



# THE OLD STONE CHURCH

JULY 14, 2024  
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
**10AM Sanctuary Worship**

## WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE	<i>Nearer, My God, to Thee</i>	Clay Christiansen
WELCOME		Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams
MINUTE FOR MISSION		Ricky Smith
INTROIT	<i>I Will Worship the Lord</i>	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

Blessed be the God and parent of our Savior Jesus Christ!  
Thank God for every spiritual blessing.

**May the glory of God be known in this place!**

**May God's peace dwell in this and every land!**

Who shall ascend the hill to reach for God?

Who shall stand in God's holy place?

**Those who have clean hands and pure hearts.**

**Those who are not false or deceitful.**

God speaks peace to those who are faithful.

Lift up your heads and your hearts to God.

**We have come to hear the word of truth.**

**We turn to God, eager to receive salvation.**

\* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**Healer of all worlds, whose glory surrounds our unseeing eyes,  
our muffled hearing and our dulled emotions,  
come to awaken us to the mystery of your will.**

**Speak to us a word of truth that reveals our deceit  
and leads us away from falsehood.**

**Touch us with healing grace that allows us to admit our woundedness  
and accept the comfort you offer.**

**Let your Spirit move among us so we may recognize your presence  
in one another and in our own lives.**

**May our response to you be faithful and our praise genuine.**

**Amen.**

\* HYMN #307

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

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. Both staves are in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. Below the staves, there are four lines of lyrics, each corresponding to a measure of the melody. The lyrics are: 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

Elie Medie

God has chosen us to be holy and blameless in love before our Creator.  
In our hearts, we know we do not measure up to that high calling.  
We have built many barriers in our lives  
against true communion with God and honest community with one another.  
In our Prayer of Confession, we seek help to remove those barriers.  
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

**God of all hope and blessing,  
hear us as we turn to you with all our hearts.  
We have not been faithful to your word of love.  
We have hurt others and held grudges.  
We have been jealous and deceitful and ungrateful.  
We have turned from your Word and resisted the Holy Spirit.  
We have wanted our inheritance from you  
without the responsibilities that go with it.  
O God, we plead for your forgiveness and healing  
that we might respond with joy to the spiritual blessings 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

God's grace is freely given to us in Jesus Christ,  
through whom we are redeemed and forgiven.  
Let us set our hope on Christ,  
living each day for the praise of God's glory,  
ever seeking the truth that frees us to live fully and triumphantly.  
Join the dance of gratitude and joy,  
sharing with others the love God has poured into 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.

The earth belongs to God, and all that is in it.

The world is God's creation, and so are we.

All that we have is from the gifts of God, meant as a blessing for all to share.

In these moments, we recognize our responsibility to manage these resources for the redemption of all God's people.

Let us give with care.

The offering will now be received.

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Offertory*

John Ness Beck

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings,  
shall I come before Him with yearling calves?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgressions,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

He has shown you, O man; He has shown you what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly, walk humbly with your God.

### \* 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

Elie Medie

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**With joyous praise and dancing spirits,  
we dedicate this offering,  
acknowledging our covenant responsibility  
to share your word and love all your people.  
In gratitude for the gospel of salvation,  
we pledge our first loyalty and highest faithfulness  
as disciples of Jesus Christ.  
Thank you for the wisdom and insight we have received.  
Help us now to live according to the best we know, in Jesus' name.  
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

**Loving God,  
your Word brings peace to all who turn to you.  
Send your Holy Spirit to dwell among us  
that we might praise Christ's glory.  
Amen.**

## THE READINGS

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3-14 (NRSVUE)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

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

Gospel

Mark 6:14-29 (NRSVUE)

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead, and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."



For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.

When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests, and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved, yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought John's head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

"Off with his Head!"



## THE APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
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.**





1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a  
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of  
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,  
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,  
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,



pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.  
 bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.  
 look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*


This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior



all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my



song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

\* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Remember each day that you are chosen by God.

Be open to the spiritual blessings available at all times.

**We are cleansed and free, purified and made whole.**

**Great is our God and greatly to be praised!**

Dwell in the mystery of God's will for you.

Dare to reach out in love to those who share your world.

**We will seek God's counsel daily.**

**We will open our hearts to others' pain.**

The Holy Spirit goes with you to empower you.

The love of Christ sustains you in all circumstances.

**We have been blessed and fed in this place.**

**We will share with others the joy we have known.**

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Sevenfold Amen*

Peter C. Lutkin

POSTLUDE

Improvisation-Toccata on the "*Tonis 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:**

Jayne Zborowsky, Harry Hatters, Suzanne Vassel, Frank Macuga, Chelsea and Kyle,  
the Willison and Browne families, the Murphy family

We pray for the repose of the soul of Sheila Murphy,  
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.*



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.



A tour of the Cleveland Museum of Art will be held on Sunday, August 25, 2024 at 2:00 PM. It will highlight religious works. The museum is located at: 11150 East Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44106. There is a large parking lot attached to the museum. Parking is on your own. We will meet around the “Central Desk” in the atrium at 2:00 PM. Lunch is on your own. There is Provenance Café and Provenance Restaurant and Bar located just off the atrium. The Restaurant is open from 10:30 AM until 2:00 PM. The Café is open from 11:00 AM until 3:00 PM.

## **@ Old Stone Church**

### **Sunday July 14**

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Communion/Chapel

**11:30AM** OSC Building Tour

### **Wednesday July 17**

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

### **Thursday July 18**

**7:00PM** FPS Directors Meeting/ Conference Room

### **Sunday July 21**

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Communion/Chapel

**1:40PM** Guardians/Padres

### **Monday July 22**

**6:30PM** PWR Vision/Mission Task Force Event/  
Lyndhurst Community of Faith Church

### **Tuesday July 23**

**6:30PM** Stated Session Meeting/ZOOM

### **Wednesday July 24**

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

### **Sunday July 28**

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Communion/Chapel

### **Wednesday July 31**

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



**Last Sunday Attendance** In-Person:69 Online:153

There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

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

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**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

**Parish Associate:** Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

**Minister of Music:** David L. Dettloff

## The Old Stone Quartet

Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

Christopher Clark, *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

Anand Bandari  
Bernie Bischel  
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.