



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day
 Stone Presbyterian Church
 A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation
 September 18, 2011 - 13th Sunday in Ordinary after Pentecost

We Gather to Praise God

PRELUDE *Ricercar I* Fabrizio Fontana
 (organist at St. Peter's in the Vatican, 1677)

CHORAL INTROIT AND POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

CALL TO WORSHIP
 Leader: ...Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
All: Let us worship God!

+HYMN #2126 *All Who Hunger* HOLY MANNA
 (+Those who are able may stand.)

INVITATIONS, JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH

MINUTE FOR MISSION

CONFESSION OF SIN (*first in silence, then together*)
 Holy God, in whom we live and move and have our being,
 you are all-seeing and all-knowing, all-righteous and all-merciful,
 slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
 Look upon our faults and failings with compassion, we pray.
 Regenerate within us godly gifts of joy, peace, patience,
 goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control.
 May we come to know, value and treasure your pardoning grace,
 the costly offering of Jesus Christ for our sin.
 And may we be as generous in the giving of forgiveness
 as we are grateful for receiving it.
 As we turn our face toward you,
 help us always to remember your purposes for our lives,
 that we may live as we were meant to live; in Jesus' name we pray.
 Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

+THE PEACE OF CHRIST

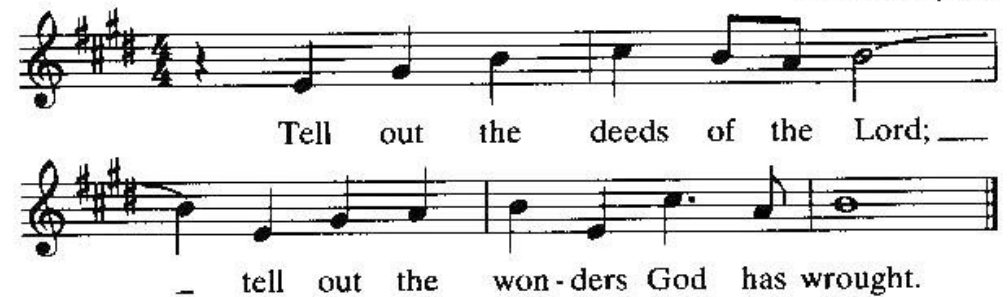
We listen for God's Word

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

LESSON FROM THE FIRST TESTAMENT

Exodus 16:2-15 God provides manna from heaven.
 The Word of the Lord./Thanks be to God.

Psalter 105:1-6, 37-45 Hal H. Hopson



© 1987 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

LESSONS FROM THE SECOND TESTAMENT

Philippians 1:21-30 Live a life worthy of the gospel. OWEN REYNOLDS

ANTHEM *Come and Taste* arr. Alice Parker



Matthew 20:1-16 the laborers in the vineyard SCOTT LEONARD

SERMON *OK, Now What?*



We Respond in Faith and Thanksgiving

+AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

In Jesus of Nazareth true humanity was realized once and for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people, sharing their needs, temptations, joys and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a friend to all kinds of sinners. But his complete obedience led him into conflict. His life and teaching judged their goodness, their religious aspirations, and their national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment under which we all stand convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as the Messiah, that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the Glory of God. Amen.

Adapted from "The Confession of 1967" in
The Book of Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

+HYMN #422 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* BEACH SPRING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
(Traditional, *Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 16, "debts" & "debtors")



CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERTORY *Ricercar III* Fabrizio Fontana

+A DOXOLOGY #591 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*
OLD HUNDREDTH

We Are Sent Out to Serve

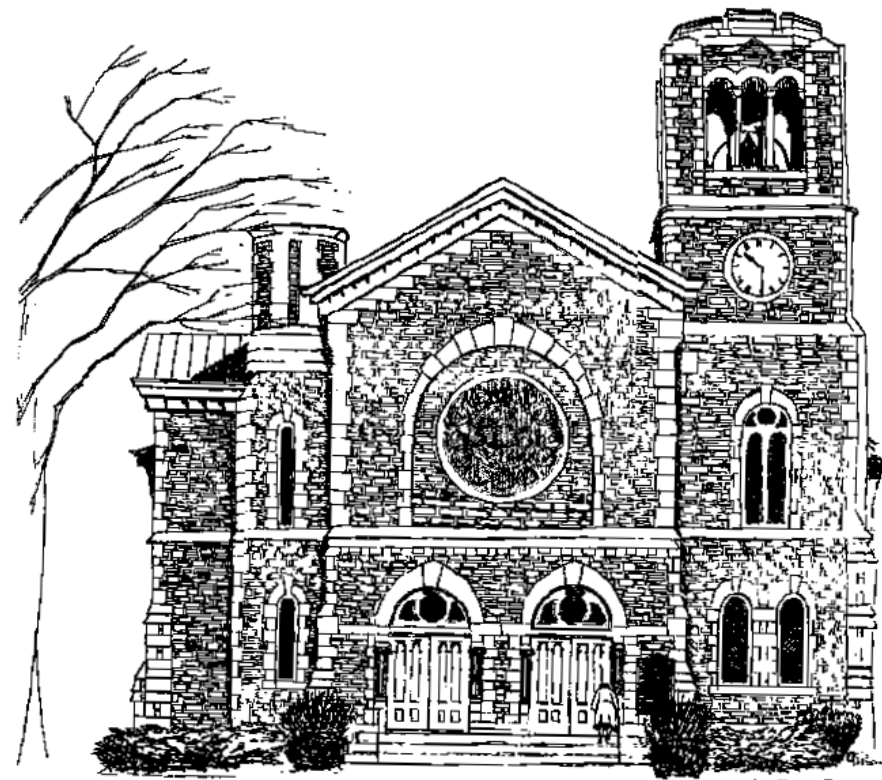
+HYMN #281 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* CWM RHONDDA

