

We Respond in Faith with Thanksgiving

+HYMN #250 “When Morning Lights the Eastern Skies” sung to ST. ANNE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Excerpted and adapted from the “Confession of Belhar,” Presbyterian Church (USA))

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ.

We believe that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

We believe that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker.

We believe that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Amen.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH, JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (Traditional, p. 16)
(in response to “Lord, in your mercy,” please say, “hear our prayer.”)

OFFERTORY “Andante in A Minor” John Stanley

+A DOXOLOGY #593 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” Avery & Marsh

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+HYMN #332 “Live into Hope” TRURO

+CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP
September 26, 2021 ~ 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

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

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www.instagram.com/stonepresbyterian/



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day
 Stone Presbyterian Church
 A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation
 September 26, 2021 ~ 18th Sunday after Pentecost



We Gather in the Name of the One in Whom We Serve

PRELUDE "Voluntary in B Flat" Maurice Greene
(Please listen quietly to the prelude as the community prepares for worship)

INTROIT & POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is on our side.

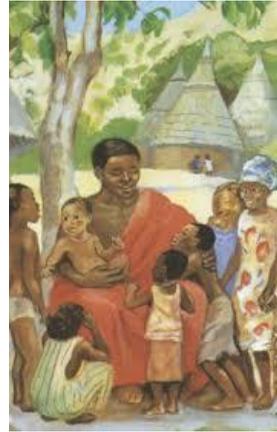
People: He is with us in times of trouble.

Leader: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul.

People: Blessed be the Lord who has sheltered and protected us.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

All: Let us worship God!



+**HYMN #483** "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above" MIT FREUDEN ZART
(+ Those who are able are invited to stand)

WELCOME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (together)

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
 open to us a future in which we can be changed;**

and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. 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

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

(You are invited to say the concluding "amen" aloud.)

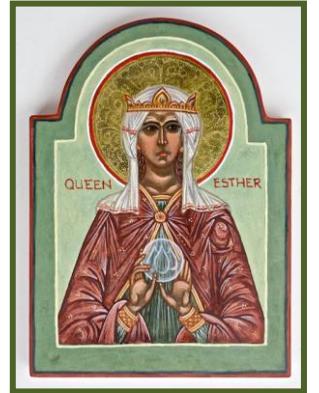
LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 Esther speaks up for her people.

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

James 5:13-20 Pray for the sick

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



SOLO

"Oh, Hear Me Prayin"
 Sung by G. Roberts Kolb

African American Spiritual
 arr. J. Rosamond Johnson

Mark 9:38-50 Do not stop those doing good in my name.

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

SERMON

"Watch Where You're Going"

Blessing of the Animals: In celebration of the Feast of St. Francis come join us for an Ecumenical Service for the Blessing of the Animals @ 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 3rd on the Village Green, sponsored by the Clinton Area Ministerium. The purpose is to bring awareness to the need of pet food to a food bank, often failing to recognize that many folks living on a fixed income, often alone, have companion animals that need support as well. You are invited to bring your pet, or have your pet blessed virtually by picture or digital image. Donations of pet food and supplies will be collected for pets of Country Pantry clients. See Scott Leonard if you have questions.



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The Women's Association: We would like to thank **ANYONE AND EVERYONE** who helped out in any way with our DRIVE-THRU BREAD SALE on Saturday, September 18th, 2021. We were able to raise a total of \$1,018 to be sent to the Westernville Presbyterian Church, which was severely damaged by a tornado in July. The weather cooperated and we had a steady stream of customers for most of the time. The generosity of our church community really shines through when a need arises.

Hope House: This month's wish list includes the following: **shampoo conditioner, soap, toothpaste, razors and VOLUNTEERS WHO CAN COMMIT TO ONE OR TWO REGULAR PICKUPS A WEEK.** IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CALL HOPE HOUSE AT 315-793-3723. Any donation that you designate for food or personal needs will be greatly appreciated. Any questions, contact Ceil Gilbert (853-8289) or ceilgilbert@yahoo.com

The Country Pantry needs packages of gravy mix, no glass bottles please, and cranberry sauce for Thanksgiving. For Christmas they are focusing on collecting children's lap blankets but will take adult ones as well. Any donation of food or money will be accepted. As always, the pantry is very thankful for your support.

Fair Trade Shoppe: Our Cat Skillet Handle Holder comes in the shape of a kitty-how adorable! It is perfect for covering the hot handle of a skillet or pot. This lovely colorful oven mitt has ample padding and a hand-woven outer layer to keep your hands protected from burns. This makes a great gift, especially paired with our other kitchen items! Our double-ended Oval Potholder provides dual protection from the heat with two pockets on each end, is sturdy and a great asset to any kitchen. It is 9" L x 5" W, 100% cotton, and machine washable. These and many, many more unique handmade gift items from 38 different countries can be found in our **FAIR TRADE SHOP, STONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 8 SO. PARK ROW, CLINTON.** Purchasing fair trade items ensures artisans and small farmers fair wages and healthy working conditions, providing dignity and sustainable development and hope to marginalized people. Our hours are **10am to 4pm every Thursday and second Saturdays in the shop, plus 10am to 4pm every Thursday at the Farmer's Market on the Village Green in Clinton through the summer.** For now,



face masks are required. **LET US BE YOUR GO-TO GIFT SHOP!** For more information, go to <https://buildingstoneshoppe.square.site> or www.facebook.com/buildingstonesfairtradeshoppe.



The Women's Association will be holding our annual **Harvest Pie Sale on Saturday, October 9th, 2021, from 10am to 2pm.** We would love donations of all kinds of pies, but the focus will be on apple. We will be featuring our "drive-thru pies" again. We would appreciate monetary donations, if you are unable to bake. The proceeds from this sale will go to support our various mission projects. As always, we will be needing help selling the pies, too. For more information, contact Ceil Gilbert at 315-853-8289 or Donna Goodfriend at 315-749-4085. Sign-up sheets will be available.



THE CALENDAR



Thursday – **09/30/21:** 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 Saturday – **10/02/21:** 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 Sunday – **10/03/21:** 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday – **10/03/21:** 1:00 p.m.

Fair Trade Shoppe
Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing
Worship & Graham Massi's Baptism
Blessing of the Animals



Want to see what else is on the calendar? Go to our Web page – stonepres.org & click on the "CALENDAR ICON"

PRAYER CHAIN: If you would like to add someone to our prayer list or would like to receive the prayer list for daily prayer, please go to our website www.stonepres.org and click on "Prayer Request"

Members/Friends of the Week:

Grace & FrankWhittemore
 Jason & Tanya Hamshar
 Jane Hanley



Just to be on the safe side, we are asking everyone to wear masks during worship services until further notice. Thank you.

Prayer Request:

Erin Todd
 Pat Joseph
 Lori Chamberlain
 Sue Raitt
 Doug White
 Dave & Trish Harris
 Anne Dunn & family
 Jeff Kolb
 Jim Kubat
 Debra LaFont

