

“The Recessional,” by Rudyard Kipling

Congregation

God of our fathers, known of old
Lord of our far flung battle line
Beneath whose awful Hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine.
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget, Lest we forget!

Solo

The tumult and the shouting dies,
The Captains and the Kings depart,
Still stands thine ancient sacrifice
An humble and a contrite heart.
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget! Lest we forget, forget!

Congregation

Far call'd our navies melt away
On dune and head-land sinks the fire
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!
Judge of the nations, spare us yet,
Lest we forget, Lest we forget!

Solo

If drunk with sight of pow'r we loose-
Wild tongue that have not Thee in awe,
Such boasting as the Gentiles use,
Or lesser breed without the law,
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget! Lest we forget, forget!

Congregation

For heathen heart that puts her trust
In reeking tube and iron shard
All valiant dust that builds on dust,
And guarding calls not Thee to guard,
For frantic boast and foolish word,
Thy mercy on Thy people, Lord. Amen.

October is a special time for those who attended **Greenbrier College for Women** (GCW) and **Greenbrier Military School** (GMS). Although both schools closed in 1972, the alumni from GMS return each year while the alumnae from the GCW reunite with a luncheon in odd years and a full reunion in even years. The history of both institutions is warmly entwined with Old Stone Church; we welcome their local and distant alumni today.

Six months after arriving in Lewisburg, The Reverend John McElhenney (pastor of Old Stone Presbyterian Church from 1808 – 1871) began providing formal instruction to local children in his living room. This gathering quickly grew both in numbers and reputation. Chartered in 1812 as the Lewisburg Academy the school required a large, dedicated space, which they found in a newly constructed brick building (the first in Lewisburg) located across from the church. John McElhenney was the teacher and leader of this school for more than 20 years. Historian Virgil A. Lewis wrote these words about the Academy: “This was the most important school in the early history of the state. From its walls went for legislators, great debaters and scientists, to become active characters in establishing western commonwealths.”

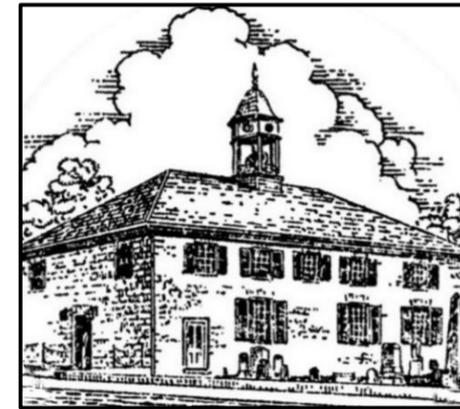
With the support of the Presbytery, the Academy became the Lewisburg Female Institute in 1875. The financial tie to and the influence of the Presbyterian Church remained until the late 1920s when it became independent and the Greenbrier College for Women.

For a brief time, the lack of male students after the War Between the States created a lull in male education. Through the late 1800s, there were several attempts to create male schools. A more lasting attempt was the Greenbrier Presbyterian Military School headed by Matthew L. Lacy, after he retired from Old Stone. In the 1920s, this school became Greenbrier Military School under the direction of the Moore family, all of whom were active members in the life of Old Stone Presbyterian Church.

Both schools continued to benefit from the instruction and leadership of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church and its pastors, including Robert L. Telford, Matthew L. Lacy, and Daniel P. McGeachy. Even when the schools had leaders who were not the pastors of Old Stone, the ties between the schools and the church remained strong; students were required to attend worship services and many of them chose Old Stone. There are still many who remember the cadet core marching down one of the US highways every Sunday to the Old Stone. And, when the attendance in Old Stone’s classrooms reached the point of overflowing, church leaders went to the schools on Sunday mornings and taught the students there.

These relationships and connections exemplify something central to the Presbyterian tradition, articulated by William Temple, “next to a life of love the human mind in the service of God is the most wonderful thing in all the world.”

