

STONE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

May 7, 2023

Building Blocks Worship Series

““The idea of community simultaneously attracts and repels most of us. We long for the life-affirming benefits that community can bestow, but we resist the demands that community makes. No wonder that we find it difficult to know what to do with passages such as this one.”
-Matt Skinner”

WELCOME Pastor Cindy

PRELUDE *Morning Has Broken* arr. Joel Raney
Donna & Loren Rhodes

*CALL TO WORSHIP Pastor Cindy

One: We gather to devote ourselves to this community;
All: Across all our differences we choose to invest in one another,

One: Choose to take care of each other,
All: To celebrate one another,

One: To share together in all that life holds.
All: We are God's church.

One: We are family.
All: And we join in praise for grace, for Spirit, for Love.

*SONG *All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord*[^] 21 vs. 1,2,4,5

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 2: 37-47 Nina Meadows

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN Pastor Ben

RECOGNITION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION INTERN AND CELEBRATION OF JUNIATA COLLEGE GRADUATES

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*SONG *If You Believe and I Believe*^{^^} HS1101

TIME OF PRAYER Pastor Cindy

ANTHEM *Cantique De Jean Racine* Gabriel Faure,
(follow text in insert) arr. John Rutter

POEM *Mysteries, Yes* Nina Meadows
By Mary Oliver

MUSICAL REFLECTION *According to Thy Gracious Word* Scottish Psalter/
Loren Rhodes arr. Gilbert Martin

MESSAGE Utopia Pastor Ben

*SONG *Oh, How Good It Is*^{^^} Getty, Holms,
(see insert) Townsend

*SENDING Pastor Ben

*POSTLUDE *The Church's One Foundation* Samuel Wesley/
Loren Rhodes arr. Steven Scott

**Please Rise, as Able, in Body or Spirit
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Attendance Form:



Cantique De Jean Racine

(Chancel Choir)

O divine Word above, our hope and consolation,

Eternal light of the heav'ns and the earth:

Our voices greet the morning;

Look down, O Lord, and hear thy people's prayer!

Look down, O Lord, and hear thy people's prayer!

Inspire us, Lord, we pray, with the pow'r of thy Spirit,

They hell may flee, that hell may flee before thy mighty word.

From slumber waken us, our weary souls reviving.

That we may never forget thy laws!

That we may never forget thy laws!

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on thy congregation

Now gathered in the light of thy throne;

Receive the hymns they offer to thy endless glory;

Renewed by thy gifts may they go forth in peace,

Renewed by thy gifts may they go forth in peace.

Oh, How Good It Is^^

(Please Sing)

Oh, how good it is when the fam'ly of God

Dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity.

Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love

Are the fruits of his presence here among us.

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord;

And with one heart we'll live out His Word.

Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come

For He dwells in the presence of his people.

Oh, how good it is on this journey we share,

To rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn.

For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace,

When we offer the blessing of belonging.

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord;

And with one heart we'll live out His Word.

Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come

For He dwells in the presence of his people.

Oh, how good it is to embrace His command

To prefer one another, forgive as He forgives.

When we live as one, we all share in the love

Of the Son with the Father and the Spirit.

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord;

And with one heart we'll live out His Word.

Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come

For He dwells in the presence of his people.