



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

AUGUST 3, 2025
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST WITH COMMUNION
10 AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE	<i>O Lord of Hosts, Whose Glory Fills</i>	Flor Peeters
WELCOME		Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams
INTROIT	<i>I Will Worship the Lord</i>	John Rutter

I will worship the Lord all the days of my life;
I will tell of his glory and will show forth his praise;
I will sing and rejoice, for the Lord is my stronghold. Alleluia.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Listen, all who are fleeing from the Holy One;
God is calling us; God has called us together.

**O give thanks to God, for God is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever.**

God is eager to put loving arms around us.
God is waiting to satisfy our hunger and thirst.

**God fills the hungry with good things.
Our thirsting souls are filled to overflowing.**

Set your minds on things that are above.
Put to death your earthly disobedience.

**God leads us to a new identity, to new life.
We seek renewal in the image of our Creator.**

* INVOCATION PRAYER

**Loving God,
in whose arms we have found our identity,
come among us to direct our faltering steps
in the ways you would have us go.
Teach us to walk with Christ
through the distractions that beckon us in other directions.
Turn our vain striving into meaningful service,
our foolish greed to the fulfillment of sharing,
our confusion to clarity of vision,
that we might worship you truly this hour.
Amen.**

* HYMN #175

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God
2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;
3 You shall not live by bread a - lone,

and seek, but its and by righ - teous - ness, you shall find; ev - ery word

and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you. knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you. that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God.

Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Harriet Niles

What does God see within us and among us that we do not see?
 Do you suppose that God is disappointed, frustrated, angry?
 What defenses have we created to keep God out of our lives?
 How have we turned away from the life God intended for us?
 Now is the moment to come out of hiding, for God already knows where we are.
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
 followed by time for silent personal confession.
 Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, our lives are far from holy.
The thoughts we have held in secret
have erupted into hurtful words and deeds.
We have not avoided lies and slander.
We have given in to pessimism and suspicion.
Were resent people whose lives seem easier than our own.
We hate the thought of passing on to those less worthy
the things we have worked so hard to possess.
O God, we need your wisdom in order to live peacefully within ourselves.**

(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

Jordan Ware

God has invited all of us to strip off our old selves
to accept renewal in the image of our Creator.
Right here, right now, in the warmth of God's love,
our greed is melting away, our anger is finding constructive release,
our despair is giving way to hope.
God delivers us from the folly of self-preoccupation
to joyous involvement in our Creator's "wonderful works to humankind."

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.

Life does not consist in the abundance of our possessions.

All that we currently possess will someday belong to others.

We have the privilege in this life to do good with all that God has entrusted to us.

We bring a portion now to be blessed by God in the work of our church,

Christ's church, here and in other places.

The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

All My Trials

Bahamian Spiritual
arr. Norman Luboff

If religion was a thing that money could buy the rich would live and the poor would die.

All my trials, Lord, soon be over.

Too late my brothers! Too late but never mind. All my trials, Lord, soon be over.

Now, hush, little baby, don't you cry. You know that man is born to die.

All my trials, Lord, soon be over.

* 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

Harriet Niles

Let us join our voices in prayer:

Help us, O God,

to give enough of ourselves and our substance every day

that we will not be tempted to embrace the idolatry of greed.

We here dedicate not just our offerings

but all we possess to causes far greater than our own security.

Before all our attachments require "larger barns,"

**help us to reflect on how they might better be used by others
than stored by us.**

Thank you for the abundant opportunity to share.

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:

**God, we trust that you have our best interest at heart.
As we hear the reading of your Word,
remind us that we have been raised with Christ,
and inspire us to seek the things that are above,
through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

THE READINGS

Tanach

Hosea 11:1-11 (NRSVUE)

When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.
The more I called them,
the more they went from me;
they kept sacrificing to the Baals
and offering incense to idols.
Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk;
I took them up in my arms,
but they did not know that I healed them.
I led them with cords of human kindness,
with bands of love.
I was to them like those
who lift infants to their cheeks.
I bent down to them and fed them.
They shall return to the land of Egypt,
and Assyria shall be their king,
because they have refused to return to me.
The sword rages in their cities;
it consumes their oracle priests
and devours because of their schemes.
My people are bent on turning away from me.
To the Most High they call,
but he does not raise them up at all.
How can I give you up, Ephraim?
How can I hand you over, O Israel?
How can I make you like Admah?
How can I treat you like Zeboiim?
My heart recoils within me;
my compassion grows warm and tender.