+CHARGE, BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

+POSTLUDE

STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP

September 18, 2011 - 13th Sunday in Ordinary after Pentecost



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.

Stone Presbyterian Church
8 South Park Row
Clinton, New York 13323
315-853-2933
stonepres@verizon.net
www.stonepres.org

Dennis Dewey, Pastor
G. Roberts Kolb, Director of Music
Gerald G. Platz, Pastor Emeritus
Peggy Weldon, Office Administrator
Cros Harvey, Sexton
All the People, Ministers

THE CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Today:	11:30 a.m.	Deacons' meeting
Monday:	7:00 p.m.	Storytellers' meeting
Thursday:	10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	Farmer's Market – Village Green
Next Sunday:	9:00 a.m.	Choir rehearsal
	10:30 a.m.	Worship

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Wednesday, September 21 is the deadline for submitting articles for the October issue of *The Corner Stone*.

LITURGIST: Lora Schilder

STORYTELLERS: Owen Reynolds and Scott Leonard

HOSTS: Sue and Dick Raitt

NAME TAGS: If yours is missing or your name is wrong, please let an usher know, and we will supply you with a temporary tag until a replacement is made. If you're visiting, an usher will be glad to make you a name tag.

A REST ROOM (wheelchair accessible) is located off the narthex to your left as you enter the church. More restrooms may be found downstairs in the hall that parallels Williams St.

THE NURSERY is located off the narthex to your right as you enter the church. A diaper-changing table is there for your convenience.

BUILDING STONES MISSION SHOP: You are invited to visit our Building Stones Mission Shop, located in the rear of the narthex, to see our wonderful selection of Fair Trade teas, coffees, chocolates, soups, and clothes which are all for sale.

BBQ CHICKEN DRIVE THRU: Saturday, September 24; Zion Lutheran Church, corner of French and Burrstone Roads, New Hartford; 11:30 a.m. until sold out. Tasty BBQ chickens sold by the half chicken at \$6 each. Side dishes are not included. Call 732-6804 to pre-order. This is a fundraiser to benefit Your Neighbors, Inc., an affiliate of the Lutheran Home of CNY.

WELCOME to the worship of God at Stone Presbyterian Church, a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in the Presbytery of Utica. Please make use of the pew cards to indicate any prayer concerns, pastoral needs or suggestions for improvement.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you would like to add someone to our prayer list, please go to our website www.stonepres.org and click on "Prayer Request" or call the church office at 853-2933. Announcements (with this list) are posted on-line each week. Please note that we will remove names after 6 weeks if we haven't received an update or request to keep them on.

Lori Sherwood
 Eleanor Palmer
 Elaine Schmidt and Family
 Allen Solomon
 Marius Thomassen
 Barbara Stockbridge
 Will
 Stan Shinkle
 Steve Zuchowski, Sr. and Family
 Buzz and Carol Sterling Barrows
 Peter Fay and Family
 Don Black
 Cookenham Family

Members/Friends of the Week:
 Cynthia Crossley, Sharon Daktor
 First Presbyterian Church, Springfield
 Rosalie Lauber
 Machold Family
 Lisa Hyatt
 Family of Nancy Shaw
 Wilbur Family
 Kathleen Putney
 People affected by natural disasters
 Thea Lamberson and the youth of Vienna
 Presbyterian Church and their families
 Carolyn Barnum and Family

HOPE HOUSE WISH LIST: Food: Garden produce is always welcome, Jiffy corn bread mix, sugar-free pancake syrup, cold cuts, tuna, pan spray, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, baked goods for Mondays and Thursdays. Food supplies: paper towels, 9" styrofoam plates, 6 oz. styrofoam cups, cleaning rags, plastic grocery bags, brown bags, and a volunteer to sew a cover for the slicer (fabric will be donated).

