



# THE OLD STONE CHURCH

JULY 6, 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST WITH COMMUNION  
10 AM Sanctuary Worship

## WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

NICAEA

Jeffrey Honoré

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

INTROIT

*Be Joyful in The Lord*

Kendal L. Gunlicks

Be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands! And serve the Lord with gladness.  
Be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands! Come before his presence with a song.

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

The realm of God has come near.

Enter this time of worship with joyous expectation.

**We will extol you, O God, for you have drawn us up.**

**You rescued us from the pit and restored us to life.**

Sing praises to God, all faithful ones.

Give thanks to God's holy name.

**We have known your favor, O God, in many ways.**

**You have healed us and turned our mourning to dancing.**

Rejoice in the work you are given to do.

Give thanks that your names are known to God.

**We will praise you, O God, and not be silent.**

**We will give thanks to you forever.**

\* INVOCATION PRAYER

**Gracious God, our helper,**

**we greet you this morning with joy and thanksgiving.**

**We feel your welcome and anticipate your teaching.**

**Show us this day what you would have us do.**

**Whether it be great or small, we want to do what you command.**

**Let our ears be attentive to your Word,**

**and our hearts be responsive to the opportunities**

**you grant us to bear one another's burdens in the name of Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

\* HYMN #839

*Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!*

ASSURANCE

1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a  
2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of  
3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,  
rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,  
Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,

pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.  
bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.  
look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*

This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior  
all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my  
song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

\* CALL TO CONFESSION

Beth Buchanan

Who among us has not wanted to shape God to our own specifications?  
How often we have wanted to define truth for everyone else  
and to judge others by standards we ourselves cannot keep.  
Whether our sins reside in what we have done, in what we have failed to do,  
or in prideful comparisons with other people, let us confess them now.  
Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,  
followed by time for silent personal confession.  
Thus, we pray:

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gentle God, angry God, gracious God,  
we know we have let you down in many ways.  
We have not lived up to your high intentions for us.  
You send us out as ambassadors of peace,  
and instead we pick fights with our sisters and brothers.  
You commission us to travel light,  
and we become bogged down with our possessions.  
You ask us to help ease the burdens others carry, but we add to them.  
You call us to joy in your inclusive realm,  
but instead we create our own ghettos.  
Patient God, will you forgive us again?**

*(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

Demons fall when Christians pray and witness together.  
Lives are healed when pretensions are cast aside.  
God extends mercy and peace to all who are sincerely penitent.  
Turn away from temptation,  
knowing that God will strengthen you in fulfilling the law of 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.

Our offerings support the ministry of this church  
as we reach out together to announce the better way  
God intends for all of us.

In our giving, we extend a welcome, practice hospitality,  
offer healing, become reapers in God's harvest  
and extend the peace of God to the world.

May our offerings honor the one who gives us all we have.  
The offering will now be received.

## OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Ain'-a That Good News!*

William L. Dawson

I got a crown up in-a the kingdom, Ain'-a that good news!  
I'm-a gonna lay down this world, gonna shoulder up-a my cross.  
Gonna take it home-a to my Jesus, Ain'-a that good news!

I got a harp up in-a the kingdom..  
I got a robe up in-a the kingdom..  
I got a Saviour up in-a the kingdom...

\* 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

Beth Buchanan

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**With gratitude for your gracious favor, we dedicate these gifts.**

**May they help others as we have been helped.**

**May they reach out in a spirit of gentleness  
to restore to community those who are alienated.**

**May they announce to the world that the realm of God is among us,  
waiting to be claimed.**

**By these resources may your name be praised  
here and in many other places.**

**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:

**Your Word, O Lord,  
is our inspiration, our light, and our motion.  
Your Word, O Lord, is power, is wisdom, is comfort  
for the world You so deeply love.  
Guide us today, as we listen to the Word  
read and proclaimed, and fill us with understanding  
and with the desire to change.  
Speak Lord! Your people listen! Amen.**

## THE READINGS

Epistle

Galatians 6:1-16 (Inclusive Bible)

Sisters and brothers, if one of you is caught in any sin, the more spiritual among you should correct the offender in a spirit of gentleness—remembering that you may be tempted yourselves. Bear one another's burdens, and thus fulfill the law of Christ. But if you think you are important when you are not, you are deceiving yourselves. Examine your own work, each of you. If you find something to boast about, at least it's something of your own and not just empty comparison with your neighbor. Carry your own load!

Those under instruction in the word should always contribute to the support of the instructor. Don't be deceived—God cannot be cheated: where you sow, there you will reap. If you sow in the field of self-indulgence, you will reap corruption. If you sow in the field of the Spirit, you will reap the harvest of eternal life. Never grow tired of doing good. We will reap a harvest at the proper time—if you don't grow weary. So, while we still have time, do good to all and especially to those of the household of faith.

