



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

MARCH 2, 2025
TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD WITH COMMUNION
10 AM 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

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

INTROIT

The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing THE FEAST IS READY

The trumpets sound; the angels sing; the feast is ready to begin.
The gates of heaven are open wide, and Jesus welcomes you inside.

Sing with thankfulness, songs of pure delight.

Come and revel in heaven's love and light.

Take your place at the table of the King. The feast is ready to begin.

The hungry heart he satisfies, offers the poor his paradise.

Now hear all heaven and earth applaud the amazing goodness of the Lord.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We come together, a community of faith.

We have gathered to talk and listen to our God.

May our faces shine in anticipation.

Our God has invited us to this moment of meeting.

We share in a new covenant of promise and hope.

Our spirits have been set free for worship and praise.

We come with boldness to encounter our Creator.

We assemble here, eager to be changed by God.

Our fears melt into awe and wonder before God.

Our failures become opportunities for learning.

Let us praise God's holy name in chorus.

Let us share in the glory of life. What a gift!

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Holy are you, O God of all time and space.

Before the vastness of your creation, the earth is as nothing.

Yet you have lavished your energies upon it,

shaping interdependent systems within systems.

The mysterious gift of life is ours to handle with care.

You have revealed yourself to us.

You have created us for justice and equity.

You have drawn us to the mountaintop to commune with you.

O God, we are here, waiting for your further revelation.

Come to enlighten and empower.

Amen.

* HYMN #191

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

BREWER



1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows; splen - dor bathes the
 3 Strength - ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our

C Asus A D Em7 D Am

ho - ly place, where we wait with hope and long - ing
flesh - joined Word; Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel
faith de - cline, we like Pe - ter find it tempt-ing

D E A D E7 A Bm F#m C

for some to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -
as the heaven-ly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with
to re - main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us

G D Bm Em Asus A D Bm

sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, search - ing like those
won - der how the law and proph-ets meet: Christ, with gar - ments
cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, that our dai - ly

D F# Bm F#m G A D

first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
drenched in bright-ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

Through this Transfiguration hymn runs an implicit comparison between the attitudes and assumptions of the three disciples on that mountain and the expectations of present-day Christians as they gather for worship. This event is reported in Matthew 17:1-9/Mark 9:2-9/Luke 9:28-36.

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1988, alt.
MUSIC: David Ashley White, 1991
Text © 1988 Hope Publishing Company
Music © 1991 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

BREWER
8.7.8.7.D

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Jordan Ware

When we come before God, we can hold nothing back.
God knows us better than we know ourselves.
There is no hiding place.
All our cunning and deceit are exposed.
Our exploitation of others is known.
Our misuse of God's gifts is evident.
We can only repent and seek forgiveness.
Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
followed by time for silent personal confession.
Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eric Grattan

**We tremble before you, O God, for we have sinned.
You already know what we have done and what we have failed to do.
Hear us now as we recognize and admit our actions
and inaction in violation of the trust you have placed in us.
Enter into our excuses and our pretensions, Holy One,
that we may be saved for ministry and mission.**
(moment of silent confession)

* KYRIE ELEISON #551

Lord, Have Mercy

LAND OF REST

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have
mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy;
Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Eric Grattan

God provides moments of transformation,
sacred times when we sense the cleansing power of the Spirit
restoring life and energy.
We are even now being changed,
lifted up from one degree of glory to another.
Believe the good news.
Live it.
Do not lose heart but embrace your ministry, by the grace of God.
Alleluia and Amen!

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Jordan Ware

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

GLORIA PATRI

**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

Eric Grattan

Please be seated:

How much the church could accomplish with greater resources!
How our shared ministry could blossom
if our thanksgiving to God exceeded our fear, greed, and ambition.
We have taken a small step toward faithfulness
in coming to the mountaintop.
Will we now be open to let God transform our giving?
The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Holy Ground Geron Davis, arr. Lloyd Larson

When I walked through the door I sensed his presence,
and I knew this was a place where love abounds;
For this is a temple, Jehovah God abides here, and we are standing in his presence on holy ground.

R/. We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise Jesus now; we are standing in his presence on holy ground.

In his presence there is joy beyond all measure, and at his feet peace of mind can still be found.
If you have a need I know he has the answer. Just reach out and claim it,
for you are standing on holy
ground. **R/.**

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

* DOXOLOGY #607 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow* 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

Jordan Ware

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**Thank you, God,
for choosing us to speak for you and to act on your behalf.
It is an honor to share with others what you have entrusted to us.
Our offerings represent ourselves and the depth of our commitment.
We rededicate to you the talents, abilities,
and resources you have placed in our hands.
May we be faithful in our mutual ministry.
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:

**By your Spirit, O God,
enlighten our hearts, open our minds,
fill our vision with your radiance, and give us life,
as we hear your Word today. Amen.**

THE READINGS

Epistle

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 (Inclusive Bible)

With such hope we are very bold in what we say. And we are not like Moses, who covered his face with a veil to keep the Israelites from gazing at the radiance as it faded away. But their minds had been dulled, and to this day the same veil remains whenever the old Covenant is read—it has not been taken away, for only in Christ can it be removed. To this day whenever Moses is read, a veil covers their understanding. But whenever anyone turns to our God, the veil is removed. Now our God is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of our God is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces, reflect our God's glory, grow brighter and brighter as we are being transformed into the image we reflect. This is the work of our God, who is Spirit. Therefore, because we have this ministry through God's mercy, we do not give in to discouragement. On the contrary, we renounce the shameful deeds that were kept hidden. We are not deceitful, nor do we adulterate the word of God. But by speaking the truth plainly, we commend ourselves to every persons' conscience in the sight of God.