I will not execute my fierce anger;
I will not again destroy Ephraim,
for I am God and no mortal,
the Holy One in your midst,
and I will not come in wrath.
They shall go after the Lord,
who roars like a lion;
when he roars,
his children shall come trembling from the west.
They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt
and like doves from the land of Assyria,
and I will return them to their homes, says the Lord.

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

With God's help we are listening

Gospel

Luke 12:13-21 (NRSVUE)

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Denise Clark-Jones

"Of Wealth and Wisdom"

WE RESPOND IN LOVE AND FAITH

* HYMN #501

Feed Us, Lord

FEED US



1 Feed us, Lord. Feed us, Lord. In the bro - ken bread,
2 Quench us, Lord. Quench us, Lord. On this thirst - y ground,
3 Fill us, Lord. Fill us, Lord, with the bread and wine
4 Lead us, Lord. Lead us, Lord, nour-ished here by Christ,



be re - vealed a - gain. Come and feed our hearts, O Lord.
may your love flow down. Come and quench our hearts, O Lord.
of the ris - en Christ. Come and fill our hearts, O Lord.
giv - en strength for life. Come and lead our hearts, O Lord.

Not many Lord's Supper hymns call attention to the post-Resurrection meals Christ shared with his disciples, but the first stanza here alludes to the meal at Emmaus, when he was made known in the breaking of the bread (Luke 24:13–35), and stanza three refers to "the risen Christ."

TEXT and MUSIC: Greg Scheer, 2007
Text and Music © 2007 Greg Scheer

FEED US
3.3.5.5.7

* INVITATION TO THE MEAL

Community of saints,
beloved of God, we are invited
to come and gather at the table of love and liberation,
to feast on the dreams of God,
to be nourished by but a taste of what God desires to do among us.

God calls us from institutional halls of power,
From shelters and the streets;
God calls us from classrooms and pulpits,
Gay bars and prison cells.
God calls us as we are, from wherever we are,
to come and be in solidarity with Christ,
who lives and loves on the margins.

God whispers "come"
and live abundantly,
turning from all that claim blessings
flow from money, power, or control.

Come, and love relentlessly;
following Christ on paths of uncertainty,
taking risks for one another,
calling down unjust power from its throne
and lifting up the lowly,
the impoverished, the burdened.
To answer the call of Christ is to find ourselves
no matter our social location,
choosing to align ourselves with the causes
of the marginalized, the oppressed,
the outcast, and the isolated,
with the faith that together,
we might enflesh new possibilities
of healing,
of connection,
of freedom from all that destroys.

When these are the desires of our hearts,
we open ourselves to God.
Blessed are those, Jesus said,
who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.
And so let us come to the table,
expectant,
eager,
open to tasting the rich blessings of heaven
born from unexpected places, and people, and experiences.

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.**

And so we too come to the table.
The table of God's freedom. The table of God's justice and love.
The table which reflects the true Kingdom, empire, realm of God
where all are welcome.
Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

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

Elliot, Scott, Luke, Scheem Hempstead, Kim Bischel, David Damm, JoAnn Hood,
Timothy Truitt, Eileen Kelly, Victor Rodriguez, Fred Heider,
Judy and Frank Macuga, Shelley Wheeler, the Bonner family.
We give thanks for the life of Lori (Larry) Lippert.
We pray for the repose of the soul of Lila Bonner,
may her 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.**

(Please be seated)

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In this meal,
we remember the life, death, and resurrection
of the One who still takes on flesh among us today.

On the night he would be arrested,
Jesus gathered his friends and companions.
In the midst of a tense and dangerous time,
they found each other at table,
connecting over the story of God-enfleshed among them.

And as they did so, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God,
broke the bread and shared it with his disciples 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.

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he also took the cup,
gave thanks to God, and shared it with his disciples, 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.

“Drink from this, all of you; this is the cup of the new covenant.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

And so we pray,
Come Holy Spirit,
Breath of God,
Renewer of life,
settle on these gifts and all who gather here,
that we might be transformed in our remembrance
of your radical love,
your eternal embrace,
and your grace that makes all things new.

For the sake of our shared lives,
the life of this land on which we live,
and the lives of those yet to come,
nourish us and renew our hope
that soon Christ may rise again among us.

