



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

APRIL 20, 2025
EASTER SUNDAY WITH COMMUNION
10 AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE	<i>Jubilate Deo (Psalm 100)</i>	Dale Wood
WELCOME		Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams
INTROIT	<i>This Joyful Eastertide</i>	arr. William H. Harris

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst His three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: But now hath Christ arisen!

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing the glad songs of victory;
God is creating a day of newness and joy.

**God is our strength and our song;
this is the day of our salvation.**

Christ has been raised from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**The one who was rejected assures us:
we are accepted and beloved by God.**

We are chosen by God as witnesses to good news.
We will live and recount the deeds of our God.

**God reigns; let all nations and people rejoice.
In Christ, all shall be made alive.**

* INVOCATION PRAYER

**With thanksgiving, praise, and joy,
we worship you, marvelous God.
How amazing is all your creation!
How glorious is this day of new life!
Come among us now, we pray,
to raise us up from our fears and doubts and perplexity.**

We want to believe.

We want to trust.

We want to dare.

We want to live.

**Touch us today with a spirit of hope,
that our discipleship may honor Christ, in whose name we pray.
Amen.**

* HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN
Arr. Lloyd Larson

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! All creation, join to say Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply,
Alleluia!**

**Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise.
Alleluia!**

**Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where thy victory, O grave?
Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.
Alleluia!**

*** CALL TO CONFESSION**

Mary Musson

Doubters, believers, disciples, deceivers:
come to the one who makes all things new.
The gates of righteousness are open to us,
and a welcome awaits all who truly enter the presence of God,
seeking forgiveness.
The God whom we have rejected offers acceptance and healing.
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**

**Dazzling God, we are blinded to your majesty.
We have taken for granted the amazing wonder of life,
without seeing you as the source of all things.
We shrink from the chastening judgement we deserve.
We resist the changes we know we must make to receive new life.
Save us from the calamity of our selfish ways.
Rescue us from all hurtful and destructive habits.
Forgive our broken promises, heal our broken relationships,
lift our broken spirits, so we may share in the resurrection of Christ.**
(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**

Everyone who lives by trust in Jesus Christ
has already received forgiveness of sins.
Accept this gift God offers.
You are chosen by God to receive it.
Your prayers are answered, and your salvation is assured.
Christ reigns over death, filling you with newness of life.
Rise up! Rejoice! Witness to the good news!

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

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

Please be seated:

We who enjoy the work of our hands do not labor in vain.

We who invest the fruits of our efforts
in the sharing of good news are doubly blessed.

May our gifts represent our commitment,
even as they bear witness and offer healing.

Let us give thanks through our offerings.

The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

To the Lamb on the Throne

Dan Forrest

Ye Servants of God, your master proclaim, and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name all victorious of Jesus extol; His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!” let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;

The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

God rules in the height, almighty to save; though hid from our sight,
His presence we have, the great congregation His triumph shall sing,

Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King. “Worthy the Lamb.”

Then let us adore and give Him His right, all glory and power all wisdom and might;
All honor and blessing with angels above, and thanks never ceasing and infinite love.

DOXOLOGY #609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessing Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia!

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Mary Musson

Let us join our voices in prayer:

Thank you, God, for resurrection.

**We rejoice in Christ as the first fruits of all
that you make available to us.**

As you offered Christ to the world, so we would offer ourselves.

May we, along with our gifts,

**testify to the good news of your forgiving love and empowering ac-
ceptance.**

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:

**Living God, by your Holy Spirit,
open our eyes to see the new light of this day;
open our lips to tell of the empty tomb;
open our hearts to believe the good news;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

THE READINGS

Epistle 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 (Inclusive Bible)

If our hopes in Christ are limited to this life only, we are the most pitiable of the human race. But as it is, Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through one human being, in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one human being.

Just as in the first human all die, so in Christ all will come to life again, but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the firstfruits, and then the faithful when Christ comes again.

After that will come the end, when Christ will hand the kingdom to God the Creator, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power.

