

## 2025 Blossom Outing

Join us on Sunday, August 31st at 7pm for the showing of Disney's original 1994 animated film "The Lion King," with live orchestral underscore by the Cleveland Orchestra, Sarah Hicks, conductor and accompanied by the Blossom Festival Chorus.

The original 1994 animated film "The Lion King" features unforgettable music by a notable team of Oscar and Gramming winners, including superstar Elton John, lyricist, Time Rice, and composer Hans Zimmer, plus Arican vocal and choir arrangements by Grammy-Owinning South African producer and composer Lebo M (Rhythm of the Pride Lands).

The cost of the tickets at the Senior reduced rate is 47.00 each for this show. Please have ticket reservations and money to Arlene Lasher as soon as possible, but no later than Sunday August 3, 2025.

Please make checks out to Arlene Lasher, as she has already reserved a number of tickets. Any questions—call Arlene at: 216-662-1939.



**Lutheran Church of the Covenant**  
**Maple Heights, OH**

*Seventh Sunday after Pentecost*

Communion will be distributed by the Pastor and Assistants.  
You may stay in your vehicle or setup a chair anywhere you like.  
Speakers will be set up front by the worship leaders so that everyone can hear and participate from their respective spots.  
We encourage you to participate throughout the worship by speaking the **bold** print and singing along with the hymns!  
You will not be asked to stand during the worship, so feel free to remain seated throughout.  
An offering basket is placed up-front by the podium.

Our Worship Leaders & Staff

Presiding Minister	Rev. Andrea McDonough
Organist	Gerry Mass
Lector	Allan Treichel
Reader	Barb Gaglione
Parish Administrator	Jennifer Lasher-Dobush
Custodian	Vince Besednjak

Postlude

Praying Together

**... for those who are homebound, ill, hospitalized or recuperating:**  
Gayle Agg, Nora Beach, Joan Clarke, Chuck Dickey, Olive Evanofski, Bill Flick, Barbara Fossa, Ken Frajter, Donna Franz, Barb Gaglione, Michelle Garnett, Rosa Garnett, Jane Gradert, Linda Johnson, Dorrie Kearns, Dylan King, Elaine Knerem, Nel Lanese, Barbara Mingee, Phyllis Nemeth, Dick Ptak, Madeline Ptak, Arlene Stoltz, Barb Toth, Maud Wright, Charlotte Zaranka, Wilma Dancy, Bill Helmick, Nancy Helmick, Robert Lambrecht, Laura Mele, Judy Morgan, Kris Sandor, Lois Williams, Eugene Winfrey, the Copeland/Lane Family.


Last Week

**General Fund receipts for week ending 7/20/2025:\$ 942.00**

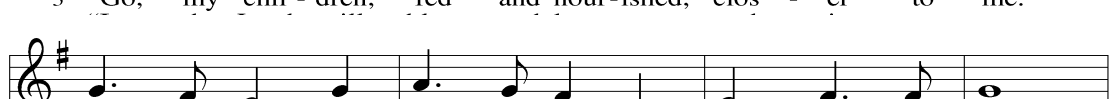
Blessing

May the grace of Christ attend you, the love of God surround you, and the Holy Spirit keep you, this day and forevermore. **Amen**

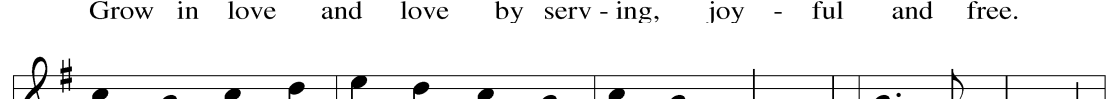
Sending Hymn: *Go My Children, With My Blessing* WOV #721



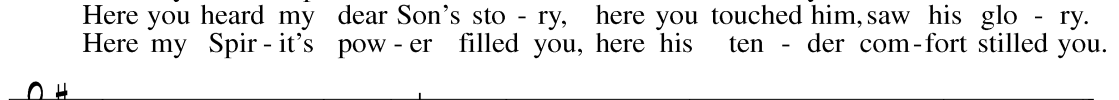
1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Dismissal

Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. Go in peace, confident in the promises of God. **Thanks be to God!**

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. July 27th, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

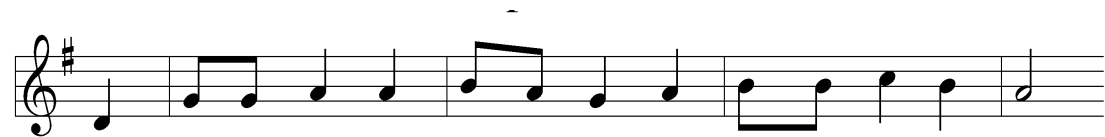
Confession & Forgiveness

God of Love and Justice, turn our hearts toward doing good and seeking justice. **Ignite us to rescue the oppressed, defend the orphans, and help the widows, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.** Let us turn to the most Holy One and confess our sin, confident in God's faithful and steadfast love for us.

