

THE OLD STONE CHURCH

MARCH 9, 2025
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Dies is der Tag, den Gott gemacht

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Anne Face

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

INTROIT

God Be In My Head

John Rutter

God be in my head and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking. God be in mine heart and in my thinking.
God be at my end and in my departing.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Gather to remember and share stories of faith;
rejoice in the goodness of the loving God.

**Before our stories began, there was God;
through all our days, God walks with us.**

Worship the one who gives and sustains life;
sing praises to the one who is our refuge.

**There is no place we can go where God is not;
amid life's terrors, God's promises hold true.**

Delight in God, whose protection we enjoy;
dance with the God, who frees us for new possibilities.

**We call out to God, expecting to be heard;
we listen, knowing there is truth to be received.**

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**God of history, whose Word is alive in us,
write your truth into our lives this day.
Work your signs and wonders in our midst.
Show us your salvation.
Be present in our troubles and in our triumphs.
Lead us away from bondage to things that do not matter.
Show us the better land you intend for us,
where barriers no longer divide and true community is born.
Amen.**

G D/F#
Leader or All

1 You who dwell in the shel - ter of the Lord, who a -

G D/F# F

bide in his shad - ow for life, say to the Lord, "My

Dm F Gm Asus A

ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain All D Em

And he will raise you up on ea - gles' wings, bear you on the

A7 D D7/F# G

breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun,

A Bm F#m Em7 A Dsus D Fine

and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Leader or All G D/F#

2 The snare of the fowl - er will nev - er cap - ture you, and

G D/F# F

fam - ine will bring you no fear: un - der his wings, your

Although the body of this text is a paraphrase of Psalm 91, the refrain combines allusions to Exodus 19:4, Psalm 139:9, and Isaiah 40:31; 49:16. Written in response to the death of a friend's father, this piece has been a source of consolation to many people.

Dm F Gm Asus A
to Refrain

ref - uge, his faith - ful - ness your shield.

G D/F#
Leader or All

3 You need not fear the ter - ror of the night, nor the

G D/F# F

ar - row that flies by day; though thou - sands fall a -

Dm F Gm Asus A
to Refrain

about you, near you it shall not come.

G D/F#

4 For to his an - gels he's giv - en a com - mand to

G D/F# F

guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

Gm7 Am Gm7 Asus A
to Refrain

bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Eric Grattan

Come, all who have inflicted or accepted oppression;
 we share in the world's sin.
 Come, all who make distinctions among people;
 we participate in the brokenness of God's family.
 Come, all who respond to the false voices of the world;
 God is calling us away from our former limitations.
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
 followed by time for silent personal confession.
 Thus, we pray:

Sovereign God,
we confess our desire to reshape your world to our own advantage.
We are more concerned with what we eat
than with who will get to eat today.
Our own security is more important to us
than the health and safety of all your children.
The first fruits of our labor grace the altars of our own desires
instead of honoring you.
We prefer that you keep your distance from us unless we need you.
We like promises without commands, gifts without responsibilities.
O God, we confess that our ways don't work.
Turn us around for true worship and service,
as forgiven and forgiving people.

(moment of silent confession)

* KYRIE ELEISON #575

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

KYRIE ELEISON

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G minor (three flats). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the prayer, with lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up -' and chord symbols Fm, Cm7, Fm, and D♭. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics 'on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.' and chord symbols D♭, C, D♭maj7, Fm, and Cm7. The piece concludes with a final chord of Fm.

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

All who call on God will know salvation.
 Those who cling to God will be delivered.
 How great is the joy of people who are loved, forgiven,
 and set free to become a new creation, through Christ Jesus.
 God's gifts are for you.
 Receive them in trust, knowing that God's presence
 and protection are yours to enjoy every day.
Thanks be to God.

* 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.

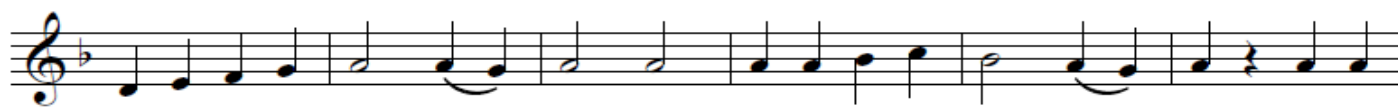
* GLORIA

Glory Be to the Father

PICARDY



Glo-ry be to God, the__ Fa - ther, and to Je - sus Christ the__ Son.



