



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

OCTOBER 26, 2025
TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
REFORMATION SUNDAY
10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

I Love You Lord

Michael Crawley
Bagpiper

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Elizabeth Buchanan

INTROIT

Introit for Reformation

Kurt Eggert

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Therefore, will we not fear though the earth be removed and though
The mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.
God is our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble.
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.
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge
We praise you, O God; we acknowledge you to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship you, the Father everlasting. Amen.

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

This is God's house, a holy temple.

We are in the midst of God's dwelling place.

My soul longs, yea, faints for the courts of God.

My heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Happy are those whom God has chosen to be here.

Blessed are all whom God has forgiven and named.

Our voices rise in praise of God's awesome deeds.

Mountains and seas bow down before the Creator.

God crowns the year with a bountiful harvest.

Flocks and grain fill the meadows.

God's presence is felt to the ends of the earth.

All creation is God's dwelling place, God's home.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

To you, O God, shall our vows be performed.

To you we sing our praise and utter our prayers.

Come among us to renew your covenant and offer your signs.

Pour out your Spirit on your people gathered here,

that we may dream and prophesy

and follow the vision you set before us.

Amen.

* HYMN #275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and includes a piano accompaniment. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are as follows:

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -
fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of
los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the
do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Ruth Finley

No good thing will God withhold from those who walk uprightly.
 Let us, therefore, acknowledge our wickedness
 and leave it behind us that we may set our hope in God
 and walk with confidence into God's new day.
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
 followed by time for silent personal confession.
 Thus, we pray:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**How easily we have forgotten you, O God of our salvation.
We imagine that our prosperity is of our own design.
We wander into paths of self-righteousness and self-congratulation.
We compare ourselves with those whose sins are public knowledge
and all too often consider ourselves better than they.
O God, rescue us from the evil inside us
that alienates us from others and from you.
We humble ourselves before you, seeking forgiveness.**
(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.

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God justifies those who confess their guilt and forgives their transgressions.
The God of our salvation delivers us in awesome ways.
Those who put their trust in God and center their hope in Jesus Christ
are blessed by an outpouring of the Spirit.
God equips us to fight the good fight, to finish the race, to keep the faith.
Be glad and rejoice in God.
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.

The threshing floors are full of grain, the vats overflow with wine and oil,
the technology of our day puts the world at our remote control.

The choices are so abundant

and the possibilities for good and evil so extensive.

Will we use the vast resources God puts at our disposal
for selfish pleasure or for greater good?

The church seeks to exercise wise stewardship to proclaim the reign of God.

The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Nun Danket Alle Gott
Now Thank We All Our God*

Johann Pachelbel

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.

* 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

Ruth Finley

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**You have dealt wondrously with us, gracious God.
We have gathered in your temple to praise you
and to join in efforts to share faith with one another and with the world.
Through our offerings,
we wish to extend the witness made here into our neighborhoods,
and, in ever-widening circles, to the ends of the earth.
Bless and multiply our efforts, we pray.
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

**Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
By your Spirit make yourself known to us
through the reading and preaching of your Word,
that we might be faithful witnesses in this life
and joyful companions in the next,
even with Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.**

THE READINGS

Tanach

Psalm 65 (Inclusive Bible)

O God, to you we owe hymns of praise in Zion;
to you our vows must be fulfilled,
you who hear our prayers
and before whom all flesh must stand.

**When we are overcome by our sins,
you provide atonement for them.**

Happy are those you choose,
those you draw near to dwell in your courts!

**We are filled with the blessings of your house,
the holy things of your Temple!**

With powerful deeds of justice
you answer us, God our Deliverer,
in whom all the ends of the earth
and the farthest seas put their trust.

**You set the mountains in place by your power,
having armed yourself with might.**

You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of the waves, and the tumult of the peoples.

**And those who dwell at the ends of the earth
stand in awe of your marvels;**

you make the sunrise and sunset shout for joy!

You nourish and water the land—
greatly you have enriched it.

**The streams of God are full of water;
you provide us with grain as you ordained.**

Thus have you prepared the land:
drenching its furrows,
breaking up its clods, softening it with showers,
blessing its yield.

**You have crowned the year with your bounty
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest;
the untilled meadows overflow with abundance,
and rejoicing clothes the hills.**

The fields are covered with flocks
and the valleys are blanketed with grain.

They shout and sing for joy!

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

With God's help we are listening.

Gospel

Luke 18:9-14 (Inclusive Bible)

Jesus spoke this parable addressed to those who believed in their own self-righteousness while holding everyone else in contempt: "Two people went up to the Temple to pray; one was a Pharisee, the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed like this: 'I give you thanks, O God, that I'm not like others—greedy, crooked, adulterous—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week. I pay tithes on everything I earn.'

The other one, however, kept a distance, not even daring to look up to heaven. In real humility, all the tax collector said was, 'O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.' Believe me, the tax collector went home from the Temple right with God, while the Pharisee didn't. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, while those who humble themselves will be exalted."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams
"A Matter of Perspective"



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.**

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 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

CHOCTAW

Shilombish holitopa ma!
 Ishmminti pulla cha
 hatak ilbusha pia ha
 is pi yukpalashke.