Holy One, **although we come to church on Sundays, we too often live the rest of the week as though you don't exist. We act as though we created ourselves, with no connection to you, with no hope of transcendence. Open us to your constant presence, Holy One. Teach us to pray, and restore our sight, that we may commune with you each day in the light of eternity. Amen.**

Hear this from God's Word: Neither death nor life, powers nor rulers, things present nor future, nor anything else in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let anyone condemn you or disqualify you from the body, but hold fast to its head, who nourishes growth from God. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. **Thanks be to God.**

# Gathering Song: Awake, O Sleeper WOV# 745



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;  
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,  
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;  
4 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.  
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.  
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.  
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984  
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829  
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## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

# Invitation to Communion

## Communion Hymn



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Post-Communion Prayer

Creator God, we give you thanks for all that we remember as we have shared this meal: your birth, your life, your death and resurrection. We give you thanks for the eternal presence of your Spirit with us. May this meal we have shared renew and inspire us to join more joyfully with you as you work for peace and justice in the world.

**Amen**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
 your kingdom come, your will be done,  
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those  
 who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial  
 and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
 now and forever. Amen.

# Hymn of Praise: O Sing to God Above WOV # 726

1 Can - te - mos al Se - ñor un him - no de a - le - grí - a,  
 2 Can - te - mos al Se - ñor un him - no de a - la - ban - za.  
 1 Oh, sing to God a - bove a hymn of joy - ful greet-ing,  
 2 Oh, sing to God a - bove a hymn of praise and bless-ing,  
 un cán - ti - co de a - mor al na - cer el nue - vo dí - a.  
 que ex - pre - se nues - tro a - mor, nues - tra fe y nues - tra es - pe - ran - za.  
 a song of grate - ful love in the new day's light re - peat - ing:  
 a song of grate - ful love, hope and faith our hearts ex - press - ing:  
 El hi - zo el cie - lo, el mar, el sol y las es - tre - llas  
 En to - da la crea - ción pre - go - na su gran - de - za,  
 you made the sea and sky, the sun and stars in splen - dor;  
 cre - a - tion lifts its voice to tell your might and glo - ry,  
 y vio en e - llos bon - dad, pues sus o - bras e - ran be - llas.  
 a - sí nues - tro can - tar va a - nun - cian - do su be - lle - za.  
 de - light shone in your eye— all your works were filled with won - der.  
 and we, too, will re - joice to pro - claim the sav - ing sto - ry.  
 Refrain / Estribillo  
 ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya! Can - te - mos al Se -  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Oh, sing to God a -  
 ñor: ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu -  
 bove: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu -  
 ya! Can - te - mos al Se - ñor: ¡A - le - lu - ya!  
 ia! Oh, sing to God a - bove: Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Last time  
 Can - te - mos al Se - ñor: ¡A - le - lu - ya!  
 Oh, sing to God a - bove: Al - le - lu - ia!

## Prayer of the Day

Jesus Christ, teach us to pray, and to trust the hospitality of God for our daily bread, as our ancestors who ate manna in the wilderness. Let us likewise be hospitable, and as God gives the gift of the Holy Spirit to us, let us give good gifts to those who are in need. **Amen.**

## Children's Moment

### First Reading: Genesis 18:20—32

<sup>20</sup> Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! <sup>21</sup> I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup> So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. <sup>23</sup> Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup> Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup> Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" <sup>26</sup> And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." <sup>27</sup> Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup> Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." <sup>29</sup> Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, it is good, and it is joyful  
to give thanks to you, God of mystery and miracle.

When there was only darkness,  
you made light.  
When we cried out to you from captivity,  
you claimed us as your own.  
When we forgot our love for you,  
you did not forget us,  
sending your prophets to turn us around and  
renewing your promises  
with a bow in the sky,  
the parting of the sea,  
your own Son.  
And so we praise you,  
tuning our voices to the angels' songs,  
joining all those who sing on earth and in heaven:

## Sanctus (next page)

# Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## Music Interlude: *Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring* WOV #759



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.  
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957  
Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune  
Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress  
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# Offering Prayer

Holy One, we give you thanks for your steadfast love and faithful-  
ness. Bless these offerings and transform them into gifts of hospitali-  
ty for those who need them most. **Amen.**

I will not do it.” <sup>30</sup> Then he said, “Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I  
speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it,  
if I find thirty there.” <sup>31</sup> He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak  
to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the  
sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” <sup>32</sup> Then he said, “Oh, do not let  
my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found  
there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: Psalm 138

