



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day  
 Stone Presbyterian Church  
 A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation  
 October 8, 2023 ~ 18th Sunday after Pentecost



**We Gather to Worship God**

PRELUDE "St. Anne" Stanley Vann  
*(Please listen quietly to the prelude as the community prepares for worship)*

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 19)

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.**

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple,

**The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes.**

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether,

**More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.**

For the Lord is good, his steadfast love endures forever!

**Let us worship God.**

HYMN #255 "Now Praise the Lord" ST. ANNE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(first together, then in silent reflection)*

**Almighty and most merciful God, in your great goodness forgive us our sin and put right within us what is wrong.**

**Heal us and mend us. Help us and guide us.**

**Turn us away from that which may hurt us and do harm to others.**

**Make us ready in body and spirit to live in your grace with good cheer and to do your will in our lives;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.**

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**We Listen for the Word of God**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION  
*(You are invited to say the "amen" aloud.)*



LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

**Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 God gives Moses the Ten Commandments.**  
 The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God.**

**Philippians 3:4b-14 Paul puts the past behind him and strives for the future.**

The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God**

SOLO "Mission Possible" Avery & Marsh  
 G. Roberts Kolb, soloist

**Matthew 21:33-46 Parable of the wicked tenants.**  
 The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Law-Abiding"

**We Respond to the Word in Faithful Thanksgiving**

HYMN #366 "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me" ST. CATHERINE

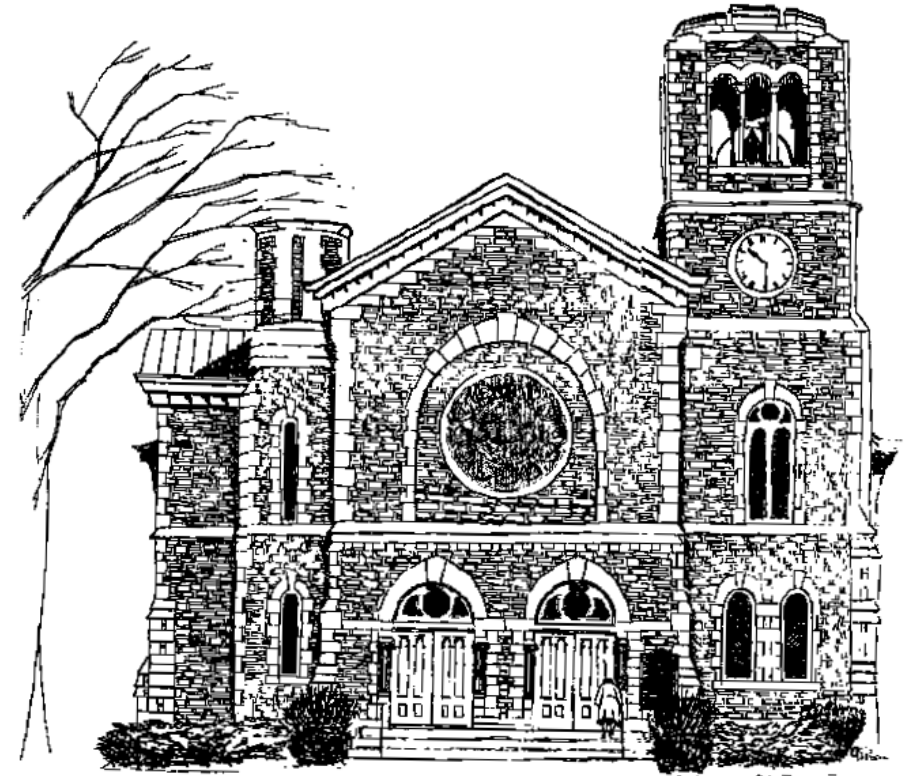
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "The Apostles' Creed" (Ecumenical Version) p. 14

**I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the Virgin Mary,**

# STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP

October 8, 2023 ~ 18th 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**

Stone Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 33, 8 South Park Row  
Clinton, New York 13323  
315-853-2933  
stonepres@stonepres.org

Scott Leonard, Commissioned Pastor  
G. Roberts Kolb, Director of Music  
Gerald G. Platz, Pastor Emeritus  
Janice LeFrois, Office Administrator  
Lee Kelso, Sexton

[www.stonepres.org](http://www.stonepres.org) ~ [www.facebook.com/stonepres](https://www.facebook.com/stonepres)  
[www.instagram.com/stonepresbyterian/](https://www.instagram.com/stonepresbyterian/)

suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again,  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated on the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**LIFE OF THE CHURCH, JOYS & CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**OFFERTORY**

**"St. Anne"**

George Th. Miles

**+A DOXOLOGY #593 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

Avery and Marsh

**+PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

(When you hear the words, "God of mercy," please respond, "Hear our prayer.")

***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**

# Now Praise the Lord

ST. ANNE CM

255

Attr. William Croft, 1708  
*A Supplement to the New Version  
of the Psalms, 1708*

Fred R. Anderson, 1986

1. Now praise the Lord, all liv - ing saints, Sing prais - es that en - dure.  
 2. God brings us peace in midst of strife, Our bor - ders to pro - tect.  
 3. God's Word runs swift - ly o'er the earth, The sea - sons to com - mand.  
 4. Your life - filled Word brings or - der to The cha - os of our days.

Our chil - dren God does sure - ly bless, Our fu - ture is se - cure.  
 All those who trust the Lord for strength Need nev - er fear ne - glect.  
 Spring, sum - mer, win - ter, au - tumn, all Dis - play that won - drous hand.  
 In love You claim us as Your own; What bet - ter cause for praise?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>5. Instruction, guidance, holy law,<br/>         Some common names are these<br/>         For God's own rule for living life.<br/>         What other word can please?</p> | <p>6. No other people are so graced,<br/>         No nation is so blest,<br/>         As those who know God's living Word<br/>         And this one name confess.</p> |
|---|---|

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# Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

366

ST. CATHERINE 8.8.8.8.8

Paul Gerhardt, 1653  
 Trans. John Wesley, c. 1739; alt.

Henri Frederick Hemy, 1864  
 Alt. James George Walton, 1874

1. Je - sus, Thy bound - less love to me No thought can  
 2. O grant that noth - ing in my soul May dwell, but  
 3. O Love, how gra - cious is Thy way! All fear be -

reach, no tongue de - clare; O knit my thank - ful heart to Thee,  
 Thy pure love a - lone; O may Thy love pos - sess me whole,  
 fore Thy pres - ence flies; Care, an - guish, sor - row melt a - way,

And reign with - out a ri - val there! Thine whol - ly, Thine a -  
 My joy, my trea - sure, and my crown! All cold - ness from my  
 Wher - e'er Thy heal - ing beams a - rise. O Je - sus, noth - ing

lone, I'd live, My - self to Thee en - tire - ly give.  
 heart re - move; May ev - ery act, word, thought be love.  
 may I see, Noth - ing de - sire, or seek, but Thee.

2238 In the Midst of New Dimensions

1. In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of  
 2. Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ple, war - ring fac - tions  
 3. As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self -  
 4. We are man and we are wom - an, all per - sua - sions,  
 5. Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with -

chang - ing ways, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples  
 and de - spair, who will lift the ol - ive branch - es?  
 seek - ing schemes, grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage,  
 old and young, each a gift in your cre - a - tion,  
 draw in pain, may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it

*Refrain*

wan - dering in their sep - arate ways?  
 Who will light the flame of care?  
 might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams. God of rain - bow, fier - y pil - lar,  
 each a love song to be sung.  
 res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple, ours the jour - ney

now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.