**The Old Stone Church**

**MAY 5, 2024**  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER WITH COMMUNION**

**10 AM Sanctuary Worship**

**WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD**

**Prelude**  
*Jesu, Dulcis Memoria*  
Gerald Near

**Welcome**  
Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

**Minute for Mission**  
Kara Bane

**Introit**  
*I Will Worship the Lord*  
John Rutter

> I will worship the Lord all the days of my life;  
> I will tell of his glory and will show forth his praise;  
> I will sing and rejoice, for the Lord is my stronghold. Alleluia.

* Those who are able are requested to stand  
Please silence all electronic devices.
* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come all who are born of God;
Abide in the love revealed in Jesus Christ.

We come in response to the one who calls us friends.
We are here in obedience to Christ's command.

Remember God's steadfast love and faithfulness.
Let hands and voices echo God's praise.

Let our lips pour out a joyful noise.
Let our hands reflect a serving Savior.

Sing a new song to God who does marvelous things.
Obey God's commandments which are not burdensome.

We clap our hands and sing for joy.
We live by faith that conquers the world.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Come, Holy Spirit,
to lift us from empty routines to the surprising joy of your love.
Loosen our tongues to praise you with sincere delight.
Open our hearts to trust your leading
through times of difficulty and days of despair.
Calm our doubts and guide us through the mires of fear.
You have called us together for mutual support
in a time of worship that unites our spirits.
We remember that we have been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.
Teach us to follow where Christ leads.
Amen.

* HYMN #231  Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers  SUO GAN

1 Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers; Christ has ris-en where hope died,
2 Christ has ris-en for the peo-ple whom he died to love and save;
3 Christ has ris-en and for ev-er lives to chal-lenge and to change
God judges the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.
God knows all that we have done and all that we avoid.
God is aware of our obedience to the way of love and our rebellion against it.
We are invited to confess all that God already knows
so healing and freedom can be ours in Christ Jesus.
Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
followed by time for silent personal confession.
Thus, we pray together:

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Mary Musson
* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-present God,
we confess to you our unloving thoughts and deeds.
We live by standards that we bend and break in our own favor,
while ignoring the commandments you have given.
We find it hard to love everyone, for so many act in unloving ways.
It is easier to treat people as things than to listen for their needs.
We withhold ourselves rather than offer our lives, even for our friends. We
hoard the gifts you entrust to us
instead of letting them bear fruit for you.
Cleanse us from these destructive ways,
freeing us to love as you have loved us,
we pray in Jesus' name.

(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

Even now, God is giving us victory
over the limitations we impose on ourselves.
When we trust God's love,
we can emerge from the shell of self-protection
to celebrate the joy of friendship in Christ.
We can dare to show love that is not dependent on others' responses.
We can serve without the need for recognition.
Praise God!

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
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:
We are people whom God has blessed with many gifts.
God has done marvelous things for us.
How will we, who have been baptized by water and the Spirit,
respond to God's generosity?
The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Ubi Caritas
Maurice Duruflé

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsultemus, et in ipso jucundemur,
timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum
et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

Where true charity and love dwell, God himself is there.
Since the love of Christ has joined us in one body,
Let us all rejoice and be glad now and always.
And as we hear and love the living God,
So let us in sincerity love all people.

* 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

Mary Musson

Let us join our voices in prayer:
Generous and loving God,
we dedicate to your service the work of our hands,
the earnings of our time and efforts,
and our vision for the future.
May faith sustain us as we offer our best to you
in praise and thanksgiving and joyous dedication.
We seek to work for the reign of your truth
and extension of the friendship granted to us in Jesus Christ.
Let our offering bear fruit in the lives of all who are helped by it.
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:

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God,
in the reading of your Word,
that we would hear what you have to say to us today.
May your Holy Spirit be poured out upon us;
through Christ Jesus.
Amen.

THE READINGS

Epistle 1 John 5:1-6 (NRSVUE)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Messiah has been born of God. Everyone who loves God loves the One who has come from God. We can be sure that we love God’s children when we love God and do what God has commanded. The love of God consists of this: that we keep God’s commandments. And these commandments are not burdensome. Everyone born of God conquers the world, and the power that has conquered the world is our faith. Who then can overcome the world? The one who believes that Jesus is the Only Begotten of God. Jesus Christ came by water and blood—not by water alone, but with water and blood. It is the Spirit who testifies to this, and she is truth.

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

With God’s help we are listening.
As my Abba has loved me, so have I loved you. Live on in my love. And you will live on in my love if you keep my commandments, just as I live on in Abba God’s love and have kept God’s commandments. I tell you all this that my joy may be yours, and your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. And you are my friends, if you do what I command you. I no longer speak of you as subordinates, because a subordinate does not know a superior’s business. Instead I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learned from Abba God. It was not you who choose me; it was I who chose you to go forth and bear fruit. Your fruit must endure, so that whatever you ask of Abba God in my name God will give you. This command I give you: that you love one another.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“Your Fruit Must Endure”
WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

* HYMN# 529  Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether  UNION SEMINARY

1 Draw us in the Spirit’s tether, for when humbly
2 As disciples used to gather in the name of
3 All our meals and all our living make as sacred

Am Dsus D G C Am D G
in your name two or three are met together,
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giver
ments of you, that by caring, helping, giving,

Em D/F# G Am Dsus D G C Am
you are in the midst of them. Alleluia! Alle
break the bread and bless the cup. Alleluia! Alle
we may be disciples true. Alleluia! Alle

D G Em C G/B Am D G
lu - ia! Here we touch your garment’s hem.
lu - ia! so now bind our friend ship up.
lu - ia! We will serve with faith anew.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This communion text calls attention to the inherent sacramental nature of all meals and the communal dimensions of all human interaction. The tune, originally composed for an anthem setting of this text, honors the institution where the composer was trained and later taught.

