



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

APRIL 27, 2025
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

SUO GAN

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT

This Joyful Eastertide

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!

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

God is our strength and our salvation;
let everything that breathes praise our God!

**This is the day that God has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it!**

Praise God for mighty deeds and extravagant love.
Praise God for loving care and answered prayer.

**We will give thanks this day, for God is good.
The steadfast love of God endures forever.**

Grace to you and peace from the one who is
and who was and who is to come.

**We are witnesses to the God who acts.
We are here to offer our worship and praise.**

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**God of all of our beginnings,
may this day and every day begin with our praise to you.
Let every breath become a witness to your Spirit,
dwelling within and among us.
Open our hearts to receive your saving gifts.
Loosen our tongues to proclaim your unsurpassed greatness.
May the noise of our celebration help your people
to sense your powerful presence and to claim the joy of serving you,
in Christ's name.
Amen.**

* HYMN #246

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No lon - ger bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., and this text was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1968, rev. 1995
 MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778
 Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

TRURO
 LM

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Don Urban

We who have listened to the siren calls of our culture
 have neglected faithful witness to Jesus Christ.
 The frantic pace of our busyness has left little time or energy
 to ponder the marvelous works of God.
 We have closed the doors of our hearts
 to a presence who longs to claim us.
 Come with me now to the throne of grace as we join in humble confession.
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
 followed by time for silent personal confession.
 Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of our ancestors, how easily we have made you a relic of the past.
We act as if you were unreal, or at least irrelevant.
By our inattention, we have rejected you
and the one whom you sent to teach us.
We are ruled by fears more than faith, by hostility more than peace,
by a sense of failure more than feelings of accomplishment and victory.
Forgive our misuse of the precious days you have entrusted to us.
Help us to see the signs of your presence
and to witness with joy to our Leader and Savior, Jesus 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

We are loved.
We are forgiven, freed from our sins by the sacrifice of Christ Jesus.
New life is ours.
Let us recount the deeds of our God
and respond to the Holy Spirit with joy and thanksgiving.
The steadfast love of God endures forever.
Fill the sanctuary with joyous praise!
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.

As the apostles filled Jerusalem with their teaching about Jesus,
we are called to bring good news to the world.

Our witness is in word and deed, in time and treasure.

Give thanks in all things, for God is good.

With our gifts we express thanks for God's steadfast love
which endures forever.

The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Jubilate Deo (Psalm 100)

Dale Wood

O sing to the Lord with a jubilant voice; Glory to God in the highest!
O serve him with gladness, before him rejoice; Praise to the Lord in the highest.
The Lord is our God, our Creator, not we; Glory to God in the highest!
The sheep of his pasture we ever shall be; Praise to the Lord in the highest!
O enter his gates with thanksgiving and praise; Glory to God in the highest!
To honor his Name thankful voices we raise; Praise to the Lord in the highest!
For good is the Lord, and his mercy is sure; Glory to God in the highest!
To all generations his truth shall endure;
Glory to God! Praise to the Lord in the highest!

* 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

Don Urban

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**For the breath of life, for eyes to see, for insight to believe,
for courage to witness, we give thanks, gracious God.**

The signs of your presence are everywhere.

Your glory and dominion are forever and ever.

May this offering witness to your grace and peace.

**Grant your Spirit as a transforming power among us
that inspires and enables our service.**

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

**Living God, as the risen Christ
came into the locked room of the first disciples,
may your Word enter into us,
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
so that we who have not seen may yet believe.
Amen.**

THE READINGS

Epistle

Revelation 1:4-8 (Inclusive Bible)

From John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you, from the One who is, who was and who is to come, from the seven spirits before the throne and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the Firstborn from the dead, sovereign of the earth.

To Christ—who loves us, and who has freed us from our sins by the shedding of blood, and who has made us to be a kingdom of priests to serve our God and Creator—to Jesus Christ be glory and power forever and ever! Amen.

Look! Christ is coming on the clouds

for every eye to see,

even those who pierced Jesus,

and all the peoples of the earth will mourn over Christ.

So be it! Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says our God,

“who is, who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

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

With God's help we are listening.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were locked in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Temple authorities. Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Having said this, the savior showed them the marks of the crucifixion. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw Jesus, who said to them again, “Peace be with you.

As Abba God sent me, so I’m sending you.”

After saying this, Jesus breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven.

