



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day  
 Stone Presbyterian Church  
 A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation  
 September 22, 2024 ~ 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



**We Gather in the Name of the One Who Came to Serve**

PRELUDE "If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee" J. G. Walther  
 (Please listen quietly to the prelude as the community prepares for worship)

INTROIT & POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Who among you is seeking the wisdom of God?  
**We long to hear God's Word spoken to our hearts.**  
 Who among you is seeking God's bright and holy truth?  
**We long to learn the ways of wisdom and righteousness.**  
 Who among you is seeking a Spirit-filled life?  
**We long to live lives of holiness and light.**  
 God grants God's wisdom generously to all who ask. Come near, people of God!  
**Let us worship in wisdom and truth.**

+HYMN #420 "God of Grace and God of Glory" CWM RHONDDA  
 (+ Those who are able are invited to stand)

WELCOME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (together)

God of the gospel, the One who sends, the One who is sent and returns, the One who is sent and remains with the church, we declare our need of the wisdom that comes from above: pure, peace-loving, considerate, open to reason. We can be devious rather than straightforward, hypocritical rather than sincere, unforgiving rather than merciful, cruel rather than kind. Forgive the bitter jealousy that leads to quarreling, the selfish ambition that destroys those who are in the way, the ungoverned passions that lead to disorder and evil of every kind. Temper your justice with mercy for the sake of your obedient Son, Jesus our peacemaker. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

+A DOXOLOGY "From All That Dwell below the Skies" LASST UNS ERFREUEN

From all that dwell below the skies,  
 Let the Creator's praise arise—Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Let the Redeemer's name be sung,  
 And praise the Spirit every tongue,  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

+ THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**We Listen for the Word of God**



LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

*Psalm 54 Prayer for vindication*  
 The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God.

*James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Exhortations to wisdom and morality*  
 The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" Virgil Thomson

*Mark 9:30-37 Passion Prediction #2/Who is the greatest?*  
 The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God.

SERMON "And Who Is My Enemy?" Helen Tracy

**We Respond in Faith with Thanksgiving**

+HYMN #404 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" PRECIOUS LORD

**+A STATEMENT OF FAITH OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA (together)**

**We are not alone; we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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

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

*"debts/debtors"*

*Traditional, Hymnal, p. 16*

**CHORAL RESPONSE**

**OFFERTORY**

**"Pastel on 'Steal Away to Jesus'"**

Charles Callahan

**+A DOXOLOGY #592**

**"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

**We Go Out to Serve in the Name of Christ**

**+HYMN #282**

**—"If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee"**

WER NUR DEN  
LIEBEN GOTT

**+CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

**+CHORAL RESPONSE**

**+POSTLUDE**

**STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP**

**September 22, 2024 ~ 18<sup>th</sup> 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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**Scott Leonard, Commissioned Pastor**  
**G. Roberts Kolb, Director of Music**  
**Gerald G. Platz, Pastor Emeritus**  
**Janice LeFrois, Office Administrator**  
**Lee Kelso, Sexton**

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