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

With God's help we are listening.

About eight days after saying this, Jesus took Peter, John and James and went up onto a mountain to pray. While Jesus was praying, his face changed in appearance and the clothes he wore became dazzlingly white. Suddenly two people were there talking with Jesus—Moses and Elijah. They appeared in glory and spoke of the prophecy that Jesus was about to fulfill in Jerusalem.

Peter and the others had already fallen into a deep sleep, but awakening, they saw Jesus' glory—and the two people who were standing next to him. When the two were leaving, Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, how good it is for us to be here! Let's set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah!" Peter didn't really know what he was saying.

While Peter was speaking, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and the disciples grew fearful as the others entered it. Then from the cloud came a voice which said, "This is my Own, my Chosen One. Listen to him!"

When the voice finished speaking, they saw no one but Jesus standing there. The disciples kept quiet, telling nothing of what they had seen at that time to anyone.

The following day, when they came down the mountain, a large crowd awaited him. A man stepped out of the crowd and said, "Teacher, please come and look at my son, my only child. A demon seizes him and he screams, and it throws him into convulsions until he foams at the mouth. It releases the boy only with difficulty, and when it does, he is exhausted. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they couldn't."

Jesus said in reply, "You unbelieving and perverse generation! How much longer must I be with you and put up with you? Bring the child to me." As the boy approached, the demon dashed the child to the ground and threw him into a violent convulsion. But Jesus reprimanded the unclean spirit, healed the child, and returned him to his father.

All present were awestruck at the greatness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

"Unveiled Reality"

WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

* HYMN #499

Bread of the World in Mercy Broken

RENDEZ À DIEU

Bread of the world in mer-cy bro-ken, Wine of the soul in
mer-cy shed, by whom the words of life were spo-ken,
and in whose death our sins are dead: look on the heart by sor-row
bro-ken; look on the tears by sin-ners shed; so may your
feast be-come the to-ken that by your grace our souls are fed.

The musical score consists of six systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

This prayer-text divides into distinct halves, the first four lines being an extended address to Christ, and the last four being a series of petitions. These carefully crafted words are set to one of the most majestic tunes to emerge from the tradition of Reformed psalmody.

TEXT: Reginald Heber, 1827, alt.
MUSIC: Louis Bourgeois, 1543; rev. 1551; harm. *The Hymnal* 1940

RENDEZ À DIEU
9.8.9.8.D

* INVITATION TO THE MEAL

This is the joyful feast of the People of God.
Men and women, youth and children,
come from the east and the west,
the north and the south and gather about Christ's table.
This table is for all who wish to know
the presence of Christ
and to share in the community of God's people.
It is not my table,
It is not Old Stone First Presbyterian Church's table,
it is the table of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
and all are welcome to receive.

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.

It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

We give thanks, O Lord,
that the days are surely coming when all the world will see
the fulfillment of your promise of salvation.
You alone are our righteousness,
our only hope for justice and peace.

Therefore, we praise you,
joining our voices with choirs of angels,
with prophets, apostles, and martyrs,
and with all the faithful of every time and place
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and 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.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. In Christ, the tree of life, we have seen the first fruits of your holy realm. Though heaven and earth may pass away, Christ's word stands secure. Even now, we look for the day of his coming in power and great glory. Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and the fruit of the vine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night of his arrest, Jesus gathered around table with his companions. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said,

**Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melek ha'olam
hamotzi lekhem min ha'aretz.**

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
who brings forth bread from the earth.

“This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

He did the same with the cup after the supper, saying,

**Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melek ha'olam
borei p'ri hagafen.**

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
who creates the fruit of the vine.

“This is the new covenant sealed in my blood.
Whenever you drink of 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 the bread we break and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.
By your Spirit, unite us with Christ
and with your church in all the world.

Teach us to pray night and day
that we may see you face to face.
Strengthen us in holiness, faithfulness, joy,
and love so that we may be ready
at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.
We pray for all in need of healing,
whether it be in body, mind, or spirit...

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

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.**

Sanctify and shape us into the image of Christ's body,
so that our lives may be a holy offering of love and praise.
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Take this bread, share the fruit of the vine.
In these Christ comes to us with love from God.
The gifts of God for the people of God.

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

Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared for all.

A light to lighten the Gentiles, a light to thy servant Israel,
To the glory of thy people Israel. Amen.

