

CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR

United Methodist

*A Christian Community Committed to Growing Deeper in Faith
and Pursuing God's Hope for Every Life*



July 6, 2025

11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Rev. Andy Call, Lead Pastor
Rev. Cindy Patterson, Administrative Pastor

ORDER OF WORSHIP

SANCTUARY

11:00 a.m.

OPENING TO GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

The Rev. Cindy Patterson

* CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Joe Walker

One: Freedom is coming!

Many: We can hear it in the voices of the oppressed.

One: Hope is coming!

Many: We can see it in the eyes of all those who despair.

One: God is here!

**Many: We count on God's presence with us,
to guide, heal, and uplift our spirits. Amen.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE

Your Love, O God

FINLANDIA



1. Your love, O God, is broad like beach and mead-ow,
2. We long for free - dom where our tru - est be - ing
3. But there are walls that keep us all di - vid - ed;
4. O judge us, Lord, and in your judg - ment free us,



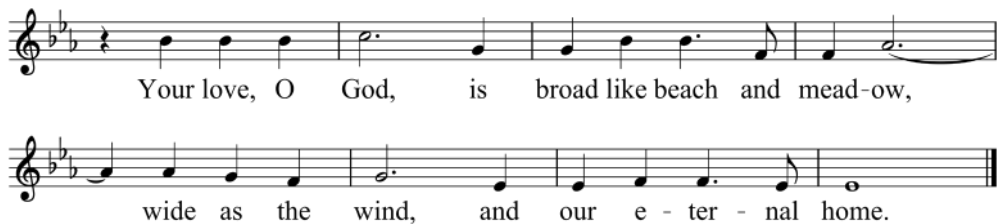
wide as the wind, and our e - ter - nal home.
is giv - en hope and cour - age to un - fold.
we fence each oth - er in with hate and war.
and set our feet in free - dom's o - pen space;



You leave us free to seek you or re - ject you,
We seek in free - dom space and scope for dream - ing,
Fear is the bricks and mor - tar of our pris - on,
take us as far as your com - pas - sion wan - ders



you give us room to an - swer "yes" or "no."
and look for ground where trees and plants can grow.
our pride of self, the pris - on coat we wear.
a - mong the chil - dren of the hu - man race.



CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Patterson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION ²

- One: For all the ways we colonize each other—
with expectations, beliefs, judgments, and our own fear...
- Many: God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**
- One: For all the ways we squander right relationship—
grabbing to “have” more while some go without...
- Many: God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**
- One: For all the ways we abuse our freedom—
engaging hateful speech that injures and demeans...
- Many: God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**
- One: For all the ways we deny equality—
deeming some “in” and others “out...”
- Many: God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**
- One: For all the ways we have refused to let go of privilege—
whining about how hard it is to “change” our ways, our systems, our lifestyles.
- Many: God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

(Silence is kept.)

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE

- One: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
- Many: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

We welcome you to share signs of reconciliation with each other.

HEARING GOD’S WORD

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 15:11-31

Mr. Walker

- One: This is the Word of God for the people of God.
- Many: Thanks be to God.**

OFFERING OUR LIVES IN DISCIPLESHIP

HYMN OF REFLECTION #355

Depth of Mercy

CANTERBURY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Rev. Ben Magee

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY #95 & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ³

Rev. Patterson

One: The Liberating God be with you!

Many: And also with you!

One: Lift up your hearts with joy!

Many: We lift them up to God!

One: Let us give praise to the Author of Freedom!

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

One: ... And so we lift up our voices in celebration of You!

Many: Holy, holy, holy are You!

One: We join all the prophets and saints!

Many: Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

One: We join the parade of justice!

Many: Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord!

One: We add our cries and exclamations!

Many: Hosanna in the highest!

One: ... And he told us to remember, repeating after me: Freedom has come...

Many: Freedom has come.

One: And freedom is coming...

Many: And freedom is coming!

One: ... And now with the confidence of children of God, let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever.**

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- * HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #378 *Amazing Grace* AMAZING GRACE
- * BENEDICTION Rev. Patterson
- * POSTLUDE

* The people may stand.

Don Verkuijlen, Director of Traditional Music & Organist

¹ Written by Nancy C. Townley and posted on the Ministry Matters website: ministrymatters.com

² Liturgy by Marcia McFee © www.worshipdesignstudio.com. Permission is granted to use with attribution for in-person, online, pre-recorded or recorded and live-streamed worship.

³ Ibid.

*The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the glory of God,
a gift of the Church of the Saviour Foundation.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VBC Opportunity at Garfield

Garfield Memorial Church, located at 3650 Lander Rd. in Pepper Pike is offering True North Vacation Bible Camp for preschool-grade 5 from Aug. 4-8, 5:30-8:00 PM. At True North, kids discover that they can trust Jesus in a wild world! True North is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Hands-on science experiments, team-building games, and unforgettable Bible songs are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Scan the QR code for all the info and to register. Volunteer opportunities are also available!