Please leave items in the Norton Room, but if you have perishable food, please call Ceil Gilbert, 853-8289.

PARKINSON AWARENESS WALK: Saturday, October 8, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Presbyterian Homes and Services Campus, 4290 Middle Settlement Road, New Hartford. This event is to support and raise awareness for Parkinson Disease. The event is a one mile walk through the strolling pathways and beautiful gardens on the Presbyterian Homes campus. This year's event will include: A free t-shirt with registration, Saranac soft drink sampling, Blackbeards Pirate BBQ, the Utica Zoomobile, Shriner's Clowns, free musical entertainment, lots of giveaways and so much more!

This year's honoree and grand marshal is Dr. Guy Wilcox. Born at Faxton Hospital, Dr. Wilcox grew up on his family farm in rural New Hartford. Later in life he would become a clinical care-giver at Sitrin, then Medical Director at St. Luke's and later at the Masonic Care Community. A new chapter in his story is beginning to unfold and is the occasion for these thoughts: Parkinson Disease. Dr. Wilcox says he knows for sure that the medical care he receives is top-notch because of the programs at Presbyterian Home. "It is an honor to publicly thank Tony Joseph and the Presbyterian Home. For myself and for all of us who benefit from the resources they so generously provide, particularly the world class movement disorder specialists who care for us via the no longer strange, new world of telemedicine. We are grateful. Our families are grateful. Very grateful." - Dr. Wilcox

The House of the Good Shepherd will be offering a free 12-week **FOSTER/ADOPTIVE PARENT TRAINING**, for individuals 21 years of age and older. The training will be held at the House of the Good Shepherd office in Utica, and will meet every Monday from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. beginning September 20. An afternoon class will be offered from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. starting September 21. To register, contact Susan Novak or Kari Judd, Recruitment and Retention Managers, at 235-7700.

Women in the Early Church

By Rebecca H. Weaver

Introduction - The history of the church has sometimes been described as a story in which all the daughters, sisters, and mothers have been left out. In the last half of the twentieth century, about the time that women began to be ordained in the Presbyterian Church, scholars began to search anew for the women in the church's story. Those studying the early church reread not only the Bible but also other early Christian literature and discovered that women did indeed have prominent roles, although not necessarily the roles that we might expect.

Martyr - As strange as it may seem to us, in the early centuries of the church the role of martyr was honored and even coveted as a vocation given by God. In Greek the same word is used for "martyr" and "witness." The martyr was understood to be one who, by identification with Jesus even to death, provided a faithful witness both to other Christians and to the world. The martyr's fidelity under torture, understood to be a gift of the Spirit, not only strengthened the resolve of the Christian community but also led to the conversion of non-Christians.

These effects were compounded in the case of female martyrs. Their endurance, even joy, in suffering provided an especially powerful witness, because it was so unexpected. In Lyons in 177, Blandina, a female slave who steadfastly endured prolonged torture prior to her execution, strengthened the faith of other suffering Christians and thoroughly demoralized her tormentors. In Carthage in 203, the steadfastness of two young Christian women, Perpetua and Felicitas, not only encouraged the Christians imprisoned with them but also amazed the crowds who had come to jeer them. What these and other accounts make clear is that the Spirit, overturning stereotypes, called women as well as men to this honor of witnessing to Christ.

Prophet - Another role that can be attributed to the gift of the Spirit is that of prophet. Paul, in a passage that focuses on the subordination of women, makes clear that in the church in Corinth both men and women prophesied (1 Cor. 11:2-16). Shortly afterward, he includes prophecy among the gifts that the Spirit confers as the Spirit wills (1 Cor. 12:4-11).

Nevertheless, in the second century, as roles within the church became increasingly regularized, groups that acknowledged women as prophets were declared heretical. On the other hand, in the church in North Africa, which highly prized prophecies and visions, the martyr Perpetua, whose prison diary contains accounts of her prophetic visions, was revered. In this instance prophecy and martyrdom were recognized as gifts of the Spirit.

Teacher - First Timothy, probably written in the late first or early second century, forbids women from teaching within the Christian community (2:11-15). Of course, the presence of the prohibition indicates that women were, indeed, engaged in teaching. The same might be said about the need for repetition of prohibition in third- and fourth-century ecclesiastical legislation: the Didascalia apostolorum 3.6 and the Apostolic Constitutions 6, which specifically forbid widows from teaching. However, women undoubtedly functioned as teachers within monastic communities and in families.

Rebecca H. Weaver is professor of church history at Union Presbyterian Seminary, Richmond, Virginia.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

