



THE OLD STONE CHURCH

FEBRUARY 8, 2026
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
10AM Sanctuary Worship

WE GATHER IN THE GRACE OF GOD

PRELUDE

Holy Is the Name

Leon Lewis

WELCOME

Pastor Denise Clark-Jones

INTROIT

I Woke Up This Morning African-American Spiritual

I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus. Hallelujah!
Singing and praying with my mind stayed on Jesus. Hallelujah!

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

No eye has seen nor ear heard nor heart conceived
what God has prepared for those who love God.

**We are drawn to worship by love beyond our knowing,
by the secret and hidden wisdom of God.**

God comes among us and within each one,
inviting us to be salty Christians.

**We are each important to the good work
God seeks to accomplish with and through us.**

We are called to be lights in the world and to let our lights shine brightly.
God expects us to reflect eternal truth and lead others to Christ's way.

**With the humility of the apostle Paul,
we offer our weakness and limited insight.**

In our worship and in our service
we seek to demonstrate the Spirit of Christ.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Let us pray together:

**Sovereign God,
when we seek in you an Indulgent Parent,
we come face to face with your high expectations for us.
You meet us, not in flights of speculation,
but in the everyday circumstances of our lives,
inviting us to act on your behalf,
to feed the hungry, house the homeless, and cover the naked.
You call us to use worship, not as a period of escape,
but as a time of preparation to go out and light up the world.
May we find our own healing
as we devote ourselves to your service.
In Jesus' name, Amen.**

* HYMN #350

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning KEEP YOUR LAMPS

1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing; keep your
2 It's our faith makes us hap - py; it's our
3 We are climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der; we are
4 Ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er; ev - ery

lamps trimmed and burn - ing; keep your lamps
 faith makes us hap - py; it's our faith
 climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der; we are climb - ing
 round goes high - er, high - er; ev - ery round goes

trimmed and burn - ing, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
 makes us hap - py, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
 Ja - cob's lad - der, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
 high - er, high - er, for the time is draw - ing nigh.

Refrain

Sis - ters, don't grow wea - ry; broth - ers, don't grow wea - ry;
 chil - dren, don't grow wea - ry, for the time is draw - ing nigh.

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Charles Yoost

We have come together, not to be confirmed in our prejudices,
 but to be changed, not to be affirmed for our righteousness,
 but to uncover the immaturity of our faith that we might grow.
 Thus, we confess to God our failure to live by the best we know,
 and our limited response to the vision God sets before us.
 Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession,
 followed by time for personal silent confession.
 Thus, we pray together:

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, you call out to us, saying, “Here I am,” but we do not listen.
You pour out on us spiritual gifts, but we do not discern them.
You call us to build a more just society but we cling to our advantages.
Forgive us, we pray, and help us to change.
Help us so to know and understand Jesus Christ
that we might reflect the God of glory in our daily living.
Create in us a generosity that reflects your own.
Pour out your spirit on this congregation that we might understand
and use it to build and repair and restore.**

(moment of silent confession)

* KYRIE ELEISON #577

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor human heart conceived,
God has prepared for all who love God
and are open to the Spirit’s revelations.
Let the yoke be removed from among us,
the pointing of the finger and evil speech,
that we may be about the work to which God calls us:
feeding the hungry, satisfying the needs of the afflicted,
and building foundations of faith for future generations.

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 #582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me.

