is so much evil beyond our influence?
Yet we know we do not abide in your love.
We sin by turning away from sisters and brothers
who are also beloved by you, however they may differ from us.
We seek the forgiveness you promise and the health you offer.**

(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

Forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to all who repent and seek new life in Christ. The peace of God dwells in us when we honestly examine ourselves, exposing our wounds to Love's healing and our self-deceit to Love's correction. Beloved, we are accepted by God whose will for us is a joyous freedom in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia and Amen!

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Jameson Patrick Michael Hakos

Thomas Joseph Michael Hakos

Jessica Hudson & Jesse Hudson
(Godparents)

Madeline Hakos & Peter E. Hakos
(Godparents)

Allison Leah Helen Hakos & Patrick Michael Hakos
(Parents)

* 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.
With gladness in our hearts,
we offer our best to God in this act of commitment and sacrifice.
We give because repentance and forgiveness of sins
is to be proclaimed in the name of Jesus Christ to all nations,
beginning where we are.
Let us give according to our faith.
The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Joy in the Morning

Natalie Sleeth

There'll be joy in the morning on that day,
there'll be joy in the morning on that day,
for the daylight will dawn when the darkness is gone,
there'll be joy in the morning on that day.

There'll be peace and contentment evermore,
there'll be peace and contentment evermore,
ev'ry heart, ev'ry voice on that day will rejoice,
there'll be peace and contentment evermore.

And the glory of the Lord will shine, shine upon us.
And the glory of the Lord will bring the truth divine.

There'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere,
there'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere,
and the way of the Lord will that day be restored,
there'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere.

* 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

Jessica Atwood

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**We give with joy, gracious God,
for you have been with us even when we were unfaithful.
You have kept us in safety through times of grave distress.
We can call on you in all times and places,
in life and in death,
knowing that your strength is available to sustain us.
We give that your church may be empowered
in the proclamation of good news
and the transformation of human life.
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

**Holy God, by your Spirit
reveal your radical, surprising love;
come to us through your holy word,
and let us hear what you are saying.
Amen.**

THE READINGS

Epistle

1 John 3:1-7 (NRSVUE)

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.

Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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

With God's help we are listening.

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I, myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

"Radical Surprising Love"



THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
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.

* HYMN #251

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

MFURAHINI, HALELUYA

1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia. Re - joi - ce and
2 For three long days the grave did its worst un - til its
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear. You look for
4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave. He has a -
5 Christ has a - ris - en to set us free. Al - le - lu -

praise him, al - le - lu - ia. For our re - deem - er
 strength by God was dis - persed. He who gives life did
 Je - sus who is not here. See for your - selves the
 ris - en this world to save. Je - sus' re - deem - ing
 ia, to him prais - es be. Je - sus is liv - ing!

burst from the tomb, e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.
 death un - der - go, and in its con - quest his might did show.
 tomb is all bare. On - ly the grave clothes are ly - ing there."
 la - bors are done. E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."
 Let us all sing; he reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy. Death's fear - ful

sting he has come to de - stroy. Our sin for - giv - ing,

al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Put your trust in God as you face another week.
God affirms you and claims your faithfulness.

We will open our eyes to the goodness of God.

We seek to follow faithfully where Christ leads.

Turn away from vain words and seeking after lies.

Seek the purity of life we find in Christ Jesus.

We pray for honest insight as we seek truth.

O that we might see the good in ourselves.

We have been touched by mystery and wonder.

Let us live as God's beloved children.

What we will become has not yet been revealed.

We are confident in God's will for us.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

Toccata in F Major

Dietrich Buxtehude

*“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:

Janie Chambers, Regis Bookshar, Kathleen, Frank Macuga, Lee Rutti, Joe Geraci,
Ken Moser, Katelynn and Liam Fawcett, Laurie Thomson, Katherine Gilmore Maynard,
Diane Priscilla, Sharon Steranko, Aaron Beard, Connor

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.



Please join us for Communion following the service this morning in the Chapel.

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



If you are interested in joining and learning about this diverse congregation in the heart of Cleveland, Old Stone Church is offering a New Members Retreat on Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 11AM- 3PM.

Please contact the office to make reservations.



Please take home your decorated crosses that you shared with the congregation for Easter, following the service today.



@ Old Stone Church

Sunday April 14/Third Sunday of Easter

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:15AM Communion/Chapel

11:30AM Deacons Meeting/Conference Room/First Floor

1:10PM Guardians/Yankees

Wednesday April 17

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Saturday April 20

11:00AM New Member Retreat/Chapel

Sunday April 21/Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:00AM Worship with Communion/Sanctuary

Tuesday April 23

6:30PM Stated Session Meeting/ZOOM

Wednesday April 24

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:79 Online:175

There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

<p>Online Giving: oldstonechurch.org/giving/</p>	<p>Mobile Giving: Text the keyword “oldstonecle” to 73256</p>
<p>Mail to: Old Stone Church Attn: Financial Office 91 Public Square Cleveland, OH 44113</p>	<p>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.</p>

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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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.