



# THE OLD STONE CHURCH

JUNE 29, 2025  
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
**10AM Sanctuary Worship**

## WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

*Lead, Kindly Light*

Robert J. Powell

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT

*Lead Me, Lord*

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.

For it is thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

\* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Call to mind the mighty acts of God.

Remember the wonders God has revealed in your life.

**All the ways of God are holy.**

**Nothing in heaven or earth is so great as God.**

With a strong arm, God redeems the people.

Day by day God leads us with a shepherd's care.

**Even when the earth trembles, God is with us.**

**When lightning flashes, we are confident of God's care.**

We have inherited the mission of the prophets.

We need the prophet's mantle from our God.

**We have come to be equipped for our tasks.**

**We have gathered for renewal of our lives.**

\* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**We cry aloud to you, O God.**

**Hear our prayers. In times of troubles, we need your comfort.**

**Amid our confusion, we seek your clarity.**

**From temptations of the flesh, we beg for liberation.**

**Lead us away from the false gods we create,**

**that we may meet you here**

**with full expectancy and eager responsiveness.**

**Amen.**

\* HYMN #726

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

KELVINGROVE



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?  
2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?  
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?  
4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?  
5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?  
Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?  
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?  
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"  
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"  
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"  
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"  
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

#### \* CALL TO CONFESSION

Kristy Sawicki

When our self-indulgence enslaves,  
 when our arrogant pretensions deceive,  
 when our anxiety enfeebls,  
 God calls us to repent, to lay aside our excuses,  
 to seek pardon and freedom at their only source—the love of God:  
 revealed by Jesus Christ.  
 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 are so self-centered that we cannot be centered selves.**  
**We are so preoccupied with things of little consequence**  
**that we cannot appreciate important matters of the heart.**  
**We consume other people instead of loving them.**  
**We bite and devour while you call us to build relationships**  
**and delight in your love.**  
**Set us free, O God, from the sin that binds us.**  
*(moment of silent confession)*

**Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

\* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

For freedom, Christ has set you free, brothers and sisters;  
do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence,  
but through love become slaves to one another.  
Follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ  
and live from this day forward in the promised realm of God.

**Alleluia and Amen!**

BLESSING OF DEPARTING MEMBERS *(Please be seated)*

Bram, Tiffany and William are leaving our congregation,  
and we want to send them forth with our prayers  
and ask God's blessing upon them.

In baptism we are claimed by God,  
marked as Christ's own forever,  
and joined to his body by the Holy Spirit.  
In this community of faith,  
you have heard the good news of the gospel,  
been nourished at Christ's table,  
and sent out to be Christ's witness in the world.

God has blessed you and made you a blessing in our life together.  
We will miss you but rejoice that we remain part of one body  
and continue to share in Christ's ministry.  
Let us pray together:

**Faithful God, keep, preserve, and protect  
Bram, Tiffany and William throughout all their days.  
By the power of your Holy Spirit, make them salt of the earth  
and light for the world.  
Lead them to new ministries, secure in the faith  
that binds us forever in the body of Christ.  
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.

**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.

The way to Jerusalem was costly for Jesus.

The way of Christian faithfulness is costly today.

It requires nothing less than the full commitment of our lives.

Our offering is a symbol of our life in the Spirit,  
our total commitment to the reign of God.

The offering will now be received.

[OFFERING](#)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Be Thou My Vision*

Dan Forrest

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart, nought be all else to me, save that Thou art,  
Thou my best thought by day or by night, waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.  
Be thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word, I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son, Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.  
Riches I heed not, nor men's empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always,  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, high King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.  
High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'ns sun,  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O ruler of all.

\* DOXOLOGY #605

*Praise to God the Father*

DA N'ASE

Praise to God the Father; praise to God the Son; praise to God the Spirit:

Praise to the Three-in-One. Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.

Praise to God Almighty; praise to the Holy One.

\* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**Gracious God,**

**we did not know it would cost so much or feel so good to follow Jesus.**

**We are grateful that we have so much to give and so much yet to learn.**

**We dedicate our offerings**

**so that we and our neighbors may be equipped for life in your realm.**

**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

**O God,  
by your Spirit plant your word within us  
that we may follow your Son,  
our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
and never leave him.  
May we find our home in your Kingdom  
and our life in your Spirit.  
Amen.**

## THE READINGS

Epistle

Galatians 5:1,13-25 (Inclusive Bible)

When Christ freed us, we were meant to remain free.  
Stand firm, therefore, and don't submit to the yoke of slavery a second time.  
My sisters and brothers, you were called to freedom; but be careful, or this freedom will provide an opportunity for self-indulgence. Rather, serve one another in works of love, since the whole law is summarized in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." If you go on snapping at one another and tearing each other to pieces, be careful, or you may end up destroying the whole community.  
Let me put it in this way: if you are guided by the Spirit, you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence. Since our flesh is at odds with the Spirit—and the Spirit with our flesh—the two are so opposed that you cannot do whatever you feel like doing. If you are guided by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. It's obvious what proceeds from the flesh: lewd conduct, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, arguments, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish rivalries, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, orgies and so forth. I warn you, as I have warned you before: those who do these sorts of things will not inherit the kingdom of God!  
By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patient endurance, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against these sorts of things there is no law! Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their ego, with its passions and desires.  
So since we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by her lead.