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Please be seated.
How generous are the gifts of God,
poured out on us that we might know the joy of giving!
The psalmist reminds us
that it is well with those who deal generously and lend,
who conduct their affairs with justice and give to the poor.
Our offerings proclaim God's will in word and deed.
The offering will now be received.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Storm Is Passing Over

Charles Albert Tindley and Donald Vails

Take courage my soul and let us journey on,
Though the night is dark and I'm still far from home;
Praise be to God, the morning light appears

The storm is passing over (Lord)
The storm is passing over
The storm is passing over, hallelujah

* DOXOLOGY #606

**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

Charles Yoost

Let us join our voices in prayer:

**Our offerings are not meant to maintain an institution,
but to enhance a ministry.
The focus of our church programs and activities
goes beyond our being comforted and informed.
May the well-being of our sisters and brothers
around the world be at the forefront of our
generous and sacrificial giving.
Amen.**

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Great Are You, Lord

Michael & Deborah Smith

Great are you, Lord, and worthy of glory! Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise.
Great are you, Lord. We lift up our voice; we lift up our voice:
Great are you, Lord! Great are you, Lord!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Lord, open our understanding by the power of the Holy Spirit,
that as the Word is proclaimed,
may we receive holy wisdom
to understand the gifts you have bestowed on us.
In Jesus name we pray.
Amen.**

THE READINGS

Tanach

Isaiah 58:1-12 (Inclusive Bible)

“Shout for all you are worth, raise your voice like a trumpet! Proclaim to the people their faults, tell the house of Leah and Rachel and Jacob their sins! They seek me daily, they long to know my ways, like a nation that wants to act with integrity and not ignore the Law of its God. They ask me for laws that are just, they long for God to draw near. Yet they say, ‘Why should we fast if you never see it? Why do penance if you never notice?’

Because when you fast, it's business as usual, and you oppress all your workers! Because when you fast, you quarrel and fight and strike the poor with your fist! Fasting like yours today will never make your voice heard on high! Is that the sort of fast that pleases me—a day when people humiliate themselves, hanging their heads like a reed, lying down on sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call fasting, a day acceptable to YHWH?

On the contrary! This is the sort of fast that pleases me: Remove the chains of injustice! Undo the ropes of the yoke! Let those who are oppressed go free, and break every yoke you encounter! Share your bread with those who are hungry, and shelter homeless poor people! Clothe those who are naked, and don't hide from the needs of your own flesh and blood! Do this, and your light will shine like the dawn—and your healing will break forth like lightning! Your integrity will go before you, and the glory of YHWH will answer; call, and God will say, ‘I am here’—provided you remove from your midst all oppression, finger pointing, and malicious talk! If you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows will become like noon. YHWH will always guide you, giving relief in desert places. God will give strength to your bones and you will be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never run dry. You will rebuild the ancient ruins, and build upon age-old foundations. You will be called Repairer of the Broken Walls, and Restorer of Ruined Neighborhoods.

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

With God's help we are listening.

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20 (Inclusive Bible)

“You are the salt of the earth. But what if salt were to lose its flavor? How could you restore it? It would be fit for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. You don’t build a city on a hill, then try to hide it, do you? You don’t light a lamp, then put it under a bushel basket, do you? No, you set it on a stand where it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, your light must shine before others so that they may see your good acts and give praise to your Abba God in heaven.

Don’t think I’ve come to abolish the Law and the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. The truth is, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter of the Law, not even the smallest part of a letter, will be done away with until it is all fulfilled. That’s why whoever breaks the least significant of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. I tell you, unless your sense of justice surpasses that of the religious scholars and the Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

“Salty Neighbors”

Pastor Denise Clark-Jones



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.**

**I've got a feeling everything is gonna be all right,
Oh I've got a feeling everything is gonna be all right,
Oh, I've got a feeling everything is gonna be all right,
be all right, be all right, be all right.**

**The Holy Ghost already told me, everything is gonna be all right,
Oh the Holy Ghost already told me, everything is gonna be all right,
Oh the Holy Ghost already told me, everything is gonna be all right,
be all right, be all right, be all right.**

**Glory, glory hallelujah, since I laid my burdens down.
Glory, glory hallelujah, since I laid my burdens down.**

**I feel better, so much better, since I laid my burdens down.
I feel better, so much better, since I laid my burdens down.**

**Feeling like shouting "Hallelujah" since I laid my burdens down.
Feeling like shouting "Hallelujah" since I laid my burdens down.**

* COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Go forth into the world
to be salt and light wherever you go.

