



# THE OLD STONE CHURCH

APRIL 28, 2024  
 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
 10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

“Largo” from *Concerto for Piccolo*

J.S. Bach  
 arr. William J. Hebert  
 Mary Kay Robinson, *Piccolo*

WELCOME

Pastor Denise Clark-Jones

\* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

I am the vine, ye are the branches. They that do with me abide,  
theirs shall be the glorious fruitage, theirs the blessings that betide.

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to worship God whose love was revealed in Jesus.  
Let all the ends of the earth turn to our God.

**We will worship the Almighty and sing praises.**

**We will proclaim good news to others.**

Beloved, we are called to love as God loves us.

We are to love one another as sisters and brothers.

**Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.**

**We seek to let God's love be perfected in us.**

Remember that you have been baptized.

God claims you and has high expectations of you.

**Christ is the vine; we are the branches.**

**We will bear fruit when we abide in the vine.**

## \* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**Open our senses to your direction, amazing God,  
so we may be alert to opportunities you give us.**

**Fill us with good news to share with those who seek meaning for their  
lives. We are here because we need good news ourselves.**

**There is much in life that we do not understand.**

**We seek to know your Word and to be led by it.**

**Recall us to the vows of our baptism,  
reconfirming in us the covenant promises**

**that link us to you and to one another.**

**As we meet you here, our hearts are lifted up in praise.**

**May our worship glorify your name and be pleasing to you.**

**Amen.**

## \* HYMN #485

*We Know That Christ Is Raised*

## ENGELBERG

Capo 3: (D) (Asus) (A) (A/G) (D/F#)  
F Csus C C/B<sup>b</sup> F/A

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.  
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.  
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

(D) (A) (D) (E7) (A)  
 F C F G7 C

Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold,  
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life  
 The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the church of God.  
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

(Am) (D) (G) (Em) (Bm)  
 Cm F Bb Gm Dm

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.  
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.  
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.  
 The u - ni - verse, re - stored and whole, will sing:

1-3 4  
 (Em) (D) (Asus) (A) (Em) (D)  
 Gm F Csus C Gm F

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

Beginning with an allusion to Romans 6:9, this exuberant baptismal hymn unfolds the implications of our incorporation into Christ's new life, making us "a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The text was written to fit this expansive tune by a distinguished British composer.

TEXT: John Brownlow Geyer, 1967, alt.  
 MUSIC: Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904  
 Text © 1972 John Brownlow Geyer

ENGELBERG  
 10.10.10.4  
 (this tune in a higher key, 641)

\* CALL TO CONFESSION

Bram Chisholm

Sense the love of God that seeks to live in us.  
 Remember the times you have felt connected to the true vine, Jesus Christ.  
 Listen again to the promise and challenge:  
 If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you want,  
 and it will be done for you...  
 bear much fruit and thus prove to be my disciples.  
 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

**O God, we have ignored our origin in you  
and denied your rule over the nations.  
We have pursued illusions of self-interest rather than abiding in your  
love. We have turned away from brothers and sisters  
as if they were enemies to be hated.  
We are afraid to love those who differ from us  
or who have the power to harm us.  
We hesitate to take the risks of caring for fear that we may be hurt.  
Discipleship seems too demanding.  
O God, release us from our fears and failures  
to trust your love and live with bold generosity.**  
*(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

There is good news for all who sincerely repent  
and seek a living, growing relationship with God.  
Those who are open to the gift of God's love  
are blessed with the capacity to extend love to others  
and thus experience the depth and riches of life that God intends for us.  
When we love one another, God's love is perfected in us.  
**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.  
God loves us so much  
that Jesus was sent to be the atoning sacrifice for our sin.  
The balm of love was offered for our healing  
so we might be reconciled to God and one another.  
What will we offer in thanksgiving for so great a gift?  
The offering will now be received.