Christ must reign until God has put all enemies under Christ's foot, and the last enemy to be destroyed is death, for everything is "put under" Christ's foot.

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

With God's help we are listening.

On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn, the women came to the tomb bringing spices they had prepared. They found the stone rolled back from the tomb; but when they entered the tomb, they didn't find the body of Jesus. While they were still at a loss over what to think of this, two figures in dazzling garments stood beside them. Terrified, the women bowed to the ground. The two said to them, "Why do you search for the Living One among the dead? Jesus is not here; Christ has risen! Remember what Jesus said to you, while he was still in Galilee— that the Chosen One must be delivered into the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day would rise again." With this reminder, the words of Jesus came back to them. When they had returned from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and the others. The women were Mary of Magdala, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. The other women with them also told the apostles, but the story seemed like nonsense and they refused to believe them. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. He stooped down, but he could see nothing but the wrappings. So he went away, full of amazement at what had occurred.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

"Women Proclaim the Resurrection"



WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

* HYMN #511

Come, Behold! the Feast of Heaven

LLANFAIR

1 Come, be - hold! the feast of heaven
2 All is read - y, come at - tend Al - le - lu - ia!
3 All who trust in God be - long
4 As the Lord our God has willed,

has to mor - tal flesh been given.
as the Lord's in - vit - ed friend; Al - le - lu - ia!
at this ban - quet with this throng,
here the hun - gry soul is filled;

Hear the Word of God de - clared:
come from north, west, south, and east; Al - le - lu - ia!
Share the mys - tic ho - ly food;
here the wea - ry are re - freshed.

"Come! the ban - quet is pre - pared."
cel - e - brate the joy - ful feast. Al - le - lu - ia!
taste and see: the Lord is good.
All who share God's feast are blessed.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the vocal and piano lines. The score includes a variety of musical notations such as chords, eighth notes, and rests.

Though rightly viewed as a meal of remembrance, the Lord's Supper is also an occasion of anticipation. This text draws on abundant biblical imagery to evoke the fulfillment of Jesus' promise to share the feast anew "in the kingdom of God" (Matthew 26:29/Mark 14:25/Luke 22:16).

TEXT: John F. Underwood, 1993
MUSIC: Robert Williams, 1817; harm. David Evans, 1927
Text © 1993 John F. Underwood
Music Harm. © 1927 Oxford University Press

LLANFAIR
7.7.7.7 with alleluias

* INVITATION TO THE MEAL

Easter people, come now to the table with Christ!

**For Christ is risen! Christ lives,
and presides at this feast!**

Come, eat together the bread of life!

**For Christ is risen,
and nothing separates us from God's love!**

Come, drink together from the cup of gladness!

**For Christ is risen—risen as Christ said!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Praise to you, God of glory!

You created the universe and all living things.

You breathed life into our dust
and gave us a paradise.

You sought us when we hid ourselves,
ashamed of our sin.

You made a people for yourself,
and saved them from oppression.

In the fullness of time,
your love came also to us in your servant Jesus.

He ministered to us,
healing, overcoming divisions, welcoming all.
He died on the cross of shame.

But you vindicated him,
giving him a life that is forever new!
This is the life he shares with us:
a life of justice, mercy,
and citizenship in your realm of peace.

All your creatures testify to your mighty deeds!
They declare your everlasting love!
We too proclaim it,
as with the angels of heaven we sing:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow - er, God of might, heav - en and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

(Please be seated)

Now, O God, with grateful hearts we remember Jesus.
 We remember that Jesus was laid in a borrowed grave.

A heavy stone sealed up the tomb.

We remember that the women came,
 early in the morning, on the third day.

They did not find him among the dead.

We remember that Jesus' disciples met him on the road.