**We are the salt of the earth;
we are the light of the world.**

Live with integrity and caring,
according to God's law of love.

**We are the only Bible some will read
and their introduction to Christ's way.**

In humility, acknowledging your own weakness,
reach out to share what you have received.

**We would loose the bonds of wickedness
and break the yoke of oppressors.**

As you give to the poor and hungry,
you will know healing for your own need.

**We trust God to provide for us
and to empower our serving.**

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Threefold Amen

Palestrina

POSTLUDE

I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel to Be Free

Nina Simone

*“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:

Dorland, Chris Sable, Barbara Maloney, Regina George, Katherine McIntosh,
Thelma Omsby, Kendalle Cobb, Patricia Gerand, John Davis, Gail Harris,
Fletcher Hattis, Addie Singleton, Carlos Fayne, Jack Moreland, Lynne Crawford,
Sandy Colombo, Charles Rabb, Tony and Annie Carlos, Courtney Knapp,
Bruce Baunach, JoAnn Hood, Judy and Frank Macuga

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.



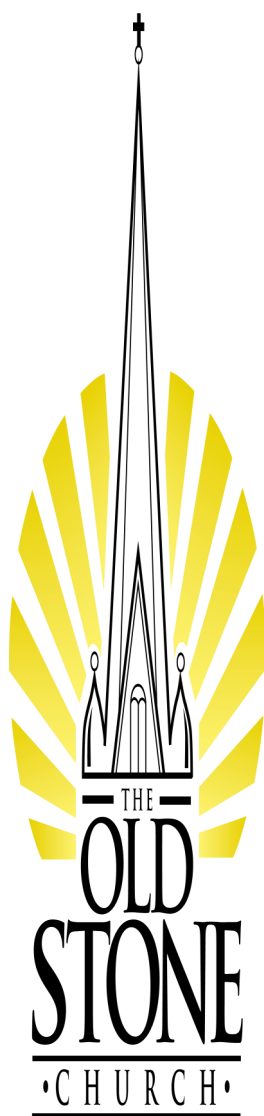
Please join us for Communion following the service this morning in the Chapel.

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

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A special welcome and thank you today for the talents of our Guest vocalist,
Angela Lynard

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@ Old Stone Church

Sunday February 8

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

Tuesday February 10

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

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

Wednesday February 11

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Sunday February 15

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

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

12:00PM Welcome and Fellowship Committee/Building Tour/Gallery

Tuesday February 17

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

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

Wednesday February 18/Ash Wednesday

12:00PM Ash Wednesday Service/Sanctuary

Thursday February 19

7:00PM FPS Directors Meeting/Conference Room

Sunday February 22/Lent I

10:00AM Worship/Sanctuary

11:30AM Communion/Chapel

Tuesday February 24

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 February 25

12:15PM Mid-Week Communion/Sanctuary

Last Sunday Attendance In-Person:71 Online:204

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

Online Giving:

oldstonechurch.org/giving/

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Text the keyword “oldstonecle” to 73256



Mail to:

The First Presbyterian Church in Cleveland

Attn: Financial Office

1380 Ontario Street

Cleveland, OH 44113

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.

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THE OLD STONE CHURCH

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: Evan M. Collins

The Old Stone Singers

Leah Jennings Brown, *soprano*

Kaya Sparks, *soprano*

Val Sibila, *soprano*

Stephen Brown, *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 2026

Beth Buchanan

Judy Macuga

Melissa Maffia

Harriet Niles

Marty Vassel

Class of 2027

Michelle Baron

Bernard Medie

Bob Reid

Class of 2028

Dave Finley

Don Urban

Church Deacons:

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

Class of 2028

Valorie Hempstead

JoAnn Hood

Elie Medie

Brad Oglesby

Mark Pichler

Lori Montero

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