TEXT: Percy Dearmer, 1931, alt.
MUSIC: Harold Friedell, 1957
Text © 1931 Oxford University Press
INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from north and south and from east and west to sit at table in the Kingdom of God. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. This is the Table of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

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.
Praise to you, O God, for all your works. You created the world and called it good and made us in your image to live together in love. You made a covenant with us, and even when we turned from you, you remained ever faithful.

Therefore with all creation we sing your praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son. He lived among us and told your story. He healed the sick and welcomed sinners. He shared our pain and died our death, then rose to new life that we might live, and all creation be restored.

Remembering your boundless love revealed to us in Jesus Christ, we break bread and share the cup, giving ourselves to you to live for him in joy and praise.

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

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, Conor, Ray Alford, JoAnn Hood

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

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha’olam
hammer lekhem min ha’aretz.
Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.

Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way Jesus took the cup, saying:

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.

This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink 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 they may be for us the body and blood of Christ and that we may be his body for the world. By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another until we feast with him and with all your saints in your eternal realm of justice and peace. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

A - men, a - men, a - men!
A - men, a - men, a - men!
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.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

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

COMMUNION ANTHEM  Bread of Life from Heaven  Marty Haugen

Bread of life from heaven, your blood and body given, we eat this bread and drink this cup until you come again.

Break now the bread of Christ’s sacrifice; giving thanks, hungry ones, gather round. Eat, all of you, and be satisfied; in Christ’s presence the loaves will abound.

Seek not the food that will pass away; set your hearts on the food that endures. Come, learn the true and the living way, that the fullness of life may be yours.

Love as the One who, in love for you, gave himself for the life of the world. Come to the One who is food for you, that your hunger and thirst be no more.

Dwell in the One who now dwells in you; make your home in the life-giving Word. Know only Christ, holy One of God, and believe in the truth you have heard.

Drink of this cup and declare his death; eat this bread and believe Easter morn; trust his return and, with every breath, praise the One in whom you are reborn.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION:

  God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
  Amen.
In the Bulb There Is a Flower

1 In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
2 There’s a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
3 In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;

in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
there’s a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.

In the cold and snow of winter there’s a spring that waits to be,
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,

unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

The writing of this hymn was spurred by a line from the poet T. S. Eliot: "In my end is my beginning."
Shortly after this piece was completed, the author/composer’s husband was diagnosed with what proved to be a terminal malignancy, and the original anthem version of this hymn was sung at his funeral.

TEXT and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

Text and Music © 1986 Hope Publishing Company
* COMMISSION AND BLESSING
  Friends of Christ, carry God’s love into the world.
  You have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit.
  
  * May the Holy Spirit inspire our words.
  * May God’s love in Christ empower our deeds.
  Sing of the victory of self-giving friendship.
  Witness to the saving power of love.
  In Christ, we are no longer servants but friends.
  We are learning to love as we have been loved.
  God judges the world with righteousness.
  Our efforts are accepted with steadfast faithfulness.
  We clap our hands with appreciation and joy.
  The law of love is reigning in our hearts.

* CHORAL RESPONSE
  Amen
  John Rutter

ORGAN POSTLUDE
  Improvisation - Toccata on the “Tonus Peregrinus”
  Everett Titcomb

“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:
Regis Bookshar, Kathleen, Frank Macuqa, 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.
Wednesdays at 12:15 PM please join us in the Sanctuary for a Mid-Week Communion Service

**National Mental Health Awareness Month**

May is National Mental Health Awareness Month and the Mission and Urban Wellness Committee is planning on having a Minute for Mission each Sunday in May to address The Old Stone Church’s support of mental health issues.

The Mission and Urban Wellness Committee has supported NAMI’s Walk for Awareness at the Platinum level.

**Celebrity Chef with Rocco Whalen Returns to Old Stone Church**

**Sunday, June 2nd at 4 p.m.**

Back by popular demand! Old Stone Church's Celebrity Chef, presented by our Welcoming & Fellowship Committee, returns on Sunday, June 2nd, with Fahrenheit's Rocco Whalen, who will be presenting a signature dish of seared spicy scallops with summer cucumber salad, citrus relish, and arugula. Wine will be offered. This is the perfect opportunity for fellowship! This special ticketed event starts at 4 p.m. in Memorial Hall at Old Stone Church. Admission is $20, and all proceeds support Old Stone Church. Scholarships are available.

To reserve your tickets, please email our Welcoming & Fellowship Committee member Pam Daly by emailing pjdaly@sbcglobal.net

**@ Old Stone Church**

**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

**Wednesday May 15**

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

**Thursday May 16**

7:00PM FPS Directors Meeting/ Conference Room

**Sunday May 19/ Day of Pentecost/ Marathon Sunday**

10:00AM Worship with Communion/Sanctuary

1:10PM Guardians/Twins
There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Online Giving:</th>
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<td>oldstonechurch.org/giving/</td>
<td>Text the keyword “oldstonecle” to 73256</td>
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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.

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**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*  
Ian 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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2024</th>
<th>Class of 2025</th>
<th>Class of 2026</th>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Baron</td>
<td>Dorothy Baunach</td>
<td>Beth Buchanan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janie Chambers</td>
<td>Willie Brown</td>
<td>Judy Macuga</td>
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<td>Fred Heider</td>
<td>David Eifert</td>
<td>Melissa Maffa</td>
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<td>Bernard Medie</td>
<td>Dave Finley</td>
<td>Harriet Niles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob Reid</td>
<td>Robert Hubert Jr.</td>
<td>Marty Vassel</td>
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**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.