



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

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

Leader	Rev. Andrea McDonough
Organist	Gerry Mass
Lector	Ted Lockmiller
Reader	Mary Kaye Bernardo
Parish Administrator	Jennifer Lasher-Dobush
Custodian	Vince Besednjak

Dismissal
Go forth in faith, trusting in the God who heals every infirmity.
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 8/17/2025:\$ 987.50

Blessing

May the blessing of God, like a mother’s love, sustain you;
may the peace of God, like a strong castle, protect you;
may the hope of God, like a consuming fire, enlighten you,
this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: *For the Fruit of All Creation* WOV #760



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. August 24th, 2025

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The prophet Isaiah assures us that when we cry for help, God will answer. So then, let us confess our sin, confident that God is ready to forgive.

God of justice and love,
we confess to you and to each other that we have not offered food to the hungry or satisfied the needs of the afflicted. We have spoken evil of others and pointed fingers in blame. We have turned away from you and our community, pursuing instead our own self-interests. Parched for mercy, we cry out for your help. Forgive us, God, and teach us your ways, that we may be renewed like a garden freshly watered. Amen.

In the waters of baptism we receive abundant mercy, flowing like a spring that never runs dry. Forgiven and freed, we are reconciled with God and with one another. The peace of Christ be with you all. And also with you.

Gathering Song: My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

WOV# 730



1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer-cy ev - er flows.
3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.
the prom-ise to our par-ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—
The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune
Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

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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.

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!

Refrain

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

God of healing and reconciliation, you free us from our burdens and promise us safety and refuge. Help us to trust in your power, that we may praise you without qualification and rejoice in the power of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Children's Moment

First Reading: Isaiah 58:9b-14

- ^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.
¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³ If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;

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

Loving God, we rejoice that our lives are already consecrated by you.
Inspired by the knowledge of your love, giving thanks for the gifts
you offer us each day, we pray that these offerings and our lives
may further your kingdom on earth. **Amen.**

if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;
¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

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

Psalm: Psalm 103:1-8

¹ Bless the LORD, ¹ O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's ¹ holy name.
² **Bless the LORD, ¹ O my soul,**
and forget not ¹ all God's benefits—
³ who forgives ¹ all your sins
and heals all ¹ your diseases;
⁴ **who redeems your life ¹ from the grave**
and crowns you with steadfast ¹ love and mercy;
⁵ who satisfies your desires ¹ with good things
so that your youth is renewed ¹ like an eagle's.
⁶ **O LORD, you provide ¹ vindication**
and justice for all who ¹ are oppressed.
⁷ You made known your ¹ ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- ¹ dren of Israel.
⁸ **LORD, you are full of compas- ¹ sion and mercy,**
slow to anger and abounding in ¹ steadfast love.

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:18-29

¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.” ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”) ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.” ²⁷ This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

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

You inspire all creation to sing and bless your holy name. Send healing rains to parched places and relief to flooded lands. Lead us to enact policies to rebuild ruined ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You work vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. Strengthen the resolve of world leaders and local officials in the way of love and mercy, so that all persons may experience abundant life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You satisfy your people with good things. In your steadfast love, receive the cries of all who are bent over under the weight of addiction, isolation, and mental or physical illness. Manifest your healing presence in their midst. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Invigorate worship planners and leaders with creativity to aid this assembly in fresh and faithful prayer and praise. Enable all who gather here to be nourished and renewed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With all your apostles, prophets, and saints, we give thanks and bless your holy name. As they now rest from their labors, guide us by the witness of their lives to pursue your reign, which can never be shaken. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God’s presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **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

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God,
for God is near.

You call your church to proclaim liberation and freedom to all. Give
wisdom to bishops, synod councils and staff, and congregation lead-
ers as they pursue a more just and equitable church and society. Hear
us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

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

¹⁰ Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sab-
bath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that
had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was
quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called
her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³
When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight
and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indig-
nant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the
crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come


on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.”¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water?”¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?”¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

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


Sermon

Hymn of the Day: *Healer of Our Every Ill* WOV # 738

Refrain




Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



Refrain

peace and glad-ness; Spir-it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir-it of all kind-ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir-it of com-pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen
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