- <sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with <sup>1</sup> my whole heart;  
before the gods I will <sup>1</sup> sing your praise.
- <sup>2</sup> **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your steadfast <sup>1</sup> love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word a- <sup>1</sup>bove all  
things.**
- <sup>3</sup> When I called, you <sup>1</sup> answered me;  
you increased my <sup>1</sup> strength within me.
- <sup>4</sup> **All the rulers of the earth will praise <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words <sup>1</sup> of your mouth.**
- <sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,  
that great is the glory <sup>1</sup> of the LORD.
- <sup>6</sup> **The LORD is high, yet cares <sup>1</sup> for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty <sup>1</sup> from afar.**
- <sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you <sup>1</sup> keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your  
right <sup>1</sup> hand shall save me.

<sup>8</sup> You will make good your purpose for me;  
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

### Second Reading: Colossians 2:6-15[16-19]

<sup>6</sup> As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup> Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup> For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup> and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup> In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; <sup>12</sup> when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup> erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. [

<sup>16</sup> Therefore, do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food or drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or Sabbaths. <sup>17</sup> These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the body belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup> Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, initiatory visions, puffed up without cause by a hu-

er. Raise up leaders to teach Christ's devotion to prayer and model Christ's way of prayer, until all people experience prayerful intimacy with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Reveal to humanity the sacredness of all creation. With the breath of your Spirit, realign the balances of nature. Grant persistence in prayer and action for the sake of the earth, our common home. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Teach rulers of the earth to sing of your ways, caring for the lowly and having no preference for the powerful. Direct the heart of every person to seek your will on earth as in heaven. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

To all whose prayers are cries for help, give your good gifts, and satisfy their deepest needs. Gather them to your constant, loving presence, that they may rest in the confidence of life with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Center the ministries of this assembly on prayer and service. Guide our relationships in the wider community, being ready to assist those who seek help. Strengthen feeding, clothing, and housing ministries and community partnerships. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for all who have gone before us. May we trust your steadfast love and continue in hope until we are united with all your saints. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



## Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Prayers of the People

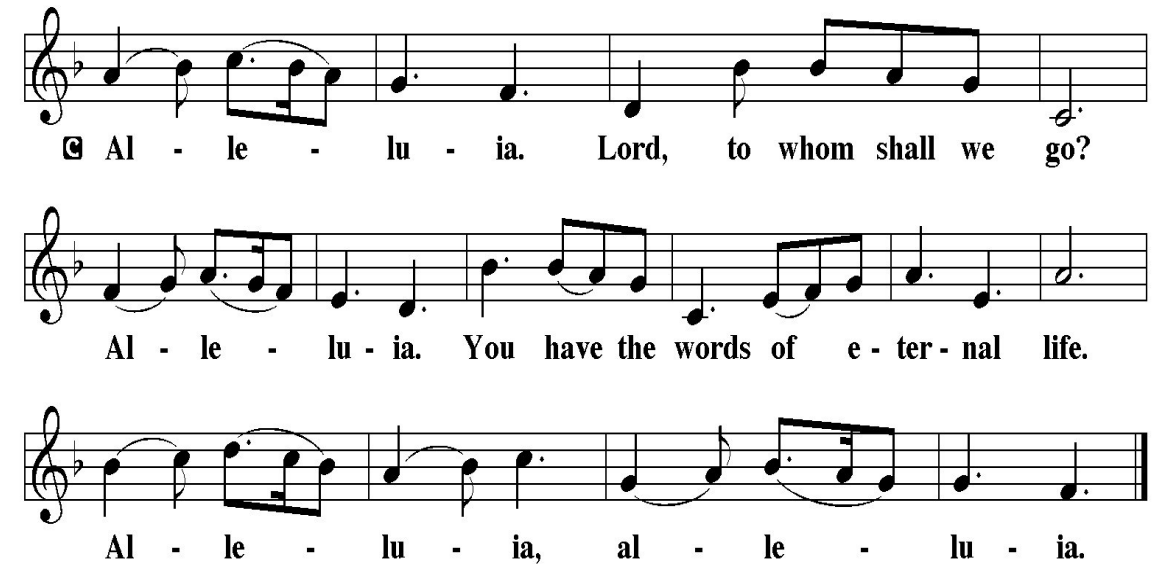
In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

Loving God, create in your church a desire for union with you in pray-

man way of thinking,<sup>19</sup> and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with a growth that is from God.]

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation



## Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."<sup>2</sup> So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.  
May your kingdom come.  
<sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread.  
<sup>4</sup> And forgive us our sins,  
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.  
And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

<sup>5</sup> And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, <sup>6</sup> for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ <sup>7</sup> And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ <sup>8</sup> I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup> “So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup> Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

WOV #747

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868