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

**With God's help we are listening.**



As the time approached when he was to be taken from this world, Jesus firmly resolved to proceed toward Jerusalem and sent messengers on ahead. They entered a Samaritan town to make preparations for him, but the Samaritans wouldn't welcome Jesus because his destination was Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Rabbi, do you want us to call down fire from heaven and destroy them?" But Jesus turned and reprimanded them. Then they set off for another town. As they were making their way along, they met a fellow traveler who said to Jesus, "I'll follow you wherever you go." Jesus replied, "Foxes have lairs, the birds of the sky have nests, but the Chosen One has nowhere to rest." To another traveler Jesus said, "Follow me." The traveler replied, "Let me bury my father first." Jesus said in return, "Let the dead bury their dead; you go and proclaim the reign of God everywhere." Yet another traveler approached Jesus in this way: "I'll be your follower, Rabbi, but first let me say goodbye to my people at home." Jesus answered, "Whoever puts a hand to the plow but keeps looking back is unfit for the reign of God."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams  
"Freedom for What?"



\* 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.**



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name. *Fine*

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,  
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*to Refrain*

the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
 bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.  
 your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.  
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever.

TEXT: George William Kitchin, 1887; rev. Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916, alt.  
 MUSIC: Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916; desc. Richard Proulx, 1985  
 Text and Music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company  
 Music Desc. © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

CRUCIFER  
 10.10 with refrain

\* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Walk by the Spirit, showing the fruit of the Spirit,  
giving thanks to God in all circumstances.

**We will call to mind the many deeds of God.**

**We will meditate on the wonderful works of God.**

As those who belong to Jesus Christ,  
inherit the realm of God and share it.

**God walks with us on our daily journey.**

**God makes a path for us through deep waters.**

God grants true freedom to those who love,  
who walk in faithfulness all their days.

**We accept the prophet's mantle to empower us.**

**We receive the Spirit's gifts to guide us.**

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Sevenfold Amen*

John Stainer

POSTLUDE

*Amazing Grace*

arr. Frederick Swann

*“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:**

John and Amy Wheeler, Kim Bischel, David Damm, JoAnn Hood,  
Fred Heider, Judy and Frank Macuga, Annie and Tony Carlos,  
Shelley Wheeler, Renita Jackson-Dix and family  
Patti Hatters and family, Beth Buchanan and family

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 June 29**

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Communion/Chapel

**12:05PM** Guardians/Cardinals/Progressive Field

### **Tuesday July 1**

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

### **Wednesday July 2**

**11AM-2PM** Open Doors/Sanctuary

**12:15PM** Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

**6:00 PM** Welcoming & Fellowship Committee Meeting/ZOOM

### **Friday July 4 Independence Day**

**All Day Building and Offices Closed**

### **Sunday July 6**

**10:00AM** Worship with Communion/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Pot Luck Luncheon/Memorial Hall

**1:40PM** Guardians/Tigers/Progressive Field

### **Tuesday July 8**

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

### **Wednesday July 9**

**11AM-2PM** Open Doors/Sanctuary

**12:15PM** Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

### **Thursday July 10**

**2:00PM** Worship Committee/ZOOM

### **Sunday July 13**

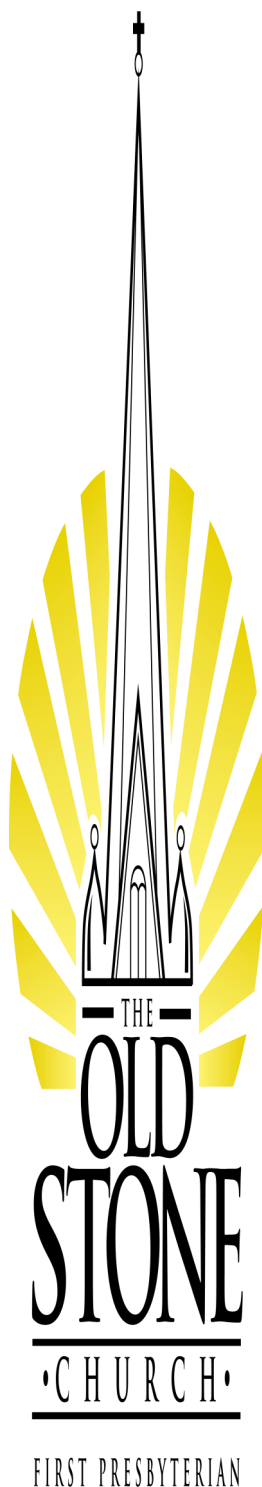
**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Communion/Chapel

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

**12:00PM** Tony Kordalski Memorial Service/Sanctuary

**2:00PM** CMA Tour/Welcome and Fellowship Committee



**Last Sunday Attendance** In-Person:70 Online:276

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

Online Giving:

[oldstonechurch.org/giving/](http://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

Scan the QR Code with your phone.

Checks should be made payable to “Old Stone Church.”

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](http://www.OldStoneChurch.org) **E-Mail:** [info@OldStoneChurch.org](mailto:info@OldStoneChurch.org)

Music copied under ccli#1638695  
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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*

Susan Fletcher, *soprano*

Morgan Potts, *alto*

Albert Donze, *bass*

Elizabeth Rickel, *alto*

### 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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