



Lutheran Church of the Covenant
Maple Heights, OH

Sixth 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	Mark Gabor
Parish Administrator	Jennifer Lasher-Dobush
Custodian	Vince Besednjak

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-winning 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: 216-970-9980.

Dismissal

Go out into the world proclaiming Christ in every corner, so that everyone may know the presence and witness of Christ,

Let us go rejoicing! Thanks be to God!

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 7/13/2025:\$ 2507.00

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. July 20th, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

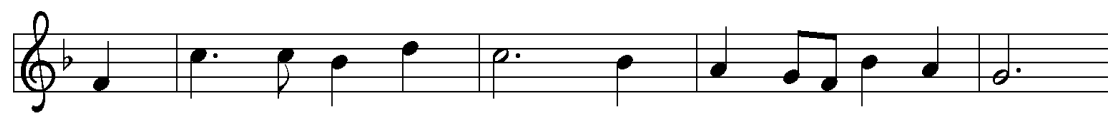
Confession & Forgiveness

With humble and trusting hearts,
let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Merciful God, **we confess that we have been distracted with many things and have not loved you with our whole heart and strength. We have not paid attention to your Word. We have allowed the poor to be neglected and the weak to be oppressed. We have been impatient in worship and insincere in our dealings with others. We have ignored signs of injustice and disregarded warnings of judgment. Forgive us, we pray, and teach us repentance. Free us from our habits of pride, and make us steadfast in faith, that we may live as those who are reconciled with you in Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom we pray. Amen.**

Though we were once estranged, in Jesus Christ we have been reconciled with God. Baptized, forgiven, and freed, we are one with the Lord and with each other. Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

Gathering Song: Oh, Praise the Gracious Power WOV# 750



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:
and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:
ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

7 Oh, praise the living Christ
with faith's bright songful voice!
Announce the gospel to the world
and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

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.**

Blessing

Receive the blessing of God, whose mercy knows no ends.
Receive the blessing of Christ, who is patient and eager to give us words of life. Receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit who moves us and gives us power to do God's will. Receive the blessing of the triune God, and share this blessing with others! **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: The Spirit Sends Us Forth To Serve WOV #723



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
joy like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

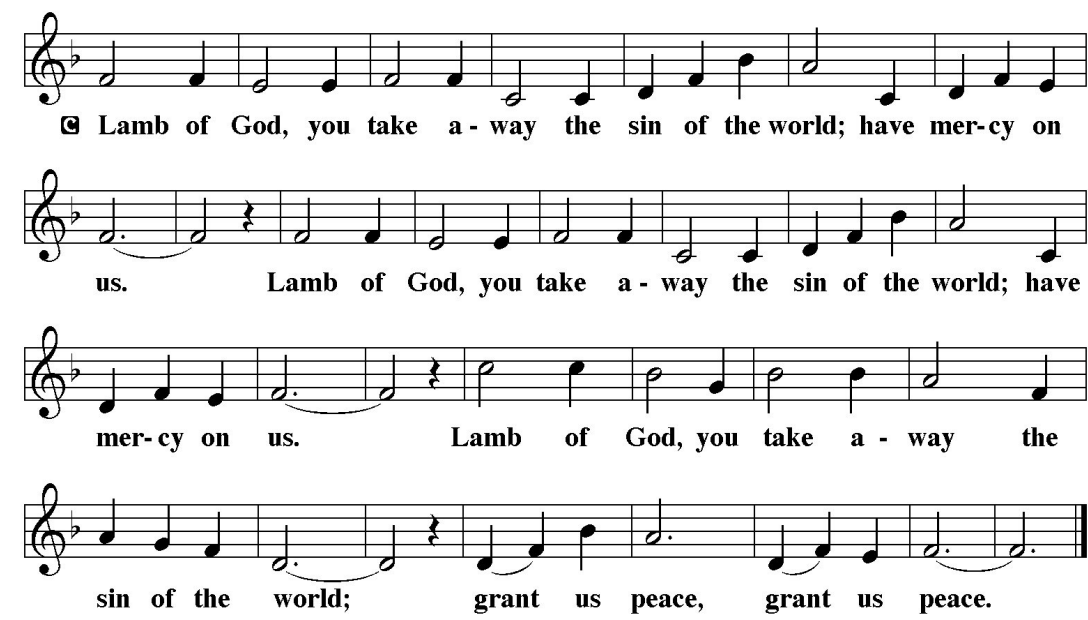
Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820
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Invitation to Communion

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

Communion Hymn

Musical notation for the Communion Hymn, featuring a single melodic line in G major. The lyrics are: 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.

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.

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

Musical notation for the Hymn of Praise, featuring a single melodic line in G major. The lyrics are: Can - te - mos al Se - ñor un him - no de a - le - grí - a, Can - te - mos al Se - ñor un him - no de a - la - ban - za. Oh, sing to God a - bove a hymn of joy - ful greet-ing, 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!