CREEK

Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet
 ah non ah cha pa kas
 cha fee kee o funnan la kus
 um e ha ta la yus.

NAVAHO

Nizhónítgo joobá diits' a'
 yisdáshítinígí,
 lah yóóiyá, k'ad
 shénáhoosdzin,
 doo eesh'ít da nt'ée.

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1–4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie
 MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, and Choctaw © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;
 Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tsosie

AMAZING GRACE
 CM

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Be glad and rejoice in God's wondrous works!

Praise God whose spirit blesses and empowers us!

God forgives our transgressions and answers our prayers.

God delivers us from pretense and false pride.

God stands by us to grant support and strength.

God is the ever-present source of hope and healing.

God rescues us from evil attack, from the lion's mouth.

God is with us in times of suffering and loss.

Return to your homes justified, praising God.

Return to your world, proclaiming good news for all to hear.

All who trust in God are strengthened and blessed;

to God be the glory forever and ever.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

Roland M. Carter

POSTLUDE

Highland Cathedral

arr. Christina Harmon

Michael Crawley
Bagpiper

*“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 McAuley, Henry Madinger, Gail Harris, Fletcher Hattis, Phyllis Adams,
Addie Singleton, Tyler and Sam, John Taggart, Jean Rundlett, Gail,
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.



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.

@ First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland

Sunday October 26 Reformation Sunday

8:30AM-12:00PM Annual Fall Food Drive

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

12:00PM Tours of OSC Buildings/Gallery

Tuesday October 28

12:15PM Old Stone Tuesday AA Meeting/Cuyahoga Room

6:30PM Stated Session Meeting/ZOOM

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

Wednesday October 29

11AM-2PM Open Doors/Sanctuary

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Sunday November 2 All Saints Sunday/Daylight Savings Time Ends

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary with Communion

12:15PM Community Choir Rehearsal/Chapel

4:00PM Celebrity Chef/Eric Wells/Memorial Hall

Tuesday November 4 Election Day-Vote

12:15PM Old Stone Tuesday AA Meeting/Cuyahoga Room

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

Wednesday November 5

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Sunday November 9 Consecration Sunday

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

11:30AM MUW Committee Meeting/Cuyahoga Room

11:30AM Deacons Meeting/Conference Room

Tuesday November 11

12:15PM Old Stone Tuesday AA Meeting/Cuyahoga Room

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

Wednesday November 12

11AM-2PM Open Doors/Sanctuary

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

6:00PM Welcome and Fellowship Committee Meeting/ZOOM

Thursday November 13

2:00PM Worship Committee Meeting/ZOOM

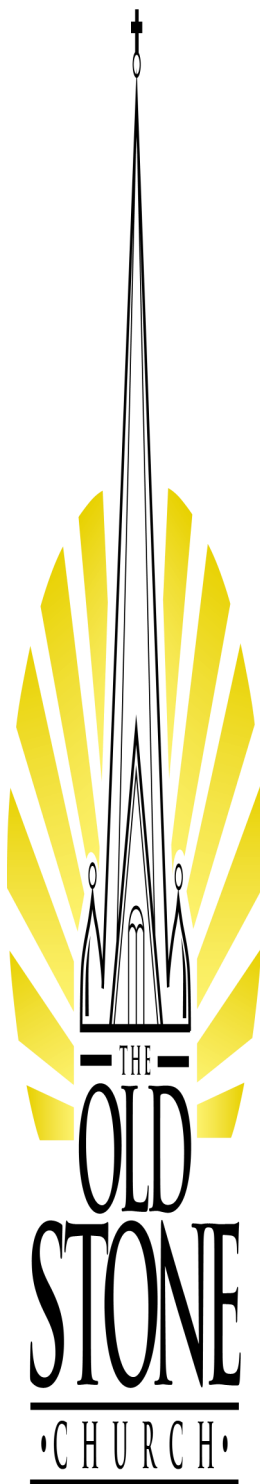
Sunday November 16

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

12:00PM Community Choir Rehearsal/Chapel

4:25PM Browns/Ravens/Huntington Bank Field



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Last Sunday Attendance In-Person: 63 Online: 233

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

91 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio 44113-2058

Phone: 216-241-6145 **Fax:** 216-241-6149

Website: www.OldStoneChurch.org **E-Mail:** info@OldStoneChurch.org

Music copied under cclic#1638695
onelicense#A-742406

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*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*

Samuel Jungman, *tenor*

Noah Whitaker, *tenor*

Rayna Brooks, *alto*

Reese Henrick, *alto*

Cali Jacobs, *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

By entering The First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland and by your presence here, you consent to be photographed, filmed, livestreamed, and/or otherwise recorded.

Your entry constitutes your consent to such photography, filming, livestreaming, and/or recording and to any use, in any media for The First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland. Thank you.