Glo-ry to the Ho - ly__ Spi - rit, Glo-ry to the Three - in - one. As it



was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A__ men.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Jordan Ware

Please be seated.
All we have is from God.
Our best is to be returned to God, freely given to minister in Christ's name.
Out of gratitude for a land flowing with milk and honey,
we bring our first fruits to be blessed in the outreach of the church.
The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

God So Loved the World

John Stainer

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whoso believeth, should not perish but have everlasting life.

For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world.

But that the world through Him might be saved.

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoso believeth,
should not perish but have everlasting life. God so loved the world.

* DOXOLOGY #608

Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow

PRAISE GOD

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**From the abundance entrusted to us,
 we offer up the best we can give.
 Guide our use of this precious trust,
 that it may be spent in ways you choose,
 in places where you would send us,
 for the sake of people among whom you wish to dwell.
 May we bear witness to your abiding love,
 not only with money but with dedicated lives.
 Allow us to be instruments of assurance and compassion
 in our homes and wherever our journeys lead.
 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

**Bring your word near to us, O God.
 May it rest not only on our lips, but also reside in our hearts.
 By the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to respond to your word
 with our whole lives until you become our dwelling place;
 through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

THE READINGS

Psalm 91

Antiphon



Be with me, Lord, when I am in trou-ble, be with me, Lord, I pray.

Verses

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Most High,
 who abide in the shadow of our God,
 say to the Lord: "My refuge and fortress, the God in whom I trust."
2. No evil shall befall you, no pain come near,
 for the angels stand close by your side,
 guarding you always and bearing you gently, watching over your life.
3. Those who cling to the Lord live secure in God's love,
 lifted high, those who trust in God's name.
 Call on the Lord, who will never forsake you.
 God will bring you salvation and joy.

Epistle

Romans 10:8b-13 (Inclusive Bible)

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart.”

That is the Word of faith. For if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Sovereign and believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved. Faith in the heart leads to being put right with God, confession on the lips to our deliverance. Scripture says, “No one who believes in God will be put to shame.” Here there is no difference between Jew and Greek; all have the same Creator, rich in mercy toward those who call: “Everyone who calls on the name of the Most High will be saved.”

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

With God’s help we are listening.

Gospel

Luke 4:1-13 (Inclusive Bible)

Jesus returned from the Jordan filled with the Holy Spirit, and she led him into the desert for forty days, where he was tempted by the Devil. Jesus ate nothing during that time, at the end of which he was famished. The Devil said to Jesus, “If you are God’s Own, command this stone to turn into bread.” Jesus answered, “Scripture has it, ‘We do not live on bread alone.’”

Then the Devil took Jesus up higher and showed him all the nations of the world in a single instant. The Devil said, “I’ll give you all the glory and power of these nations; the power has been given to me and I can give it to whomever I wish. Prostrate yourself in homage before me, and it will all be yours.” In reply, Jesus said, “Scripture has it: ‘You will worship the Most High God; God alone will you adore.’”

Then the Devil led Jesus to Jerusalem, set him on the parapet of the Temple and said, “If you are God’s Own, throw yourself down from here, for scripture has it, ‘God will tell the angels to take care of you; with their hands they’ll support you, that you may never stumble on a stone.’”

Jesus said to the Devil in reply, “It also says, ‘Do not put God to the test.’”

When the Devil had finished all this testing, Jesus was left alone.

The Devil awaited another opportunity.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“When the Devil Quotes Scripture”