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

**O God, through this bread and this cup,
you have made us one with You
and with each other.**

**May the unity we find at this table
be a gift we carry out into Your world.**

**May this unity empower us
to make room for all of God's people.
Amen.**



Capo 3: (Am) (G) (Am) (C) (D) (Em)
 Cm B^b Cm E^b F Gm

1 O won - drous sight, O vi - sion fair
 2 From age to age the tale de - clare,
 3 The law and proph - ets there have place,
 4 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray
 5 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high

(Am) (Dm) (Am) (Em) (Am)
 Cm Fm Cm Gm Cm

of glo - ry that the church shall share,
 how with the three dis - ci - ples there,
 two cho - sen wit - ness - es of grace;
 Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
 by this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,

(G) (Dm) (Em) (G) (Am)
 B^b Fm Gm B^b Cm

which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
 where Mo - ses and E - li - jah meet,
 the Fa - ther's voice from out the cloud
 what glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
 for which in joy - ful strains we raise

(Em) (Dm) (F) (G) (Am)
 Gm Fm A^b B^b Cm

where bright - er than the sun he glows!
 the Lord holds con - verse high and sweet.
 pro - claims his on - ly Son a - loud.
 who joy in God with per - fect love.
 the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This translation of a 15th-century Latin devotional text is set here to a majestic 15th-century tune celebrating the victory of an English king; they combine to evoke the awe and wonder of that moment of revelation the three disciples experienced in Christ's Transfiguration.

TEXT: Latin, 15th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.
 MUSIC: "The Agincourt Song," England, c. 1415; harm. *The Hymnal*, 1933

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

We have been talking with God; what a privilege!
We have glimpsed eternity; what a joy!

**How awesome to worship at the footstool of God.
The veil has been lifted, but the mystery remains.**

Where the Spirit of God meets us, there is freedom.
In the presence of God's glory, we are made new.

**We go out into the world, singing and rejoicing.
Our faces and our manner declare God's glory.**

We have a ministry, by the grace of God.
We are missionaries to a needy world.

**We will not fear or lose heart.
We have found within us the dwelling place of God.**

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

Agincourt Hymn

John Dunstable

*“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:

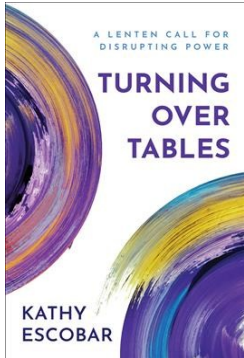
Katheryn Maynard, Darlene, Tony Carlos, Shirley Caldwell,
JoAnn Hood, Timothy Truitt, Donna Sue Buchanan, Shelley Wheeler

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.



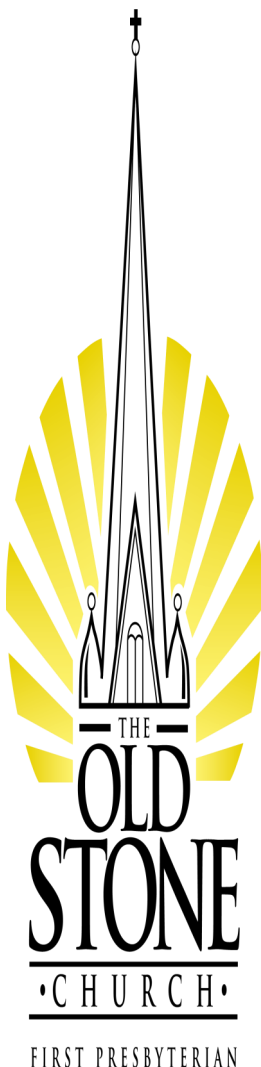
Wednesdays at 12:15 PM please join us in the Sanctuary for a Mid-Week Communion Service.



With keen insight and unwavering conviction, visionary pastor Kathy Escobar guides readers on a Lenten journey inspired by the ways of Jesus to dismantle the systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice.

Join Pastor Stephen Wednesdays in Lent for this insightful book discussion via ZOOM from 7PM– 8PM.

Please email Anthony@oldstonechurch.org to sign up and request a book for \$10.00.



@ Old Stone Church

Sunday March 2

9:00AM Bible Study-Pastor Denise/Gallery

10:00AM Worship with Communion/Sanctuary

Tuesday March 4

7:00PM Commentary on the Gospel of John/ZOOM

Wednesday March 5/Ash Wednesday

12:15PM Ash Wednesday Service/Sanctuary

Sunday March 9/Lent I

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

11:30AM Deacons Meeting/Conference Room/First Floor

Tuesday March 11

7:00PM Commentary on the Gospel of John/ZOOM

Wednesday March 12

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

7:00PM Turning Over Tables Book Study/ZOOM

Sunday March 16/Lent II

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

Tuesday March 18

7:00PM Commentary on the Gospel of John/ZOOM

Wednesday March 19

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

7:00PM Turning Over Tables Book Study/ZOOM

Thursday March 20

7:00PM FPS Directors Meeting/Conference Room

Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:39 Online:264

There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

<p>Online Giving: oldstonechurch.org/giving/</p>	<p>Mobile Giving: Text the keyword “oldstonecle” 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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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*

Samuel Jungman, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

R. Dominic Aragon, *bass*

Reese Henrick, *alto*

Christopher Clark, *bass*

Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

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

Janie Chambers

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.