

THE OLD STONE CHURCH

MAY 11, 2025
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Psalm 23

Bobby McFerrin

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory.
 Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ.
 For as in Adam, all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive!

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, People of God, to greet the one who calls us;
 come alive to the Spirit's energy among us.

God awakens us and restores our souls.

Surely God's goodness and mercy are with us here.

The shepherd is calling us to new ventures.

We are invited to a higher quality of life.

We will not fear to walk through shadowed valleys.

God's love in Christ is with us everywhere.

Come to drink from springs of living water.

Gather to find comfort and blessing here.

Surely God will guide our search for truth.

We seek eternal values within our daily walks.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

Draw us together, Eternal One, from paths of aimless wandering.

Lead us today toward the community you intend.

Draw the fragments of our lives together into some meaningful whole.

Help us deal with present concerns in constructive ways

yet point us beyond ourselves to engage with you in larger issues.

Help us feel the hunger and thirst of others;

then lead your church to make a caring response.

May your love fill us and overflow into other lives.

Amen.

* HYMN #802

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ST. COLUMBA

1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Since its creation in the mid-19th century, this text has been one of the favorite paraphrases of Psalm 23 in the English-speaking world. That popularity increased in the early 20th century when *The English Hymnal*, 1906, first joined these words to this flowing Irish melody.

TEXT: Henry Williams Baker, 1868
MUSIC: Irish melody; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.

ST. COLUMBA
8.7.8.7

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Natalie Ronayne

How often it is winter in our lives.
The good we would do seems frozen within us,
and our faith is cold and sluggish.
A voice calls us to believe and to care,
to confess our doubts and awaken the potential within us.
Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
followed by time for silent personal confession.
Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, we look at events around us
and cannot perceive you within them.
We shed tears and find no comfort.
We listen for your voice and are greeted by silence.
The world seems full of enemies waiting to devour us.
On every hand, there are problems too complicated for us to solve.
We live in fear rather than faith.
We cry out to you for answers.
O God, do you hear us?**

(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

In the silence, there is a presence too deep for words.
The works of God surround us even now,
bearing witness to an unseen hand.
Multitudes of people from every nation and time join in chorus:
"Salvation belongs to our God!"
The shepherd will guide us to springs of living water,
and our tears will be wiped away.
We are freed to live boldly and courageously, through 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.

Surely the goodness of God overflows in our lives.

Take time to count your blessings.

The works of God are all around us. In these moments,

we have the opportunity to offer ourselves

and our substance to extend God's work on earth.

The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Lloyd Larson

Jesus lives! Sing your alleluias! Heav'n and earth rejoice in praise!

Jesus Christ is risen today!

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, this triumphant holy day!

He who once upon the cross suffered to redeem our loss.

Hymns of praise then let us sing unto Christ, our heav'nly King:

Jesus Christ is ris'n today!

Alleluia!

Now the pain which Christ endured our salvation has secured;

With the angels let us sing praises to our risen King!

Sing we to our God above, praise eternal as His love.

Jesus Christ is ris'n today!

Alleluia!

* 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

Natalie Ronayne

Let us join our voices in prayer:

Make these moments a feast of dedication

to your purposes among us, loving God.

May we serve you night and day,

wherever we are, in all we do.

Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power,

and might be to our God forever and ever!

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

**Shepherd of Souls,
you call us to an abundant feast
at the table of your word;
open our hearts to feed on your goodness,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we might dwell evermore deeply in you.
Amen.**

THE READINGS

Epistle

Acts 9:36-43 (Inclusive Bible)

Now in Joppa there was a disciple, a woman named Tabitha— “Dorcas”, in Greek—who never tired of doing kind things or giving to charity. About this time she grew ill and died. They washed her body and laid her out in an upstairs room.

Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples sent two couriers to Peter with the urgent request, “Please come over to us without delay.” Peter set out with them as they asked. Upon his arrival, they took him upstairs to the room.

All the townswomen who had been widowed stood beside him weeping, and showed him the various garments that Dorcas had made when she was still with them.

Peter first made everyone go outside, then knelt down and prayed. Turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, stand up.” She opened her eyes, then looked at Peter and sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her to her feet. The next thing he did was to call in the believers—including the widows—to show them that she was alive. This became known all over Joppa, and because of it, many came to believe in Jesus Christ.

Peter remained awhile in Joppa, staying with Simon, a leather tanner.

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

With God’s help we are listening.

Gospel

John 10:22-30 (Inclusive Bible)

The time came for Hanukkah, the Feast of the Dedication, in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the Temple area, in Solomon's Porch, when the Temple authorities surrounded him and said, "How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you really are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

Jesus replied, "I did tell you, but you don't believe. The work I do in my Abba's name gives witness in my favor, but you don't believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.

I give them eternal life, and they will never be lost. No one will ever snatch them from my hand. Abba God, who gave them to me, is greater than anyone, and no one can steal them from Abba God. For Abba and I are One."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams
"Raising Tabitha"



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.