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

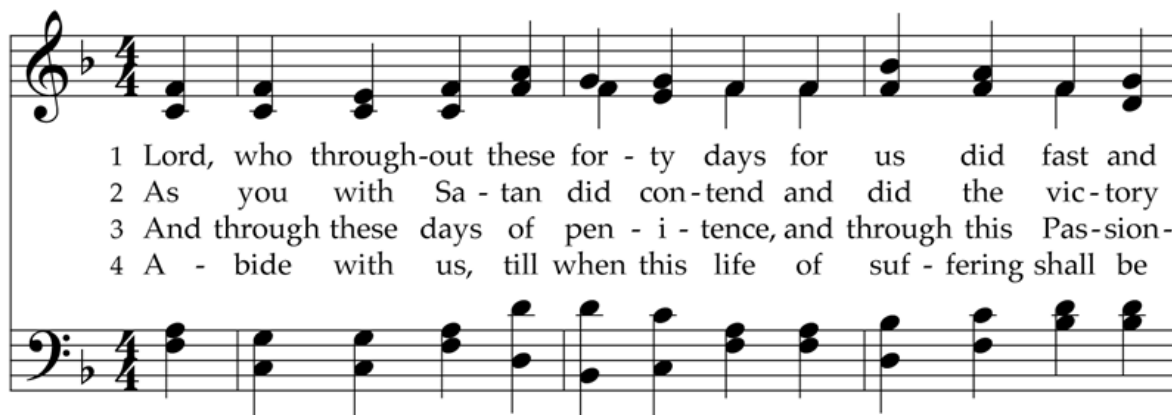
**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;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

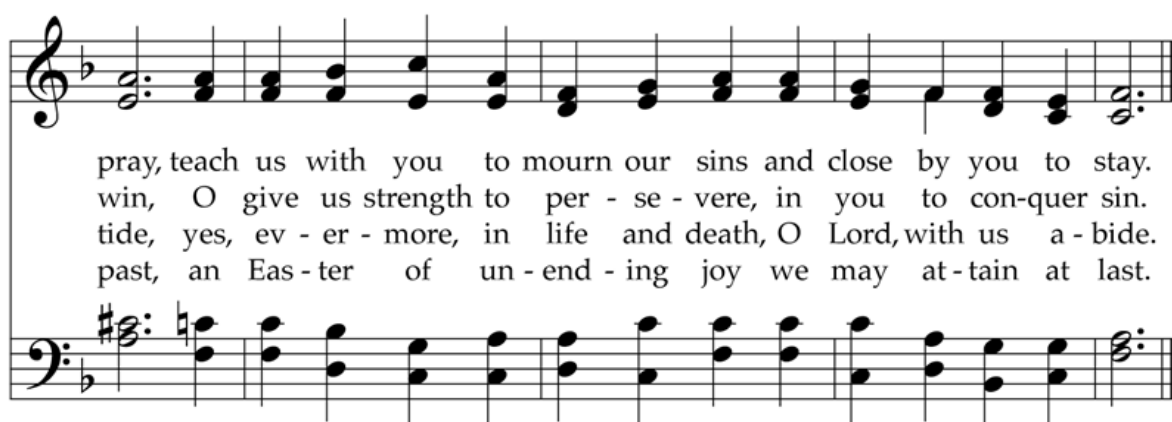
LIGHTING OF CANDLES, PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and
2 As you with Sa - tan did con-tend and did the vic-tory
3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas-sion-
4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fer-ing shall be



pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con-quer sin.
tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.
past, an Eas-ter of un - end - ing joy we may at-tain at last.



* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Depart to the places of your inheritance;
God will dwell with you there and bless you,

**All that we have is a gift from God;
everywhere we go, we are with our Creator,**

Walk in the ways of God, rejoicing in God's goodness;
the Most High will honor your calls and protect you.

**We call on God's name as we scatter once more;
our prayers will continue in every day and place.**

Know that Christ Jesus was raised from death for you.

Continue in faith, sharing the good news.

**We rejoice in our salvation and claim our healing.
We offer renewal and hope to the world.**

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Nine-fold Amen

Allie Laurie

POSTLUDE

Toccata in G Minor, POP 283

Johann Pachelbel

*“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:

Annie Carlos, Katheryn Maynard, Darlene, Tony Carlos, Shirley Caldwell,
JoAnn Hood, Timothy Truitt, Donna Sue Buchanan, Shelley Wheeler

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.

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

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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 Singers

Leah Jennings Brown, *soprano*

Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

Samuel Jungman, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

Reese Henrick, *alto*

Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

R. Dominic Aragon, *bass*

Christopher Clark, *bass*

Albert Donze, *bass*

Church Elders:

Clerk of Session: Beth Buchanan

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

Class of 2027

Michelle Baron

Fred Heider

Bernard Medie

Bob Reid

Church Deacons:

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

Class of 2027

Anand Bandari

Eric Grattan

Sunny Kunche

Lori Lippert

Amy Wheeler

John Wheeler

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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.