



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

AUGUST 25, 2024
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE	<i>Two Reflections for Organ</i> <i>1. Folktune</i> <i>2. Chant Sans Paroles</i>	Charles Callahan
WELCOME		Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams
MINUTE FOR MISSION		Lisa Dellafiora, NAMI
INTROIT	O Come, Ye Servants of the Lord	Christopher Tye

O come, ye servants of the Lord, and praise his holy name;
From early morn to setting sun his might on earth proclaim.

His laws are just, and glad the heart; He makes his mercies known:
Ye princes come, ye people too, and bow before his throne.

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

With profound happiness, we welcome one another.
How good it is to approach the courts of our God!

**Happy are those who live in God's house.
Singing our praise to God fills us with joy.**

Here we welcome both friend and stranger.
All peoples of the earth are God's children.

**We greet one another by name in Jesus' name.
Together we extol the name of our God.**

Open your hearts to receive new strength.
Open your lives to renewed understandings.

**Surely God will equip us to face our world.
We will be ambassadors for God wherever we go.**

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**We come together in this house of prayer,
trusting you, O God, to give us everything we need.
As you provide for the birds of the air,
you supply life's necessities for your children to share.
We choose to respond to your promises
by identifying ourselves as your servant people
who seek to be guided by your word.
We gather to remember and reclaim your covenant with us.
Fleeing from tents of wickedness,
we gather to do the tasks you entrust to us here,
praying for strength to do our daily work as a ministry in your name.
Amen.**

* HYMN #839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

ASSURANCE

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!'. 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 3/8. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is written in the bass staff. Below the treble staff, there are three lines of lyrics corresponding to the notes above them.

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.

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Peggie Willett

God has called us, not to a set of beliefs but to a relationship of trust.
 We are drawn to the Spirit whose will for us is life at its fullest,
 attuned to all that is good and true.
 We are embraced by the gospel of peace.
 We come now to confess that we have looked elsewhere for our salvation.
 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

**Alert us now, eternal Spirit, to your presence among us in this place.
Together, we confess that we have been busy with so many things
that we have often forgotten you.**

**We have made little gods
out of buildings and furnishings and programs.**

**Sometimes our pet beliefs and interpretations
have been all-consuming as we do battle to correct others
and presume to defend you.**

**We have forgotten that your love is stronger than any force on earth.
Forgive our mistrust of its power
and draw us back into the company of disciples
who are learning and growing in love.**

(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

Happy are those who daily find their strength in the living God,
seeking to walk uprightly.

Happy are those who trust in God,
who sincerely and truthfully seek to serve where God needs them most.

God redeems us,
whatever our circumstances, lifting our spirits,
even when our bodies are in chains.

May we serve boldly as ambassadors for Jesus Christ.

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 church is not a private club that we maintain for our own benefit. It is a mission outpost, constantly enlisting us and our resources for the spreading of good news and the increase of God's reign of love. Our offerings are one measure of how seriously we take our call as ambassadors for Christ. The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Ave Verum

Edward Elgar

Ave verum corpus natum ex Maria Virgine,
vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine,
cujus latus perforatum vero fluxit et sanguine,
esto nobis praegustatum mortis in examine.
O clemens, O pie, O dulcis Jesu, Fili Mariae.

Jesu, Lamb of God, Redeemer, born the virgin Mary's Son,
who upon the cross a victim hast man's salvation won.
From whose side, which man had pierced flow'd the water and the blood,
by thy sacred body broken, be in life and death our food.
O Jesu, be in life and death our food.

* 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

Peggie Willett

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**May our giving add strength to the witness of your church
as we humbly seek your rule and lovingly share it.
Ready us to proclaim the gospel of peace in our homes,
in our places of work and leisure,
throughout our community and the world.
Keep before your people the awesome mystery of faith.
May its power overcome the cynics of our skeptical, self-serving age,
uniting us in disciplines that are freeing
and discipleship that is amazingly fulfilling.
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,
you have the words of eternal life.
By your Holy Spirit,
let your words pierce our darkness,
strengthen our faith, and illumine our witness for you.
Amen.**

THE READINGS

Epistle

Ephesians 6:10-20 (Inclusive Bible)

Finally, draw your strength from Christ and from the strength of that mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand firm against the tactics of the Devil. Our battle ultimately is not against human forces, but against the sovereignties and powers, the rulers of the world of darkness, and the evil spirits of the heavenly realms. You must put on the armor of God if you are to resist on the evil day and, having done everything you can, to hold your ground. Stand fast then, with truth as the belt around your waist, justice as your breastplate, and zeal to spread the Good News of peace as your footgear. In all circumstances, hold faith up before you as a shield; it will help you extinguish all the fiery darts of the Evil One. Put on the helmet of salvation, and carry the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Always pray in the Spirit, with all your prayers and petitions. Pray constantly and attentively for all God's holy people. Pray also for me, that God will open my mouth and put words on my lips, that I may boldly make known the mystery of the Good News—that mystery for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may have the courage to proclaim it as I ought.