Look how big these letters are when I write in my own hand! Those who are pressuring the men among you to be circumcised are only trying to win favor with others, so they won't be persecuted for the cross of Christ. They themselves are circumcised but don't even keep the Law. They want you to accept circumcision just so they can boast about it. May I never boast of anything but the cross of our Savior Jesus Christ! Through it the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. It means nothing whether one bothers with the externals of religion or not. All that matters is that one is created anew. Peace and mercy on all who follow this rule of life and on the Israel of God.

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

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

After this, Jesus appointed seventy-two others, and sent them on ahead in pairs to every town and place where he intended to visit. He said to them, “The harvest is rich, but the workers are few; therefore, ask the overseer to send out workers to the harvest. Be on your way; and remember: I am sending you as lambs in the midst of wolves. Don’t carry a walking stick or a knapsack; wear no sandals and greet no one along the way. And whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be upon this house!’ If the people live peaceably there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will come back to you. Stay in that house, eating and drinking what they give you, for the laborer is worth a wage. Don’t keep moving house to house. And whatever city you enter, after they welcome you, eat what they set before you and heal those who are sick in that town. Say to them, ‘The reign of God has drawn near to you.’ If the people of any town you enter don’t welcome you, go into the streets and say, ‘We shake the dust of this town from our feet as a testimony against you. But know that the reign of God has drawn near.’ Anyone who listens to you, listens to me. Anyone who rejects you, rejects me; and those who reject me rejects the One who sent me.” The seventy-two disciples returned with joy, saying, “Rabbi, even the demons obey us in your name!” Jesus replied, “I watched Satan fall from the sky like lightning. Look, I’ve given you the power to tread on snakes and scorpions—even the forces of the enemy—and nothing will ever injure you. Nevertheless, don’t rejoice in the fact that the spirits obey you so much as your names are inscribed in heaven.”

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“Never tire of doing good!”

# WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

\* HYMN #518

*Your Only Son*

LAMB OF GOD

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a treble clef. It includes three verses and a refrain, each with corresponding guitar chords written above the staff.

**Verse 1:** Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
**Verse 2:** Your gift of love, we cru - ci - fied; we laughed and  
**Verse 3:** I was so lost, I should have died, but you have

sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
 scorned him as he died; the hum - ble King we named a  
 brought me to your side to be led by your staff and

sod, and to be - come the Lamb of God.  
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.  
 rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

*Refrain*

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the  
 ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me in his pre - cious  
 blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

John the Baptist calls Jesus "the Lamb of God" when he sees Jesus coming for baptism at the Jordan River (John 1:29, 36). Sacrificial lamb references appear in Acts 8:32 (quoting Isaiah 53:7) and 1 Peter 1:19 as well as in twenty-eight triumphant "Lamb" mentions in Revelation.

TEXT and MUSIC: Twila Paris, 1985

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LAMB OF GOD

LM with refrain



\* INVITATION TO THE MEAL

May the Spirit of love be with you.

**And may the love of Christ be with you.**

Open wide your cautious hearts.

**May the hope of our Creator pour peace in our souls.**

Let us give thanks to the One who created this time and space.

**From our joy we give God thanks and praise.**

God of the fair winds and bounteous fields,  
Of the storms overhead and the seas below,  
With joy we celebrate the connection we have with all of creation  
“From sea to shining sea,”  
From the beautiful mountain caps to the rivers winding across the land.

We honor the connection we have with your beings-  
from the chipmunks scurrying through our yards  
to the swallows swooping in the air above.  
We embrace the relationships with our neighbors near and far—  
the ones who are close to our hearts,  
and the ones with whom distance in miles and souls sets us apart.

And so we come to this table:  
The ones with many opportunities, and those seeking liberty.  
The ones who have been disregarded and those embraced,  
knowing that Christ’s welcome receives all.  
Knowing that Jesus the Christ ate with sinners and tax collectors,  
with those who disapproved and those who leapt for joy,  
with Judas and Peter, with Mary and Martha, with Philip and Thomas.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven  
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.**

We pray for all in need of healing, whether it be in body, mind, or spirit...

Kim Bischel, David Damm, JoAnn Hood,  
Fred Heider, Judy and Frank Macuga,  
Shelley Wheeler

We pray for the repose of the soul of Lori (Larry) Lippert,  
may their memory be a blessing.

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 come to the table remembering the night before Jesus died.  
As Jesus ate with his followers in a room away from the world, "taking a loaf of bread,  
and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

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.'

