



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day
 Stone Presbyterian Church
 A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation
 January 31, 2016 ~ 4th Sunday after the Epiphany



We Gather as the Community of Faith

PRELUDE

CHORAL INTROIT & POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Now faith, hope, and love abide, these three.
And the greatest of these is love.
 Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
Let us worship God.

+HYMN #376 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* to the tune BEECHER
 (+Those who are able may stand.)

WELCOME

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

God of great expectations, you know how easy it is for us to make excuses for inactivity. We love to run and hide when a task is set before us. We look at the expectation and think that we don't have the abilities, strength, or wisdom to accomplish this task. We think, too often, that we are doing these things all by ourselves. And we feel sorry for ourselves and angry that you expect so much from us. Forgive our ignorance, our stubbornness, and our stupidity, O Lord. Help us to understand that the opportunities for service that you offer to us also come with your abiding presence, love, and support. It is your love which makes the impossible possible. Turn us around and place us back on the path of joyful service. Let our work be part of the fulfillment of the mandate of Jesus Christ when he made his proclamation in the synagogue so long ago. For it is in his name that we pray. Amen.

RESPONSE HYMN #2275 Kyrie

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

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Jeremiah 1:4-10 The call of the prophet Jeremiah

Psalms 71:1-6 In you, O Lord, I take refuge.



My tongue will pro - claim your right-eous-ness, O Lord.

(c) 1982 by James D. Barrett in *The Psalmnary*

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 The greatest gift is love.
 Told by Sherry Robinson and Scott Leonard

ANTHEM *I thank You God* (e.e. cummings)
 Lloyd Pfautsch



CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN

Luke 4:16-30 Jesus preaches in his hometown.

SERMON *I Don't Know How to Love Him*

We Respond to the Word in Faithful Thanksgiving

+HYMN #408 *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* GERMANY

+AFFIRMING OUR FAITH - from "The Confession of 1967" (adapted)

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life. It is the will of God that the divine purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and that all evil be banished from God's creation. Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ culminate in the image of the "Reign of God." This reign represents the triumph of God over all that resists God's will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in us and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. We do not identify limited progress with the Reign of God on earth, nor do we despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God—to whom by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think. To our God be 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, THE LORD'S PRAYER & CHORAL REPONSE
"debts/debtors" (Traditional, Hymnal, p. 16)

OFFERTORY

+A DOXOLOGY #592 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD 100TH

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We Go Out to Serve in the Name of Christ

+HYMN #531 *Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels* BRIDEGROOM

+CHARGE, BENEDECTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

+POSTLUDE

STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP
January 31, 2016 – 4th Sunday after the Epiphany ~ 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
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Clinton, New York 13323
315-853-2933
stonepres@verizon.net

Scott Leonard, Commissioned Lay Pastor
G. Roberts Kolb, Director of Music
Gerald G. Platz, Pastor Emeritus
Peggy Weldon, Office Administrator
Jesse Miller, Sexton

www.stonepres.org ~ www.facebook.com/stonepres



WELCOME to the worship of God at Stone Presbyterian Church, a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in the Presbytery of Utica.

THE CALENDAR

Today:	11:30 a.m.	Session meeting
Monday:	6 p.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday:	8:30 a.m.	Clinton Area Ministerium – Lutheran Home
Thursday:	10 a.m.-6:30 p.m.	Fair Trade Shoppe
Next Sunday:	9 a.m.	Choir rehearsal
	10:30 a.m.	Worship and Baptism of Allison Miller

GREETER & HOST: Emily Hughes

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” or call the church office at 853-2933.

Ewa Lawrence Dani Rance Doris Locke Susanne Deborah Henderson Stickles’ Family Judy Raney Family of C. Davis Robinson Family of Erik Sornesen Ann Conley’s family Lynn Joann	Members/Friends of the Week: Cindy Singer, Smallen family Family of Mildred Schell Danuta & Boleslaw (Ewa’s parents) Wilma Lawson Courtney Britcher Gus & family Anne Reynolds & family Carole Grove Chris Woods & his family Amy, Eric Sornesen’s fiancé, and family Richard Kloidt
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NEW MEMBER CLASS: Pastor Scott Leonard will be starting a new member class soon. Anyone interested in becoming a new member let Scott know (a note in the offering plate, email, text, or call).

THE COUNTRY PANTRY NEEDS HELP: For the month of January we are collecting soup, especially those with meat. In February we will collect cans of fruit and hygiene products. Questions? Contact Judy LaGasse.

HOPE HOUSE’S WISH LIST: This month’s wish list includes the following: deodorant, razors, conditioner, shampoo, toothpaste, shaving cream, coffee, sugar, creamer, rags, oven mitts, and prayers. Please leave items in the narthex.

THE PRELUDE: PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP: The worship service starts with the prelude—that organ (or other instrumental) music you hear at the beginning of worship. To that end we invite you to treat the prelude not so much as something “played beforehand” while you’re still visiting with people, but more as a time to prepare yourself for worship. In our hectic and often stressed-out lives it can be hard to transition to more spiritual things. Take the opportunity to sit quietly and enjoy the music of the prelude, centering yourself so that you can be fully engaged with the worship and experience the presence of God in our midst.

CHOCOLATE LOVER’S SALE: Valentine’s Day, popularly associated with love, is an appropriate time for us to demonstrate God’s love for ALL people, especially those who are the neediest. Please plan to support our annual Chocolate Lover’s Sale which will be held on Saturday, February 13th from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the church narthex. Home-made sweet and savory chocolate treats plus items from the Fair Trade Shoppe will be offered. All proceeds from this sale will be used to support Hope House in Utica. Please plan to offer your support through baking or a financial contribution. As importantly, encourage your family, friends and neighbors to come to the sale and purchase something yummy. It is a rare person who doesn’t appreciate something sweet and chocolate-y. Questions ? Please see Ceil Gilbert or Donna Goodfriend.

WANTED: YOUR PER CAPITA! Please note that *per capita* payments for 2016 are now being readily accepted!!! Our *per capita* charge this year is \$37 per member (same as last year). The church is assessed this amount for each member on the membership roll. The *per capita* is the cost of our representative democracy as a church and supports the meetings and operations of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. Please consider sending your *per capita* either directly to the church office (P.O. Box 33, Clinton, NY 13323) or enclosing it in your pledge envelope. Thank you in advance for your help.

EARLY PLEDGES WANTED: Because of heating bills, cash flow is more of a problem for our church in the winter months (January through April) than summer months, even during a relatively warm winter. Session is asking folks to consider giving more of their pledge upfront, if possible. We will, of course, keep good track of what you have paid towards your pledge. Questions? See Peter Massi.

THESE DAYS devotionals are free for the taking. Please find them on the back table.

THE BUILDING STONES FAIR TRADE SHOPPE at Stone Presbyterian Church sells Fair Trade products from around the world. Fair Trade insures workers a fair wage and healthy working conditions, providing dignity and hope for farmers and artisans who produce the items we consume and enjoy. By promoting Fair Trade in our church and community we are supporting the health and welfare of people organically by providing a means for them to be contributors to the world economy. Our shop is open every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and every second Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.