



Lutheran Church of the Covenant
Maple Heights, OH

Eighth 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	Ted Lockmiller
Reader	Paula Hohenstein
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 7/27/2025:\$ 1657.00

Sending Hymn: *My Life Flows on In Endless Song* WOV #781



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion,
2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion.
It finds an ech-o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899
Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

Dismissal

Since you have been raised with Christ seek the things that are of God,
and go forth to live lives worthy of your calling. **Thanks be to God!**

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. August 3rd, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

Already assured that forgiveness is ours in Jesus Christ, let us lay
aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, that we might
receive mercy and amend our lives.

Holy God,
you lavish us with good gifts, yet we persist in seeking after
that which robs us of abundant life. We hold fast to our anxieties,
and give in to our greed ;we desire the very things that harm us.
Forgive us, purify us, and sustain us by the strength of your Holy
Spirit, we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

If God is for us, who is against us? In Jesus Christ you have been set
free. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace. **Thanks be to
God!**

Gathering Song: Here is This Place WOV# 718

1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,

van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,

brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.

Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and

blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,

we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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.**

Blessing

May the God who gives us every good gift bless you and keep you in the mind of Christ, by the power of the Spirit who sustains us all. **Amen.**

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.

Invitation to Communion

Communion Hymn (next hymn)

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.**

Hymn of Praise: *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*
WOV # 754



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
Music: LINSTED, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980
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Prayer of the Day

Extravagant God, you offer riches that no earthly pleasures can match. You pour out mercy and cover us with love. You show us true justice and offer us peace. You provide us with every need and promise us eternal life with you. In the midst of the glitz and glamour of this world, nothing, and no one, shines with your brilliance. Bathe us in the light of Christ, illumine us with your Holy Spirit, and enable us to live only for you. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Children's Moment

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23

² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. ¹⁴ I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom

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

All we have and all we are comes from you, O God, our Father, our Mother, our Creator, our Sovereign. If we were to give thanks until the end of time, we could not repay your benevolence and grace. Take these meager offerings, we pray, and increase our generosity, that everything we say and do might show forth your irrepressible love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³ For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

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

Psalm: Psalm 49:1-12

¹ Hear this, ¹ all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell ¹ in the world,
² **you of high de- ¹gree and low,
rich and ¹poor together.**
³ My mouth shall ¹ speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on ¹ understanding.
⁴ **I will incline my ear ¹ to a proverb
and set forth my riddle up- ¹ on the harp.**
⁵ Why should I be afraid in ¹ evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my ¹ heels surrounds me,
⁶ **the wickedness of those who put their trust in ¹ their own prowess,**
and boast of ¹ their great riches?
⁷ One can never re- ¹ deem another,
or give to God the ransom for an- ¹ other's life;
⁸ **for the ransom of a life ¹ is so great
that there would never be e- ¹ nough to pay it,**
⁹ in order to live forev- ¹ er and ever

and never¹ see the grave.
¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stu-¹pid they
perish
and leave their wealth to those who come¹ after them.**
¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places
from generation to¹ generation,
though they had named lands af-¹ter themselves.
¹² **Even though honored, they cannot¹ live forever;
they are like the¹ beasts that perish.**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are
above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your
minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on
earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴
When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be re-
vealed with him in glory.
⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immo-
rality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On
account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are diso-
bedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were
living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things: anger,
wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do
not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self
with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self,
which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its
creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circum-

of the world, is revealed to everyone. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to
value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make
life possible on this planet. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices
of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your im-
age, and establish equity and peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger
and need, illness and grief, pain and fear. Give strength to those who
give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love
known. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generos-
ity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial
matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and
demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. God of
grace, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from
their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us
in love as we continue our lives in the world. 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.

Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits.
Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life

cised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but
Christ is all and in all!

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

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

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

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵ And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’” ¹⁸ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’” ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’” ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: *Day by Day* WOV #746



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing
2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my

com - fort to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you
serve and wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to
bur - dens grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will

send me draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal.
guide me o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day.
hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.

Love di - vine, be - yond all mor - tal mea - sure, brings to
I will fear no e - vil of the mor - row, I will
Day by day, no mat - ter what be - tide me, you will

naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior, lead me to the home I
trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior, help me bear life's pain and
hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior, with your pres - ence here to

trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, b. 1936
Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882

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