



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

OCTOBER 12, 2025
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
WITH RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS
10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Let Justice Flow Down

Douglas Romanow

Congregation joins in the bold print when prompted.

**Let justice flow down, down like a river,
down to the valleys where the helpless cry.
Righteousness, flow through us forever,
lead us to the stream that will never run dry!**

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Edie Horvat

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

It is God who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
sing your praise to the glory of God's name.

Great and awesome are the works of God.

The whole universe sings of God's power.

Gather to remember all that God has revealed.

Come to discover what God is doing among us.

God is faithful and just in all things.

The promises of God are trustworthy and true.

Present your best selves for God's approval.

Work and witness without shame or pretense.

Bless God, all people, and let our praise be heard.

The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.

*** INVOCATION PRAYER**

Let us pray together:

Awesome God,

who has given us life and kept our feet from slipping,

we thank you now

for bringing us to this place of worship and learning.

Inspire us to speak truthfully and listen attentively.

Keep us from wrangling over words in ways that divide.

May we prove to be faithful workers,

devoted to healing and reconciliation in Jesus' name.

*** HYMN #610**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
2 The name of Je - sus charms our fears, and
3 Christ speaks, and lis - tening to his voice new
4 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -
5 To God all glo - ry, praise, and love be

dear Re-deem-er's praise, the glo-ries of my
bids our sor-rows cease, sings mu-sic in the
life the dead re-ceive; the mourn-ful wak-en
sist me to pro-claim, to spread through all the
now and ev-er given by saints be-low and

God and King, the tri-umphs of God's grace!
sin-ner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.
to re-joice; the poor in heart be-lieve.
earth a-broad the hon-ors of thy name.
saints a-bove, the church in earth and heaven.

SPANISH

1 *Mil voces para celebrar
a mi Libertador,
las glorias de su majestad,
los triunfos de su amor.*

KOREAN

1 만 입이 내게 있으면
그 입 다 가지고
내 구주 주신 은총을
늘 찬송하겠네

This text comes from an eighteen-stanza hymn the author wrote to mark the first anniversary of his life-changing conversion experience. It is now customarily the first hymn in Methodist hymnals worldwide. This tune, adapted from a German composer, is the usual North American setting.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.; Spanish trans. Federico J. Pagura;

Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001

MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

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AZMON
CM

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Jayne Zborowsky

Our God, who called us into covenant,
invites us to examine our faithfulness.

We who have known God's healing touch are recalled to a life of gratitude.

Challenged to be builders and planters,

we are faced with our destructive, unproductive habits.

Together, we seek a better way.

Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,

followed by time for silent personal confession.

Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgiving God, once more we seek your pardon and protection.
We find ourselves in exile from the best we know.
We have focused so much of our attention on our own concerns
that we have neglected the welfare of our community.
We see our own hardships more readily
than we feel the vast suffering around us.
We forget the mercy we have received.
We are angry when we should be grateful.
Restore us to covenant faithfulness, we pray.**

(moment of silent confession)

* KYRIE ELEISON #575

Cantor:

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

Congregation:

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

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

We are healed and forgiven by a trustworthy God
whose righteousness endures forever.
Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.
Remember the resurrection of Jesus
and accept the opportunity to be raised to new life in Christ.
Our faith makes us well and prepares us for eternal glory.

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 #583

Cantor:

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to God, glory to God,
alleluia, alleluia.

Congregation:

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to God, glory to God,
alleluia, alleluia.**

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Please be seated.

Bring gifts of gratitude to honor God.

Give thanks for God's awesome deeds.

Praise God for salvation in Jesus Christ.

May our offering express the full measure of our thankfulness.

The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Word Was God

Rosephanye Powell

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with God.
All things were made by him;
and without him was not any thing made that was made.

* DOXOLOGY #606

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise, God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Jayne Zborowsky

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**We bring the first fruits of our labors, the best of all we have,
a portion of the bounty you entrust to us.
Accept our gifts, gracious God,
as a symbol of our renewed commitment.
We give thanks for the wholeness you offer us
amid a fragmented world. We are grateful for meaningful tasks
in the midst of chaos and meaningless suffering.
We dedicate ourselves and our offering to your faithful service.
Amen.**

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Grant Us Lord

STUTTGART

Grant us, Lord, the grace of giving with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living we may offer unto thee.
Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Sovereign God,
though we are bound by many tethers,
your word is not chained.
Set us free by this Word let loose in the world.
By the power of your Holy Spirit,
make us worthy of your approval:
workers of the gospel,
unashamed and unafraid to share the truth made known to us.
In Christ Jesus, we pray.
Amen.**

THE READINGS

Tanach

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15 (Inclusive Bible)

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the ruler of Aram. He was a great officer and highly esteemed. It was at Naaman's hand that God gave a victory to Aram. He was a mighty warrior. And he had leprosy.

On one of their raids the Arameans captured a young woman who was an Israelite. She served Naaman's wife. One day she said to her mistress, "If only Naaman would see the prophet who is in Samaria. He would cure Naaman's leprosy."

As soon as the ruler of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes, and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a fight with me!"

When Elisha the prophet of God learned that the ruler of Israel tore his robes, he sent a message to the ruler, "Why did you tear your robes? Have Naaman come to me and he will learn that there is a prophet in Israel." So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to the warrior, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

But Naaman went away angry, and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand there before me, calling on the name YHWH and wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went away in rage.

