



**An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day
Stone Presbyterian Church
A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation
October 15, 2023 ~ 19th Sunday after Pentecost**



We Gather to Worship God

PRELUDE "Come, Thou Almighty King" Martin Stellhorn
(Please listen quietly to the prelude as the community prepares for worship)

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 106)
Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.
Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all his praise?
Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.
Remember us, O Lord, when you show favor to your people;
Help us when you deliver them; that we may see the prosperity of your chosen ones,
That we may rejoice in the gladness of your peoples that we may glory in your heritage.
For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever.
All: Let us worship God.

HYMN #139 "Come, Thou Almighty King" ITALIAN HYMN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(first together, then in silent reflection)*
God rages hot over the stiff-necked people. Jesus' parable concludes with a limbless soul pushed into the outer darkness. That is what anger feels like. Joy is not the only faithful emotion.
We are people who weep and gnash our teeth. It is faithful to express our anger. To resist the notion that this is just the way it is. To demand answers when none are given. To insist that this is not what love does. Moses had to remind God what love looks like. Sometimes we forget, too. Our fury cuts in harsh words. Our anger tightens into clenched fists. O God, forgive us.
Assure us that even when anger flares, it is your steadfast love that upholds everything and everyone. Hold us in that love that is more powerful than the worst we can do, we pray. Amen

RESPONSE HYMN #2275 "Kyrie"
(“Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.”)

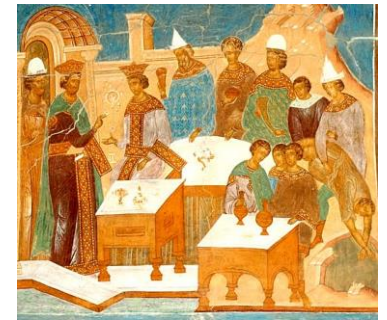
Assurance of Forgiveness
Beloved, hear the Good News:
Jesus Christ came
to stand in the breach
To reconcile us to God.
We are forgiven.

+A DOXOLOGY #579 "Glory Be to the Father" GLORIA PATRI

+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

We Listen for the Word in Faithful Thanksgiving

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Holy Spirit of God,
Shine your light upon this Word
That we may be enlightened with fresh understanding.
(You are invited to say the "amen" aloud.)



LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Exodus 32:1–14 *The people of Israel make a golden calf.*
The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God.**

Philippians 4:1–9 *Rejoice in the Lord always and strive for excellence!*
The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO "Joy Is Like the Rain" Miriam Therese Winter
G. Roberts Kolb, soloist

Matthew 22:1–14 *The parable of the wedding banquet.*
The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "I Cannot Come to Banquet" The Rev. Victor McKusick

We Respond to the Word in Faithful Thanksgiving

HYMN #145

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

MARION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – James 3:13-18 (TEV)

Do we claim to be wise and understanding?

Let us prove it by our good life, by our good deeds performed with
humility and wisdom.

But if, in our heart, we are jealous, bitter and selfish, let us not sin against
the truth by boasting of our wisdom.

Such wisdom does not come from heaven.

It belongs to the world. It is unspiritual and demonic.

But the wisdom from above is pure first of all.

It is also peaceful, gentle and friendly.

It is full of compassion and produces a harvest of good deeds.

It is free from prejudice and hypocrisy.

Goodness is the harvest that is produced from the seeds that peacemakers
plant in peace. Amen.

Adapted from “The Confession of 1967” in
The Book of Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

LIFE OF THE CHURCH, JOYS & CONCERNS

MINUTE FOR MISSION – STEWARDSHIP (TIME)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER

“debts/debtors” (Traditional, *Hymnal*, p. 16)

OFFERTORY

“O My Soul, Be Glad and Joyful”

Georg Böhm

+A DOXOLOGY #593

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Avery and Marsh

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We Go Out to Serve in the World That God So Loves

+HYMN #2238

“In the Midst of New Dimensions”

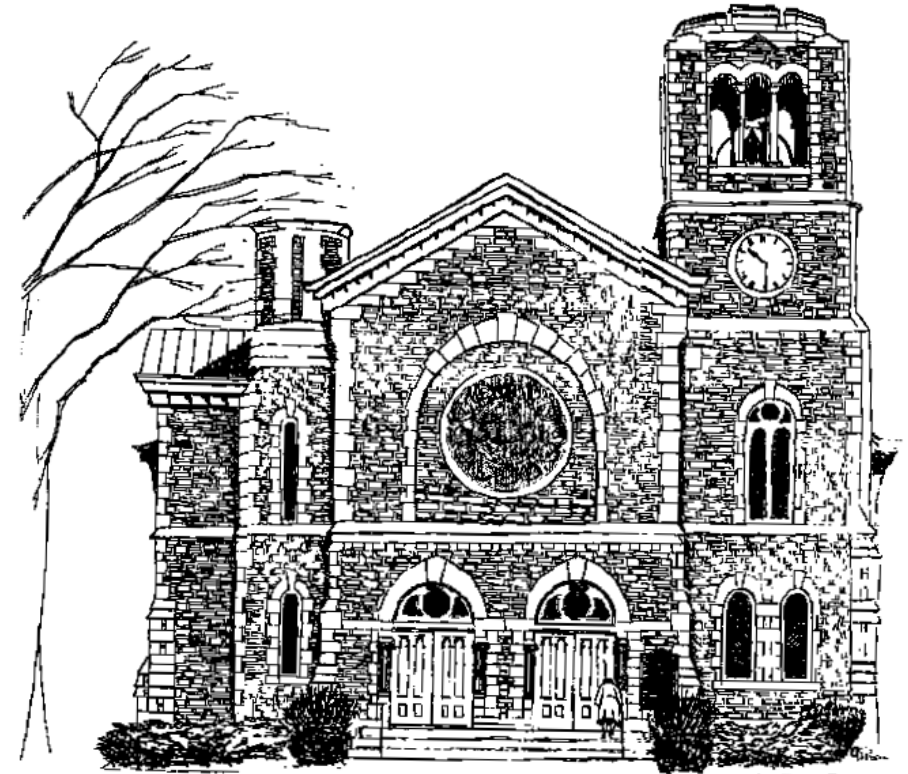
NEW DIMENSIONS

+CHARGE & BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP

October 15, 2023 ~ 19th Sunday after Pentecost ~ 10:30 a.m.



*The purpose of Stone Church is to be an inviting, spiritual community of Christ,
engaging in worship that inspires and challenges us to learn and grow
as we reach out in caring and service, trusting in the love of God.*

All the People, Ministers

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