**Jesus opened the Scriptures, explaining everything,
 and their hearts burned within them.**

They said to Jesus,
 "Stay with us, for it is evening."
 So he went in with them.
 And while they were at table,
 Jesus took bread, gave thanks,
 and broke it for them to share.
 Then their eyes were opened,
 and they knew him in the breaking of the bread.
 Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen



We pray for all in need of healing, whether it be in body, mind, or spirit...
Bob Baus and family, Renita and the Jackson family, Ken Topar,
Judy and Frank Macuga, Annie and Tony Carlos,
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.**

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
hamotzi 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

Come, Holy Spirit,
bless this bread that earth has given and human hands have made.
Bless also this fruit of the vine, created for our gladness.
Make them the food and drink of everlasting life,
body surrendered, blood poured out.

**As we rejoice in the resurrection,
give us love for each other,
and make us servants of peace,
until your new realm is revealed and every creature beholds it.
We pray in the name of Jesus, who lives and presides at this table,
our host and our feast.**

Amen

Musical notation for the word "Amen". It consists of two staves of music in a 4/4 time signature, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with the lyrics "A - men, a - men, a - men!" written below each staff.

Lamb of God

Musical notation for the "Lamb of God" prayer. It features a single staff of music in a 3/4 time signature, with a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and repetitive, with the lyrics "1. Je - sus, Lamb of God, 2. Je - sus, Bread of Life, you take a - way the sins of the 3. Je - sus, Prince of Peace, world: have mer - cy on us. have mer - cy on us. grant us your peace." written below the staff.

Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

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

And I Saw a New Heaven

Edgar L. Bainton

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth:

For the first heaven and the first earth were passed away and there was no more sea.

And I, John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven,

Prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying,

Behold the tabernacle of God is with men,

and he will dwell with them and they shall be his People,

and God himself shall be with them and be their God.

God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;

And there shall be no more death, neither shall there be any more pain,

for the former things are passed away.

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

Let us give thanks!

**Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus,
for gladness in this bread and cup,
for love that cannot die,
for peace the world cannot give,
for joy in the company of friends,
for the splendors of creation,
and for the mission of justice you have made our own.
Give us the gifts of this holy communion—
oneness of heart, love for neighbors,
forgiveness of enemies,
the will to serve you every day,
and risen life that never ends.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

* HYMN

I Know That My Redeemer Lives

DUKE STREET
Arr. Lloyd Larson

**I know that my Redeemer lives! What joy this blest assurance gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead; he lives, my ever-living Head!**

**He lives triumphant from the grave; he lives eternally to save;
He lives exalted, throned above; he lives to rule his church in love.**

**He lives to bless me with his love; he lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed; he lives to help in time of need.**

**He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Savior, still the same;
What joy this blest assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!**

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Spread the message: Christ is alive!

Live the good news: our lives are renewed!

We have seen and heard the good news.

We have been touched by the presence of Christ.

Share the Word: God's peace is offered to all.

Communicate the power of love: be transformed.

We are saved and reconciled and empowered,

God has chosen us to make all things new.

Announce and proclaim: God is our strength.

Rejoice in the promise: we shall triumph over death.

We will tell friends of our discoveries,

We will witness to God's surprising activity.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

“Hallelujah Chorus” from *Messiah*

G.F. Handel

Ensemble

Trumpet I: Ethan Maycon

Trombone I: Xavier McKinley

Trumpet II: Abigail Saunier

Trombone II: Ryan Whitson

French Horn: Nick Giralico

Timpani: Andrew Pongracz

Organ: Jason Lorenzon

Greetings this Blessed Easter Sunday,

May all be filled with the resurrecting love,
light and power of God, through Jesus Christ our Savior!

The darkness of death has been defeated for all time;
you need never fear nor doubt.

Fullness of life awaits each and every one, listen closely,
for Jesus is calling your name.

You are a beloved child of God, freed from sin and death.

Give yourself permission to live into the newness of life that God awaits to
awaken within you.



Blessings,
Pastor Stephen



*“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:

Bob Baus and family, Renita and the Jackson family, Ken Topar,
Judy and Frank Macuga, Annie and Tony Carlos,
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*

Elliot Block, *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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