



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day  
 Stone Presbyterian Church  
 A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation  
 November 12, 2023 ~ 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



**We Gather to Praise God**

PRELUDE "Christ, to Thee be Glory" J. S. Bach  
 (Please listen quietly to the prelude as the community prepares for worship)

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 78)  
 Give ear, O people, to the Lord's teaching; incline your ears to the words of God's mouth.  
**We will open our mouths in a parable; we will utter sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.**  
 We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.  
**God established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children.**  
 That the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,  
**So that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.**  
 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever.  
**All: Let us worship God.**

+HYMN #485 "To God Be the Glory" TO GOD BE THE GLORY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (first together, then in silent reflection)  
**Holy and merciful God, through the ages you have been with your people through good times and bad and have spoken through your prophets and your Son.**  
**Yet we continue to forget you and ignore your teachings.**  
**We decry those who sin against us while we are blinded to sins we commit against others.**  
**Forgive us and may we use even a portion of your grace to serve you and to help those who truly suffer that they may know you and your great love for all of us.**

Through your grace, the walls of sin that separate us from you have been torn down through our Savior, the Son of David, Jesus the Messiah.  
 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

**Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 The Israelites pledge to follow the Lord.**  
 The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God.**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 The coming of the Lord.**  
 The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO "When You Least Expect Him" Avery & Marsh  
 G. Roberts Kolb, soloist

**Matthew 25:1-13 The wise and foolish girls.** Told by Donna Goodfriend  
 The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Keep Awake!" George Whitton

**We Respond in Faith with Thanksgiving**

+HYMN #15 "Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers" LLANGLOFFAN

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From “The Confession of 1967”)

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.

His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.

In this experience, the Spirit bring God’s forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

Now to him who by the power within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH, JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER

“debts/debtors”

(Traditional, *Hymnal*, p. 16)

OFFERTORY

“Repton”

Richard Pantcheff

+A DOXOLOGY #593

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Avery and Marsh

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**We Are Sent Out to Serve**

+HYMN #419

“How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

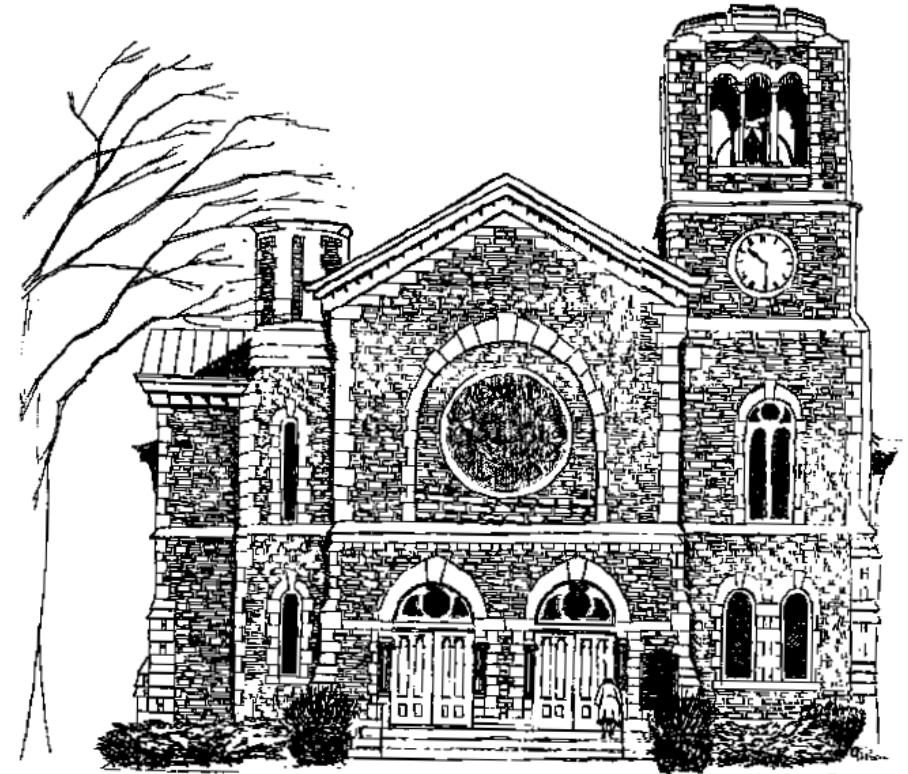
REPTON

+CHARGE & BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

**STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP**

**November 12, 2023 ~ 23rd 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/)

# 485

## To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY 11.11.11.11 with refrain

Fanny Jane Crosby, 1875

William Howard Doane, 1875

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He hath done!  
 2. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,

So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
 And great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

Who yield - ed His life an a - tone - ment for sin,  
 But pur - er, and high - er, and great - er will be

And o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
 Our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

*Refrain*

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo - ple re - joice!

O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,

And give Him the glo - ry: great things He hath done!

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Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

LLANGLOFFAN 7.6.7.6 D

Laurentius Laurenti, 1700  
Trans. Sarah Borthwick Findlater, 1854  
Alt. *The Hymnal* 1982

Welsh folk melody  
Evans' *Hymnau a Thonau*, 1865  
As in *English Hymnal*, 1906

1. Re - joice! Re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;  
2. See that your lamps are burn - ing, Re - plen-ish them with oil;  
3. Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing And dark - er night is near.  
Look now for your sal - va - tion, The end of sin and toil.  
A - rise, Thou sun so longed for, A - bove this sha - dowed sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing And soon He will draw nigh;  
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing, The gates wide o - pen stand;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see

Up, watch with ex - pec - ta - tion, At mid - night comes the cry.  
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry, The Bride - groom is at hand!  
The day of earth's re - demp - tion, And ev - er be with Thee!

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

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REPTON 8.6.8.8.6.6

Fred Pratt Green, 1981

C. Hubert H. Parry, 1888

1. How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, When once we heed Your call;  
2. But if, for - get - ful, we should find Your yoke is hard to bear,  
3. We mark Your saints, how they be - came In hin - dranc - es more sure,  
4. In what You give us, Lord, to do, To - geth - er or a - lone,

To live ac - cord - ing to Your word, And dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,  
If world - ly pres - sures fray the mind And love it - self can - not un - wind  
Whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame The cas - ual way we wear Your name,  
In old rou - tines or ven - tures new, May we not cease to look to You—

That You are Lord of all And will not let us fall.  
Its tan - gled skein of care: Our in - ward life re - pair.  
And by our faults ob - scure Your power to cleanse and cure.  
The cross You hung up - on— All You en - deav - ored done.