

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

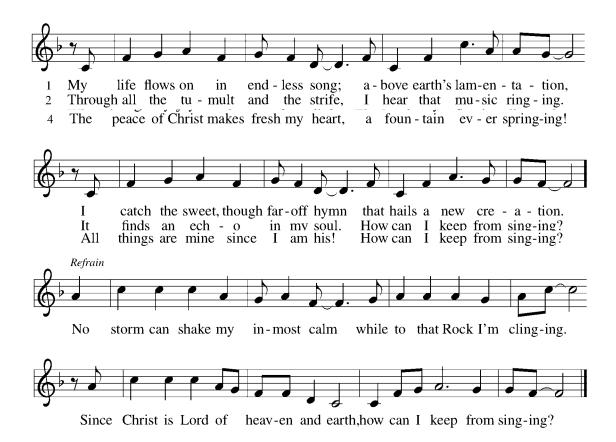
Praying Together

... 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



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!**

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

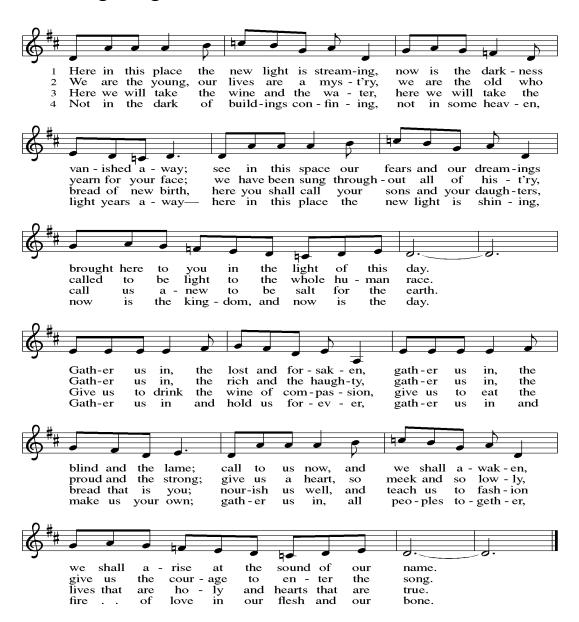
Already assured that forgiveness is ours in Jesus Christ, let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, that we might receive mercy and amend our lives.

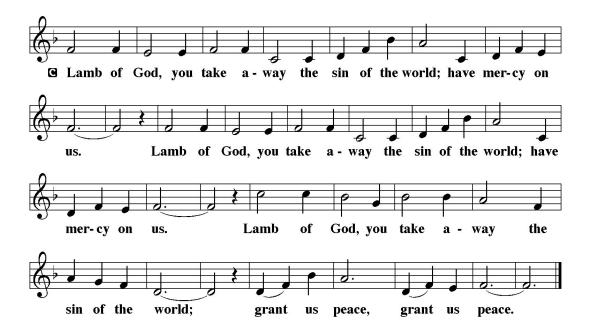
Holy God,

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





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.

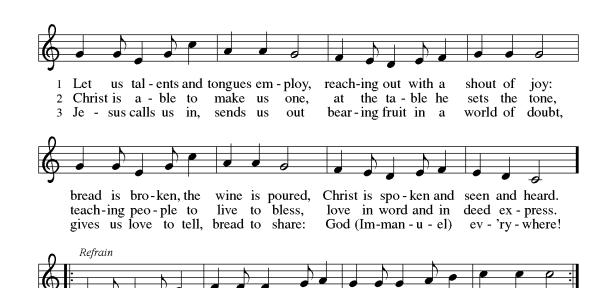
Invitation to Communion

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



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

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTEAD, 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)

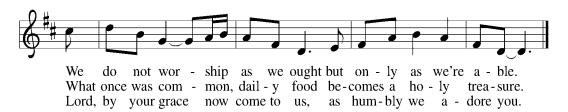
Sharing of the Peace

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.
- 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.



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, [|] all you peoples;
 - give ear, all you who dwell | in the world,
 - ² you of high de- | gree and low, rich and | poor 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 [|] evil days, when the wickedness of those at my [|] heels surrounds me,
- ⁶ the wickedness of those who put their trust in ¹ their own prowess,

and boast of | their great riches?

- ⁷One can never re- | deem another, or give to God the ransom for an- | other's life;
- ⁸ for the ransom of a life | is so great that there would never be e- | nough to pay it,
- ⁹ in order to live forev- [|] er and ever

- and never | see the grave.
- ¹⁰ For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stu- | pid they perish
 - and leave their wealth to those who come | after them.
- ¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to ¹ generation,
 - though they had named lands af- | ter themselves.
 - ¹² Even though honored, they cannot | live forever; they are like the | 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 revealed with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. 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 image, 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 generosity. 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



Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

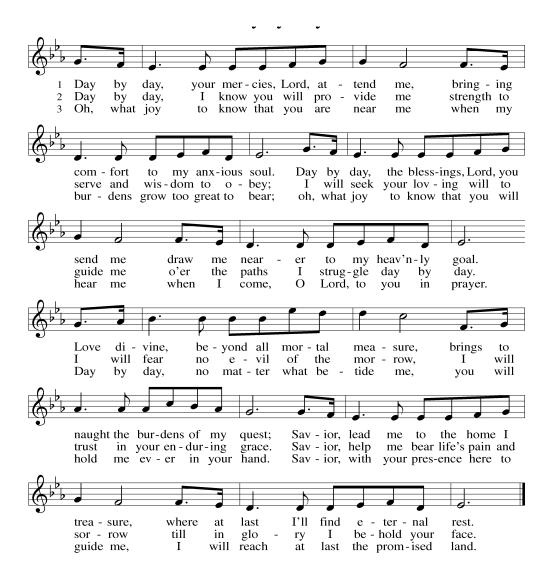
The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you O Lord.

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



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

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