

Lutheran Church of the Covenant Maple Heights, OH

Third Sunday after Pentecost

The Lutheran Church of the Covenant welcomes you to worship! Here are a few notes to make you feel more at home as we praise the God of new life together!

Bulletins are available to be picked up at the back of the sanctuary.

We encourage you to participate throughout worship by speaking the **bold** print and singing along with the hymns!

Portions marked with * are when we invite you to stand as you are able to do so. There will not be a separate time for an offering, so a basket is placed in the back for those who wish to support our local ministry as well as the wider church.

A children's table is located at the back of the sanctuary, where you'll find some books and activities to help children feel more at home in worship.

Our Worship Leaders & Staff

Presiding Minister Rev. Andrea McDonough

Organist Gerry Mass

Lector Ted Lockmiller

Reader Jane Skowronski

Parish Administrator Jennifer Lasher-Dobush

Custodian Vince Besednjak

*Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Praying Together

... for those who are homebound, ill, hospitalized or recuperating: Gayle Agg, Nora Beach, Joan Clarke, Bruce Constant, 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, Jean Rusher, Barb Toth, Maud Wright, 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 6/22/2025:\$1627.00

*Sending Hymn: Great is Thy Faithfulness WOV # 771



Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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Second Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 a.m. June 22, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

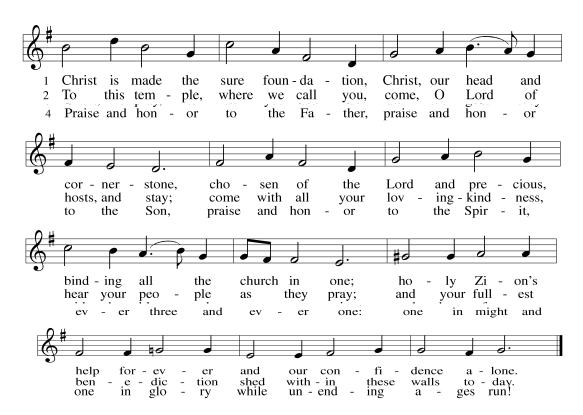
Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

*Gathering Song: Christ is Made The Sure Foundation WOV# 747



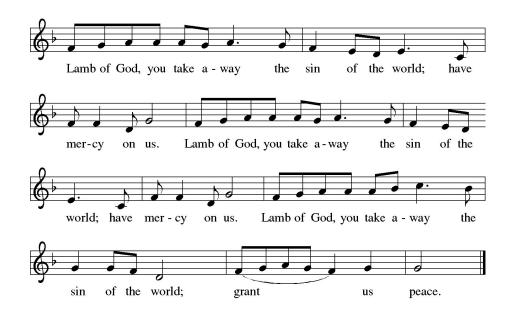
Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

*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

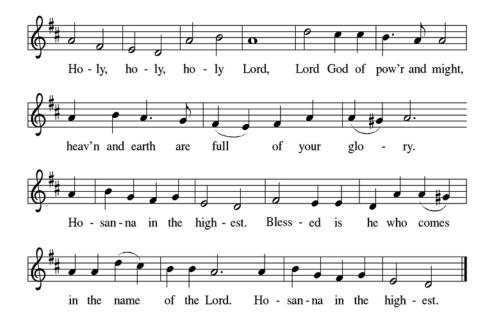


*Post-Communion Prayer

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

*Blessing

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace. **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.