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, O bright heav'ns sun,
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O ruler of all.

* 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.

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm) Dm (G) B \flat



1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D) F (Bm) Dm



end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G) B \flat (D) F (A) C



cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm) Dm (F \sharp m) Am (Bm) Dm (G) B \flat (A) C (D) F



to you, of - fering up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm) Dm (G) B \flat (D) F



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

TEXT: Robert L. Edwards, 1961, alt.

MUSIC: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958

Text © 1961, ren. 1989 *The Hymn Society* (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

Music Harm. © 1958, ren. 1986 Broadman Press (admin. Music Services)

BEACH SPRING

8.7.8.7.D

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

God has made us rich in so many ways.

Now let us go out to find new ways to be rich toward God.

Let us show our thanks for God's steadfast love.

Praise God for wonderful works to humankind.

We are being renewed in the image of our Creator.

We differ in many ways, but Christ is all and in all.

We have been raised with Christ above earth's deceits.

We will set our minds on learning God's will for us.

God will take us up in loving arms when needed.

By God's kindness, we will be taught to walk.

We look to God for healing and renewed strength.

We seek to walk in the straight ways where God leads

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Sevenfold Amen

John Stainer

POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Old Hundredth"

Frederick Swann

*"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:

Elliot, Scott, Luke, Scheem Hempstead, Kim Bischel, David Damm, JoAnn Hood,
Timothy Truitt, Eileen Kelly, Victor Rodriguez, Fred Heider,
Judy and Frank Macuga, Shelley Wheeler, the Bonner family

We pray for the repose of the soul of Lila Bonner,
may her 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.

@ Old Stone Church

Sunday August 3

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary with Communion

1:40PM Guardians/Twins/Progressive Field

Tuesday August 5

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

Wednesday August 6

11AM-2PM Open Doors/Sanctuary

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

6:00PM Welcome and Fellowship Committee Meeting/ZOOM

Sunday August 10

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

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

12:00PM Lori (Larry) Lippert Memorial Service/Sanctuary

Tuesday August 12

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

Wednesday August 13

11AM-2PM Open Doors/Sanctuary

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Thursday August 14

2:00PM Worship Committee Meeting/ZOOM

Sunday August 17

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

1:40PM Guardians/Braves/Progressive Field

2:30PM OSC Annual Picnic/North Olmsted Community Cabin

Tuesday August 19

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

Wednesday August 20

11AM-2PM Open Doors/Sanctuary

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

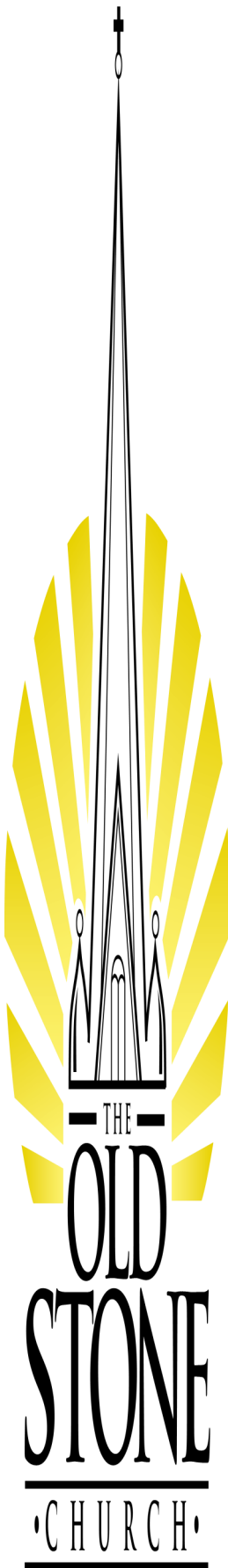
Thursday August 21

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

Sunday August 24

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

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

Online Giving:

oldstonechurch.org/giving/

Mobile Giving:

Text the keyword “**oldstonecle**” to 73256

Mail to:

The First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland
Attn: Financial Office
91 Public Square
Cleveland, OH 44113

Scan the QR Code with your phone.



Checks should be made payable to “The First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland”

All contributions are tax-deductible and will be appropriately acknowledged at year-end.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CLEVELAND

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

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Ian Atwood, *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
Amy Wheeler
John Wheeler

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