More connections between the Old Stone and the schools can be found in Chapter XI (Preaching and Teaching Go Hand in Hand) in *History of Old Stone Presbyterian Church 1783-1983* by John F. Montgomery, Elder of Old Stone and President of Greenbrier College. This book is available (free!) today at the church entrance.



Old Stone Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Organized 1783

October 22, 2017 ~ 11:00 A.M.

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(also broadcast over WRON ~ 1400 AM or 103.1 FM)

Trumpet Call

Greenbrier River Brass Ensemble

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements, and Call to Worship

(Please sign the friendship pad and pass it to your neighbor)

Prayer of the Day (unison)

**Come among us, Jesus, you whom the angels worship
and children welcome. Come, Jesus, and meet us here.
Come among us, Jesus, you who hurled the stars into space
and shaped the spider’s weaving. Come, Jesus, and meet us here.
Come among us, Jesus, you who walked the long road to Bethlehem
and lit a flame that dances forever. Come, Jesus, and meet us here.
Amen.**

*Hymn #262 “God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand” NATIONAL TUNE

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Merciful God, we humbly confess our sins
We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with you.
Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Amen.**

*Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Hear and believe the good news of the gospel.

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

*Gloria Patri

Hymn #579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Time with the Young Church

(afterwards all children 2nd grade and younger are dismissed for Sunday School)

*Hymn

“The Church in the Wildwood”

**There's a church in the valley by the wildwood,
No lovelier spot in the dale;
No place is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.**

Chorus:

*Come to the church in the wildwood,
Oh, come to the church in the vale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.*

**Oh, come to the church in the wildwood,
To the trees where the wild flowers bloom;
Where the parting hymn will be chanted,
We will weep by the side of the tomb.**

Chorus

**How sweet on a clear Sunday morning,
To list to the clear ringing bell;
Its tones so sweetly are calling,
Oh, come to the church in the vale.**

Chorus

**From the church in the valley by the wildwood,
When day fades away into night,
I would fain from this spot of my childhood
Wing my way to the mansions of light.**

Chorus

Introduction of Guest Preacher

Grey Webb

New Testament Reading: Ephesians 2: 1 – 10

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Prayer for Illumination

Anthem

“America the Beautiful”

Greenbrier River Brass Ensemble and Old Stone Adult Choir

Sermon

“Merits/Demerits”

Lee Webb

Special Music

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

Greenbrier River Brass Ensemble and Old Stone Adult Choir

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Giving of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

“Amazing Grace”

Greenbrier River Brass Ensemble

*Doxology

Hymn #592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Special Music

“The Lord’s Prayer”

Bobby Nicholas, soloist

*Hymn

“The Recessional”

Marvin Conley, Soloist

*Benediction

*Choral Response

“Seven-fold Amen”

Postlude

Greenbrier River Brass Ensemble

Welcome!

Welcome to Old Stone Presbyterian Church.

*We hope that you will enjoy the beauty,
simplicity, and inspiration which
has sustained worship within these walls
for over 200 years.*

The Week Ahead

TODAY

11:00 Worship
12:30 Handbell practice
5:30 PYC

MONDAY

NO APS Office Hours

TUESDAY

10:00 Bulletin Deadline
3:00 – 5:00 STAIR

WEDNESDAY

10:30 Preschool Chapel
11:00 – 12:00 Lectionary Bible Study
3:00 – 5:00 APS Office Hours
3:00 – 5:00 Logos
6:00 Women’s Dinner & Devotion
Blackwell’s Restaurant
110 South Jefferson Street

THURSDAY

NO Wild Bean Office Hours
3:00 – 5:00 STAIR

SUNDAY, October 29

9:45 Refreshments- Activity Room
10:00 Sunday School for All Ages
10:00 Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Worship
12:00 – 4:00 Elder Training

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God in memory of Nancy Coleman by her daughter, Jane, in anticipation of Nancy’s birthday, November 4.

The Opening prayer is by Ruth Burgess, from The Pattern of Our Days. Kathy Galloway, editor. New York: Paulist Press, 1996.