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Jubilate Deo (Psalm 100)*

Dale Wood

O sing to the Lord with a jubilant voice; Glory to God in the highest!  
O serve him with gladness, before him rejoice; Praise to the Lord in the highest.  
The Lord is our God, our Creator, not we; Glory to God in the highest!  
The sheep of his pasture we ever shall be; Praise to the Lord in the highest!  
O enter his gates with thanksgiving and praise; Glory to God in the highest!  
To honor his Name thankful voices we raise; Praise to the Lord in the highest!  
For good is the Lord, and his mercy is sure; Glory to God in the highest!  
To all generations his truth shall endure; Glory to God! Praise to the Lord in the highest!

\* 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

Bram Chisholm

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**We give, gracious God, because we are grateful.  
Your love has sustained us through many trials and temptations.  
We are thankful for those who have guided  
our attempts to understand the scriptures.  
Your loving judgement has provided the pruning  
our lives require in order to bear fruit.  
We give in order to extend to others the blessings we have received  
and to continue the ministry we need  
as we seek to abide together in your love.  
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

**Come, Holy Spirit,  
that through your word we may be guided  
into the love of God for all the world.  
Amen.**

## THE READINGS

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40 (NRSVUE)

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.  
In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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

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

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

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

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 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.**



Capo 3: (D) (A7)  
 Refrain F C7

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love; show

(D) (D/F#) (Em7) (A7) (D)  
 F F/A Gm7 C7 F Fine

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

(D) (Bm) (Em) (A)  
 F Dm Gm C

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their  
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and  
 3 These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should  
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, will - ing to wash oth - ers'

(D) (Bm) (Em7) (A7) (D)  
 F Dm Gm7 C7 F to Refrain

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 race; neigh-bors are near us and far a - way.  
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.  
 feet; this is the way we should live like you.



\* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Live for God every moment of every day.  
Take time to bow down in gratitude for God's love.

**We seek to live as people who know God.**

**Because we are loved, we dare to love others.**

Do not be afraid to witness to your growing faith.  
Do not hesitate to show the fruits of abiding in Christ.

**We will turn to the perfect love that casts out fear.**

**We will tell of that love to future generations.**

You have been equipped and empowered by love.  
God is filling your life with purpose and energy.

**We love because God first loved us.**

**We go out to serve as apostles of Jesus Christ.**

Our time in this place may have ended,  
but our connection to each other and this community remains.  
Together may we walk the path of justice, speak words of love,  
live the selfless deed, tread gently upon the earth,  
and fill the world with compassion.  
And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be upon you, and remain with you forever.

**Amen.**

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Amen*

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

“Presto” from *Concerto for Piccolo*

J.S. Bach  
arr. William J. Heber

*“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:**

Regis Bookshar, Kathleen, Frank Macuga, Lee Rutti, Joe Geraci,  
Laurie Thomson, Katherine Gilmore Maynard, Diane Priscilla, Sharon Steranko,  
Aaron Beard, Conor, Ray Alford, JoAnn Hood

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.

### **@ Old Stone Church**

#### **Sunday April 28/Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:15AM** Communion/Chapel

#### **Wednesday May 1**

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

**6:00PM** Welcome & Fellowship Meeting/ZOOM

#### **Sunday May 5/Sixth Sunday of Easter**

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

**11:15AM** Mission and Urban Wellness Committee Meeting/  
Cuyahoga Room/Second Floor

**1:10PM** Guardians/Dodgers

#### **Wednesday May 8**

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

#### **Thursday May 9**

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

#### **Sunday May 12/Ascension Sunday/Reception of New Members**

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:15AM** Communion/Chapel



**Last Sunday Attendance** In-Person:80 Online:198

There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

<p>Online Giving:  <a href="http://oldstonechurch.org/giving/">oldstonechurch.org/giving/</a></p>	<p>Mobile Giving:          Text the keyword “<b>oldstonecle</b>” 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

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**Website:** [www.OldStoneChurch.org](http://www.OldStoneChurch.org) **E-Mail:** [info@OldStoneChurch.org](mailto: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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