If you retain anyone’s sins, they are retained.”

It happened that one of the Twelve, Thomas—nicknamed Didymus, or “Twin”, was absent, when Jesus came. The other disciples kept telling him, “We have seen Jesus!” Thomas’ answer was, “I’ll never believe it without putting my finger in the nail marks and my hand into the spear wound.”

On the eighth day, the disciples were once more in the room, and this time Thomas was with them. Despite the locked doors, Jesus came and stood before them, saying, “Peace be with you.” Then, to Thomas, Jesus said, “Take your finger and examine my hands. Put your hand into my side. Don’t persist in your unbelief, but believe!” Thomas said in response, “My Savior and my God!”

Jesus then said, “You’ve become a believer because you saw me.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

Jesus performed many other signs as well—signs not recorded in here—in the presence of the disciples. But these have been recorded to help you believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Only Begotten, so that by believing you may have life in Jesus’ Name.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“New Life in Forgiveness”



NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

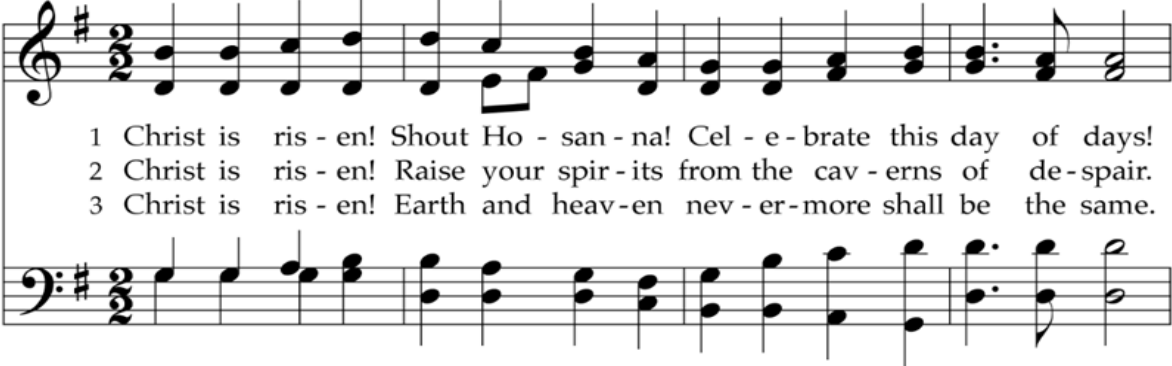
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

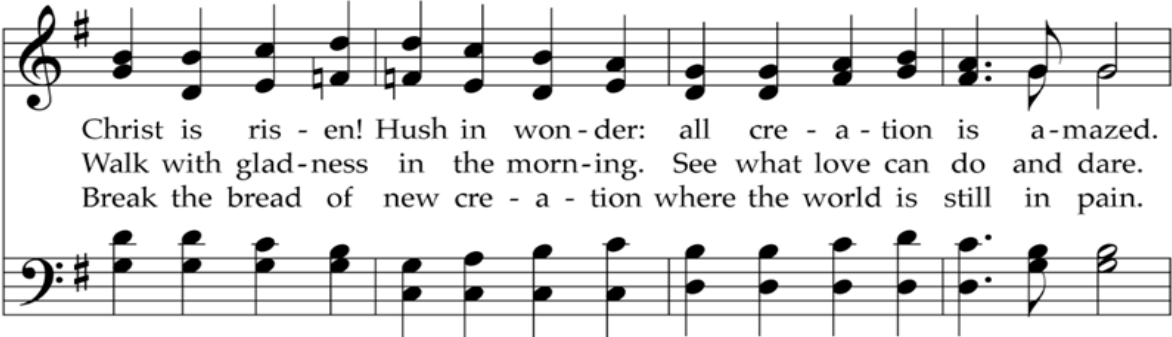
LIGHTING OF CANDLES, PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**