Capo 3: (C) (Am7) (F) (G) (C)
 E^b Cm7 A^b B^b E^b

1 For all the faith - ful wom - en who served in
 2 We praise your name for Mir - iam, who sang tri -
 3 We sing of bus - y Mar - tha, who toiled with
 4 Lord, hear our praise of Dor - cas, who served the

(G) (C) (Am7) (Dm) (G)
 B^b E^b Cm7 Fm B^b

days of old, to you shall thanks be giv - en; to
 um - phant - ly while Pha - raoh's vaunt - ed ar - my lay
 pot and pan while Mar - y sat in si - lence to
 sick and poor. Her hands were cups of kind - ness, her

(C) (G7) (C) (Am)
 E^b B^b7 E^b Cm

all, their sto - ry told. They served with strength and
 drowned be - neath the sea; for Ruth, who left her
 hear the word a - gain. We praise the oth - er
 heart an o - pen door. O God, for saints and

(D) (G) (F) (G) (C)
 F B^b A^b B^b E^b

glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave. To you their
 home - land and ven - tured forth in faith, who pledged to
 Mar - y, who has - tened to the tomb and found her
 ser - vants, our fer - vent prayer we raise, that, faith - ful

(Am7) (F) (G) (C) (Dm) (G) (C)
 Cm7 A^b B^b E^b Fm B^b E^b

lives bore wit - ness, pro - claimed your power to save.
 serve and wor - ship Na - o - mi's God till death.
 Lord a - ris - en, dis - pel - ling doubt and gloom.
 in your ser - vice, our lives may sing your praise.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Created to honor the tenth anniversary of the first ordination of a woman in the Lutheran Church in America, this text celebrates representative women of the Bible: Miriam and Ruth from Hebrew Scripture, Mary, Martha, and Mary Magdalene from the gospels, and Dorcas from Acts.

TEXT: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1975, alt.

MUSIC: Finnish folk melody; adapt. and harm. David Evans, 1927

Text © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music Harm. © 1927 Oxford University Press

NYLAND

7.6.7.6.D

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Go forward from this place as praying, caring people.
Let good works and charity abound.

We believe God calls us to make a difference.

God wants us to change the world.

Your deeds bear witness to God's love.

Others will believe because of your faith.

We trust the shepherd to lead and guide us.

We look to God for the strength we need.

Surely goodness and mercy will follow us.

Our eternal home is part of us right now.

God's salvation has come to us. Alleluia!

We will praise and honor our God forever and ever.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

Procesión Alegre (Joyous Procession)

Garry A. Cornell

*“My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”*

Psalms 73:26



We continue to keep in our prayers:

Bob Baus and family, Renita and the Jackson family, Ken Topar, Gerald Wright,
JoAnn Hood, Elizabeth Reid, Mary Jane Sykora, Fred Heider, Judy and Frank Macuga,
Debbie McLaughlin, Harry Hatters, Annie and Tony Carlos, Nichole and Paul Bellantoni,
Timothy Truitt, Paolo, Donna Sue Buchanan, Shelley Wheeler,
Priscilla Fayne, Ronald Richard

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 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

Tuesday May 13

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

Wednesday May 14

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Thursday May 15

7:00PM FPS Directors Meeting/Conference Room/ First Floor

Saturday May 17

All Day Cleveland Marathon

2:00PM Welcoming & Fellowship Committee/Wade Chapel Tour

Sunday May 18/Easter IV/Marathon Sunday

All Day Cleveland Marathon

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

Tuesday May 20

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

Wednesday May 21

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Sunday May 25/Easter V

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

Monday May 26/Memorial Day

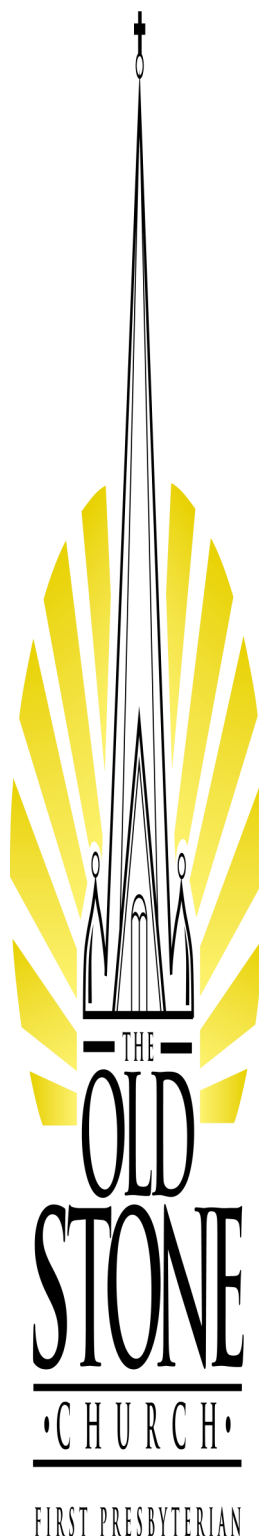
All Day Building and Offices Closed

Tuesday May 27

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


Wednesday May 28

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary



Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:75 Online:261

There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church-The First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland

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.”	Scan the QR Code with your phone.	

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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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*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*

Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Noah Whitaker, *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
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.