Naaman's attendants went to him saying, "Sir, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'?"

So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the prophet of God told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like a youth. Then Naaman and his retinue went back to the prophet of God. He stood before him, and said, “Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept a gift from a grateful person.”

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

With God’s help we are listening.

Gospel

Luke 17:11-19 (Inclusive Bible)

On the journey to Jerusalem, Jesus passed along the borders of Samaria and Galilee. As Jesus was entering a village, ten people with leprosy met him.

Keeping their distance, they raised their voices and said,

“Jesus, Rabbi, have pity on us!”

When Jesus saw them, he responded, “Go and show yourselves to the priests!”

As they were going, they were healed. One of them, realizing what had happened, came back praising God in a loud voice, then fell down at the feet of Jesus and spoke his praises. The individual was a Samaritan.

Jesus replied, “Weren’t all ten made whole? Where are the other nine?”

Was there no one to return and give thanks except this foreigner?”

Then Jesus said to the Samaritan, “Stand up and go your way; your faith has saved you.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“Expectations, Healing and Gratitude”



RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

On behalf of the session, I present Cherice May, Daniel May, Jr., Prabljot Kaur, Bruce Kranicz, Ashwani Kumar, who have been received into the membership of this congregation by reaffirmation of faith.

On behalf of the session, I present Robert Rose III, who has been received into the membership of this congregation by profession of faith.

In baptism you were claimed by God,
marked as Christ's own forever,
and joined to his body by the Holy Spirit.
You come to us then, not as strangers,
but as friends in Christ and members of the household of God.
We rejoice that you now desire to join with this congregation
in the worship and mission of the church.
Hear these words from scripture:

There is one body and one Spirit,
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,

**one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of all,
who is above all and through all and in all.**

As members of the body of Christ, let us reaffirm the faith
into which we were baptized:

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to
judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Cherice, Daniel, Prabljot, Bruce, Ashwani, and Robert,
we have professed our faith as one body.
Will you be a faithful member of this congregation,
share in its worship and mission
through your prayers and gifts,
your study and service,
and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Holy God,
thank you for calling us to be your people
and joining us to Christ's body, the church.
We praise you for leading Cherice, Daniel, Prabljot, Bruce, Ashwani, and Robert,
to this congregation.
Empower us by your Spirit,
that we might love one another as Christ loved us,
honoring him in all that we say and do,
giving our lives in service to others,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Cherice, Daniel, Prabljot, Ashwani, Bruce, and Robert,
remember your baptism and be thankful,
and know that the Holy Spirit is at work within you.

Thanks be to God.

Welcome to this ministry that we share in Jesus Christ.

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 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Come un-to me and rest;
 2 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Be-hold, I free-ly give
 3 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "I am this dark world's light;
 lay down, O wea-ry one, lay down your head up-on my breast."
 the liv-ing wa-ter, thirst-y one; stoop down and drink and live."
 look un-to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
 I came to Je-sus as I was, so wea-ry, worn, and sad; I
 I came to Je-sus, and I drank of that life-giv-ing stream; my
 I looked to Je-sus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and
 found in him a rest-ing place, and he has made me glad.
 thirst was quenched, my soul re-vived, and now I live in him.
 in that light of life I'll walk till trav-eling days are done.

Each stanza here pairs an invitation from Jesus with a response from the narrator. These three invitations recall how Jesus welcomed those who were heavy laden (Matthew 11:28), offered living water (John 4:10-14), and identified himself as the light of the world (John 8:12, 9:5).

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Go your way; your faith will keep you well.

Give praise and give yourselves in thankful living.

We will bless God as long as we live.

We will reach out to help others every day.

Share the gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ.

In humility seek to embody the Word of truth.

We will work for the welfare of God's earth.

We will pray for the well-being of the earth's people.

Surely God is faithful and will help us.

Live confidently, assured of God's forgiving love.

Great are the works of God, which endure forever.

We rejoice that we may abide in covenant with God.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

Roland M. Carter

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Evan M. Collins

*“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:

Emery, Megan Price, Gordon Price, Gerald Johnson, Lynne Ginocchio
Phyllis Adams, Debbie Carrick, Thelma Nelson, Addie Singleton,
John Taggart, Edward Nicholson, Laura, Michelle Brown, Terri,
Victoria Walker, Denise Pepe, Victor Rodriguez,
Renita Jackson-Dix, Eileen Kelly, Tony and Annie Carlos,
Courtney Knapp, Mark Corey, Bruce Baunach, JoAnn Hood,
Judy and Frank Macuga, the Jackson-Dix 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.

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Online Giving:

oldstonechurch.org/giving/

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Text the keyword “oldstonecle” to 73256

Mail to:

The First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland
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All contributions are tax-deductible and will be appropriately acknowledged at year-end.

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Senior Pastor: Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

Parish Associate: Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

Minister of Music: Evan M. Collins

The Old Stone Singers

Leah Jennings Brown, *soprano*

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Kaya Sparks, *soprano*

Stephen Brown, *tenor*

Samuel Jungman, *tenor*

Noah Whitaker, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

Reese Henrick, *alto*

Morgan Potts, *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

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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