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

With God's help we are listening.

Gospel

John 6:56-69 (Inclusive Bible)

“Everyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me, and I live in them. Just as the living Abba God sent me and I have life because of Abba God, so those who feed on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. It's not the kind of bread your ancestors ate, for they died; whoever eats this kind of bread will live forever.” Jesus spoke these words while teaching in a synagogue at Capernaum.

Many of his disciples remarked, “We can’t put up with this kind of talk! How can anyone take it seriously?” Jesus was fully aware that the disciples were murmuring in protest at what he had said. “Is this a stumbling block for you?” he asked them. “What, then, if you were to see the Chosen One ascend to where the Chosen One came from? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh in itself is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. Yet among you there are some who don’t believe.” Jesus knew from the start, of course, who would refuse to believe and the one who would betray him. He went on to say: “For this is why I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by Abba God.”

From this time on, many of the disciples broke away and wouldn’t remain in the company of Jesus. Jesus then said to the twelve, “Are you going to leave me too?” Simon Peter answered, “Rabbi, where would we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe; we’re convinced that you are the Holy One of God.”

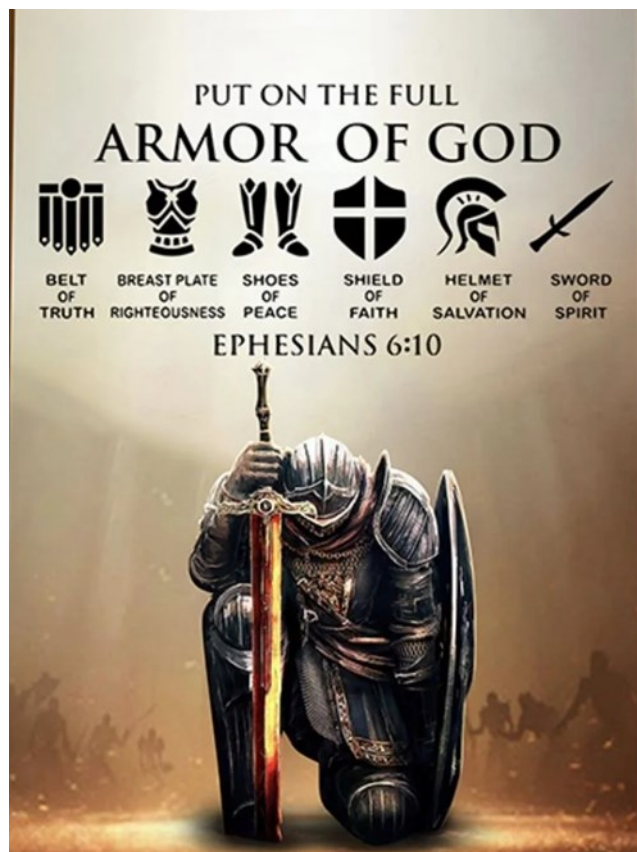
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“Mystical Armor”



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.**

* HYMN #275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark-ness grim, we
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Take a prayerful spirit into your everyday world.
God will listen and respond to your prayers.

**We pray for all God's holy ones engaged in ministry.
All of us are ambassadors for Jesus Christ.**

You have good news to share with a needy world.
God will open up to you the mystery of the gospel.

**We trust in God to lead and guide us in truth.
Happy is everyone who trusts in God.**

Happy are those who look to God for strength.
All who dwell with God will go from strength to strength.

**God grants abundant life to humble doorkeepers.
We will do our part to extend God's reign.**

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Sevenfold Amen

Peter C. Lutkin

POSTLUDE

Concerto in C Major, BWV 595

J.S. Bach

*“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:

Tony Kordalski, Sunny Kunche, Eleanor Cicerchi, Harry Hatters, Frank Macuga,
Chelsea and Kyle, Rev. Jason Thompson, the Kordalski family

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 today, 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 August 25

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

1:40PM Guardians/Rangers

2:00PM OSC/Cleveland Museum of Art Tour

Tuesday August 27

6:30PM Stated Session Meeting/ZOOM

Wednesday August 28

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Sunday September 1

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary Communion

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

Monday September 2/Labor Day

Building and Offices Closed

Wednesday September 4

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:75 Online:210

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

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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

Leah Jennings Brown, *soprano*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

R. Dominic Aragon, *bass*

Guest Organist

Jason Lorenzon

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.