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

Almighty God, you brought creation into being through Christ, and in Christ all things find their purpose. Open our eyes to see the world as your gift and to use your gifts for the sake of Christ, that through the witness of our lives the gospel may be proclaimed to all people. **Amen.**

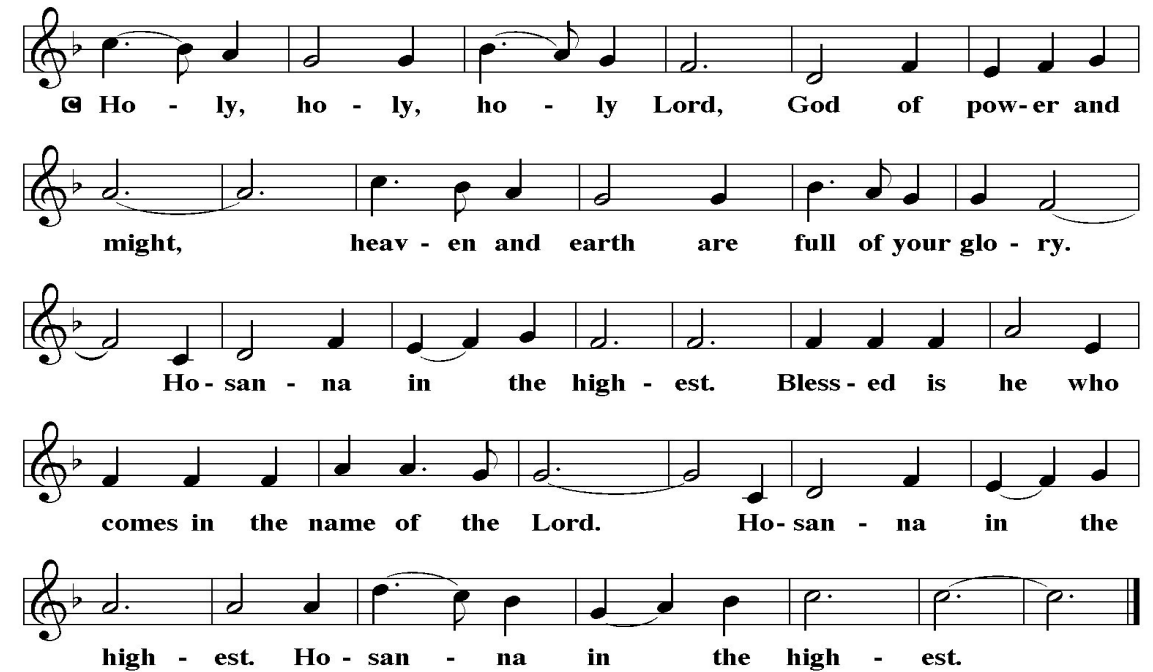
Children's Moment

First Reading: Genesis 18:1-10a

¹ The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant." ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹ They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a} Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

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



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.**

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)

Psalm: Psalm 15

- ¹ LORD, who may dwell in your ^l tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your ^l holy hill?
² **Those who lead a blameless life and do ^l what is right,
who speak the truth ^l from their heart;**
³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil ^l to their
friends;
they do not cast discredit up- ^l on a neighbor.
⁴ **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those
who ^l fear the LORD.**
**They have sworn upon their health and do not take ^l back
their word.**
⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take
bribes a- ^l gainst the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be ^l overthrown.

Second Reading: Colossians 1:15-28

¹⁵ [Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all
creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were creat-
ed, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or
rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for
him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold to-
gether. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the begin-
ning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have
first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was
pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile
to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making
peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, ²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵ I became its minister according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

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

Gospel Acclamation (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

God, we give today in thankfulness and with the assurance that anything we give will contribute to the continuing growth of your kingdom in the world. Give us wisdom as a church, so that this offering is used for the sharing of your word and the service of your people. In the name of the One that gave us everything we are and have. **Amen.**

Every creature under heaven has been promised the hope of the gospel. From that promise, generate in humankind an eagerness to protect and care for creation. Bring healing to the earth with your words of life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Peel away the distractions, worries, and fears of all who govern the nations of the world. May your word of love and life dispel all other voices. Provide gracious hospitality in places where hostile forces hold sway. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Speak your word of comfort to any who suffer pain, illness, grief, depression, or despair (*especially*). Bring honor to any who experience slander and evil intent or are discredited by others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Enliven and uphold all siblings in Christ who strive to provide hospitality and safe spaces where everyone, without exception, can receive and be transformed by your word of life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Mary, Martha, and all the saints who attended to your word, we give thanks. Open our ears to your voice until that day when we realize the promise of the gospel with all creation. 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.**



Gospel: Luke 10:38-42


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

³⁸ Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."


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

Sermon


Hymn of the Day: *We Walk By Faith Not By Sight* WOV #675



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 That, when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found:
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816

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.

Inspire your church, like Sarah and Mary, to listen with eager longing for your words of life. Equip biblical interpreters and teachers with faithful discernment, that your word may be more fully known. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**