And Jesus did the same with the cup after 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 cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant.'  
Whenever we eat and drink at the table, we remember the Christ in our midst.

## PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

Spirit of Hope, Holy Winds of Divine Freedom,  
encircle this bread and cup,  
Encircle us in our eating and drinking  
that we may experience the radical love of Christ here today  
and sharing this care as we journey throughout this week.

**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.

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

*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,



\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

God of abundance,  
with this bread of life and cup of salvation  
you have united us with Christ,  
making us one with all your people.  
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue forever in the risen life  
of Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

\* HYMN #341

*O God, Show Mercy to Us*

THAXTED

1 O God, show mer - cy to us, and bless us with your  
2 For you will judge the peo - ples in truth and righ - teous -

grace; and cause to shine up - on us the bright-ness of your  
ness, and on the earth all na - tions will your just rule con -

face, so that your way most ho - ly on earth may soon be  
fess. Let all the peo - ples praise you; let all the na - tions



known, and un - to ev - ery peo - ple your sav - ing grace be  
sing. Then earth in rich a - bun - dance to us its fruit will

shown. Let all the peo - ples praise you; let all the na - tions  
bring. The Lord our God will bless us; our God will bless - ing

sing; in ev - ery land let prais - es and songs of glad - ness ring.  
send, and all the earth will wor - ship to its re - mot - est end.

#### \* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

God sends us out as lambs among wolves.

It is not easy to proclaim the gospel.

**We will not fear to let our faith be known.**

**We want to carry God's, peace into our world.**

Your words and deeds can be simple and direct.

Your witness is to be gentle and kind.

**We will listen before we speak.**

**We will seek to love without Judging.**

The peace of God dwells in you and will help you.

The Spirit will grant you authority and power.

**We accept God's gifts and promises.**

**We will not grow weary of doing what is right.**

#### \* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Sevenfold Amen*

John Stainer

*God Bless America*  
*(All Are Invited to Sing)*

Irving Berlin

Introduction: (Choir)

While the storm clouds gather far across the sea,  
Let us swear allegiance to a land that's free.  
Let us all be grateful for a land so fair,  
As we raise our voices in a solemn prayer.

(All)

**God bless America, land that I love.  
Stand beside her and guide her  
Through the night with the light from above.**

**From the mountains to the prairies,  
To the oceans white with foam,  
God bless America, my home sweet home,  
God bless America, my home sweet home.**

*“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:**

Kim Bischel, David Damm, JoAnn Hood,  
Fred Heider, Judy and Frank Macuga,  
Shelley Wheeler

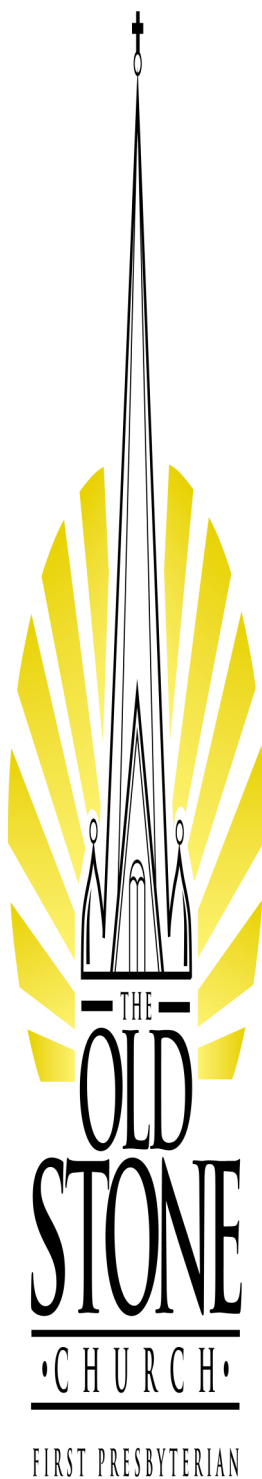
We pray for the repose of the soul of Lori (Larry) Lippert,  
may their memory be a blessing.

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.*



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



## **@ Old Stone Church**

### **Sunday July 6**

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

**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

### **Tuesday July 15**

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

### **Wednesday July 16**

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

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

### **Thursday June 17**

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

### **Sunday July 20**

**10:00AM** Worship/Sanctuary

**11:30AM** Communion/Chapel

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

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

**4:00PM** Celebrity Chef-Rocco Whalen/Memorial Hall

**Last Sunday Attendance** In-Person: **113** Online: **238**

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*

91 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio 44113-2058

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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  
onelicense#A-742406

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

**Parish Associate:** Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

**Minister of Music:** David L. Dettloff

### **The Old Stone Singers**

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Noah Whitaker, *tenor*

Morgan Potts, *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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