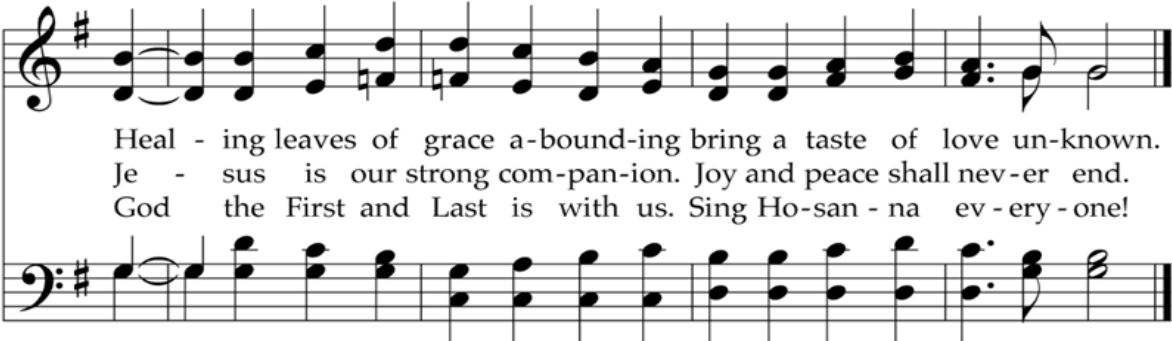
1 Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2 Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its from the cav - erns of de - spair.
 3 Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav - en nev - er - more shall be the same.



Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: all cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad - ness in the morn - ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion where the world is still in pain.



In the des - ert all - sur - round - ing, see, a spread - ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon - ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"



Heal - ing leaves of grace a - bound - ing bring a taste of love un - known.
 Je - sus is our strong com - pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na ev - ery - one!

In commenting on this late 20th-century text, the author has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of an Easter faith: "Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection."

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Go out in the strength God provides.

Praise God's mighty deeds by the way you live.

In loving obedience, we will witness to our faith.

We will give thanks each day for God's goodness.

The steadfast love of God goes with us everywhere.

The Holy Spirit empowers our worship and service.

God is our strength and our might.

God answers our prayers with salvation.

Grace to you and peace from the one who is
and who was and who is to come.

This day is a precious gift from God.

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

Gelobt Sei Gott

Melchior Vulpius
arr. Gilbert M. Martin

*“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, Gerald Wright,
Fred Heider, Judy and Frank Macuga, Annie and Tony Carlos,
Nichole and Paul Bellantoni, Timothy Truitt, Donna Sue Buchanan, Shelley Wheeler

We pray for the repose of the soul of Jorge Mario Bergoglio (Pope Francis),
may his 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.

@ Old Stone Church

Sunday April 27/Easter I

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

1:40PM Guardians/Red Sox/Progressive Field

Tuesday April 29

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

Wednesday April 30

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Friday May 2

4:00PM Zupan/Williams Wedding Rehearsal/Sanctuary

Saturday May 3

5:00PM Zupan/Williams Wedding/Sanctuary

Sunday May 4/Easter II

10:00AM Worship with Communion/Sanctuary

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

Tuesday May 6

6:30AM-7:30PM Primary Election Day/Memorial Hall

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

Wednesday May 7

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Thursday May 8

2:00PM Worship Committee/Zoom

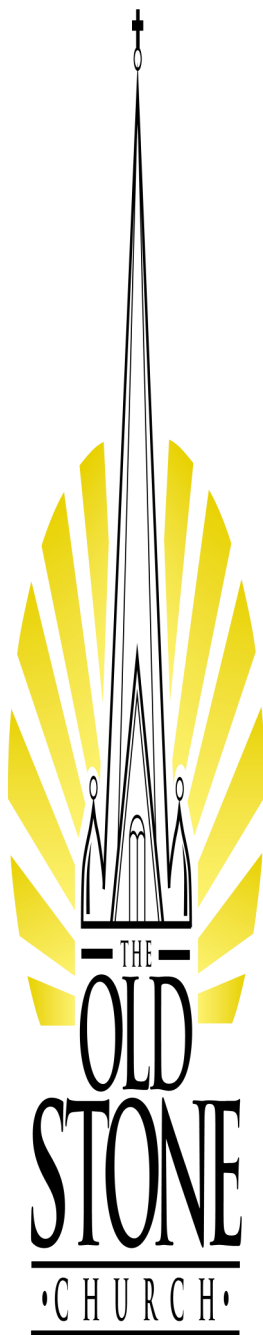
Sunday May 11/Easter III

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

11:30AM Mission and Urban Wellness Committee Meeting/
Cuyahoga Room/Second Floor

7:10PM Guardians/Phillies/Progressive Field



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:197 Online:492

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 Singers

Leah Jennings Brown, *soprano*

Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

Noah Whitaker, *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.