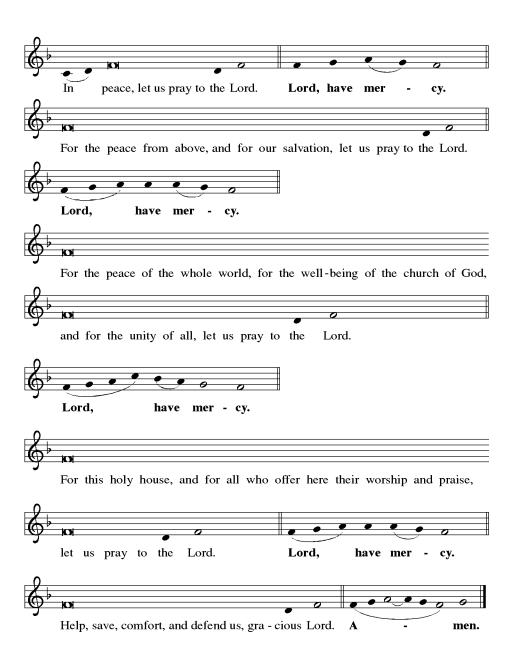
Give us today our daily bread.

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.

*Kyrie



*Hymn of Praise



*Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

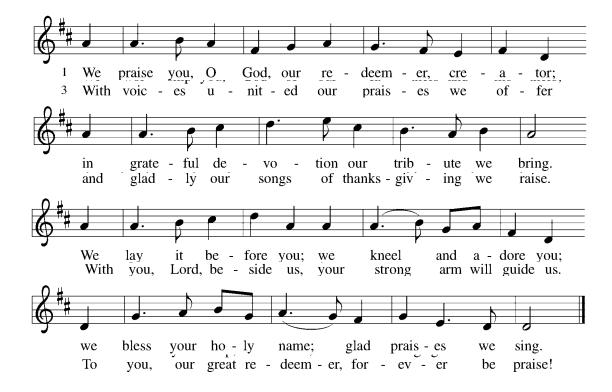
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,
you pour out the fire of your Spirit,
uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the
resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus (next page)

Music Interlude

The Offertory Hymn: We Praise You O God ELW #870



*Offering Prayer

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

*Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Children's Moment

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

- ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to [Elijah], "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah as prophet in your place.
- ¹⁹ So he set out from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰ He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" ²¹ He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah and became his servant.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 16

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take ref- [|] uge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good a- [|] bove all other."

² All my delight is in the godly that are ¹ in the land, upon those who are noble a- ¹ mong the people.

³ But those who run after ¹ other gods shall have their troubles ¹ multiplied.

⁴ I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods, never take their names up- | on my lips.

⁵O LORD, you are my portion | and my cup; it is you who up- | hold my lot.

⁶ My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.

⁷ I will bless the LORD who ¹ gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night ¹ after night.

⁸ I have set the LORD al- | ways before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken.

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- ¹ it rejoices; my body also shall ¹ rest in hope.

¹⁰ For you will not abandon me ¹ to the grave, nor let your holy one ¹ see the pit.

¹¹ You will show me the [|] path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for- [|] evermore.

Second Reading: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

grace, hear our prayer.

Protect this world, O God. Watch over fields and fruit trees, foxes and birds, the pleasant land beneath us and the sun and moon above. Keep us mindful of the rich inheritance you have given us in the natural world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Counsel our leaders, O God. Make them steadfast in seeking justice and unable to be shaken as they pursue peace. Lead them by your Spirit to listen and respond to the people they govern. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Uphold all who suffer, O God. Give refuge to those of us who know rejection, and shelter to those of us who have nowhere to lay our heads. Bring any who are sick into your healing presence. Give all your fullness of joy. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Set free this assembly, O God. Grow your Spirit's fruits within us and within our congregation's ministries (*local ministries may be named*). Set our faces always on you, that we might live in the freedom to which you have called us. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

Embrace all your saints, O God. We thank you for the faithful departed. Let us rejoice that you do not abandon us to the grave but lead us on the path of life. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

*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

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

Guide your church, O God. Anoint us for service and make us messengers of your peace. Emboldened by the witness of Christians throughout history, send us to proclaim your reign come near. God of

- ¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.
- ¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.
- ²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation (next page)



*Gospel: Luke 9:51-62

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

⁵¹ When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, ⁵³ but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹ To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ And Jesus said to

him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹ Another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶² And Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

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

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: Be Thou My Vision WOV # 776