Silhouette Project on Gun Violence Update

Members of the COTS United Women in Faith continue to report the number of people in our country killed by gun violence. We have recently installed a new Silhouette Project sign to replace the wind damaged one. Here are the totals for the first half of 2025 with numbers in parenthesis compared to this same time last year: Adults 6244, Children 668, Total 6807 (7894). Please let us know if you would either like to help us to update the sign weekly or to take any action related to stopping gun violence in our country. Contact Kevin Louise Schaner at schanerkevin@gmail.com.

International Student Fellowship Volunteers Wanted

ISF is seeking assistance for international students at Case Western Reserve University. Volunteers are needed to pick students up from the airport or bus station and drop them off at their given residences, or provide temporary housing for 3-4 days from mid-July to the end of August. They also need donations of new or gently used household items and furniture for student apartments, and drivers who are willing to transport furniture to the students' residences.

The Furniture Giveaway is happening on August 23, and donations will be accepted at COTS' Great Hall on Friday, August 22 for this event. If you want to volunteer with Intervarsity's Chapter "International Student Fellowship (ISF) at Case Western Reserve University" and learn how to interact and build friendships with international students through these opportunities, email Milka Hanook (milka.hanook@intervarsity.org).

A Word of Welcome to Families with Children

It's so great you're here! Church of the Saviour is a welcoming place for people of all ages and abilities to grow in relationship with God. We know kids may engage in worship in different ways, and we love their voices and wiggly bodies! We encourage you to participate in whatever way feels right for your family. Coloring materials are available outside the Sanctuary, and the church library is a great spot to visit if your child needs a break. Nursery care is available from 9:30am to 12:00pm downstairs.

Porch Talks for a Beloved Community

In 1965, members of Heights Christian Church invited Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to speak. While many people reacted with fear and prejudice, church leadership persevered, and Dr. King spoke from the porch to a huge crowd. He often spoke of the "Beloved Community," which the King Center describes in this way, "In the Beloved Community, poverty, hunger and homelessness will not be tolerated because international standards of human decency will not allow it. Racism and all forms of discrimination, bigotry and prejudice will be replaced by an all-inclusive spirit of sisterhood and brotherhood."



The work to achieve that goal continues at Heights Christian, in greater Cleveland, and around the world. In partnership with East View UCC and Plymouth UCC, Heights Christian Church is continuing their *Porch Talks for a Beloved Community* series, through which they invite social justice leaders to share their prophetic voices and to sustain the call to do justice and love mercy. This year they welcome speaker Rev. Dr. Velda Love on August 23 at 5PM. Dr. Love serves the National Ministries of the United Church of Christ as the Minister for Racial Justice and Lead for its *Join the Movement Toward Racial Justice* initiative. A combined choir from all three sponsoring congregations will be part of the program, as well. Scan the accompanying QR code to view the event flyer.

Service of Reinstatement for LGBTQIA+ Clergy

The East Ohio Board of Ministry and the East Ohio Reconciling Ministries will hold a Service of Reinstatement for those clergy who were forced to leave the EOC UMC for gender preference reasons. The service is tonight, Sunday, July 6, at 6:00PM at First United Methodist Church (245 Portage Trail, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221). The preacher of the service will be Bishop Sally Dyck, who has deep roots in Cleveland Heights. Rev. Jennifer Brown Wellington (formerly Jennifer Steinfurth or Pippin) will be reinstated. Rev. Brown Wellington grew up on Bradford Road, and attended Redeemer UMC, but was also active in the COTS youth group. She was also an outstanding Pastor in the former Cleveland and North Coast Districts. If you would like to participate in the choir for this service, contact Rev. Joy Fenton-Jones at eclat284@gmail.com or 216-702-7730 as soon as possible. The choir will be singing *Draw the Circle Wide* by Mark Miller and *Show Us How to Love* by Lindy Thompson/Mark Miller.

Habitat for Humanity Faith Build

Habitat For Humanity, a faith-based organization, seeks to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope. Church of the Saviour has been involved with this ministry for over two decades. Seven church members are presently working weekly and have built or restored dozens of homes in the Cleveland area. Over these 20+ years, the church and its members have contributed over \$100,000 to support people in need of safe and affordable housing. This year, we, along with 17 other churches, are sponsoring another Faith Build home at 3520 E.143rd Street. Eight volunteers (ages 16 and above) will be needed to work on selected dates from July through December. The workday generally goes from 9AM to 3PM. Almost any skill level, from clean-up to carpentry, will be welcomed. Safety equipment will be provided but hard-sold shoes are required. The dates assigned to COTS are July 10, August 9, September 18, October 11, November 1, and December 6. Registration with Habitat is required in advance of the work date(s) of your choice. Please scan the



accompanying QR code to register with Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity: Civic Champs. More information is available from Joyce Dearborn (jpd6708@yahoo.com).

Register for the Youth Mission Trip

Help us pursue God's hope for every life right here in Cleveland! From July 12-19 we will be partnering with local missions and organizations doing good work in our community, as well as meeting needs and opportunities identified through COTS. We want to help make things the way God intended them to be, and we'll do it through relationships and working with our neighbors. Jesus-followers are called to transform the world. Will you join us? Scan the QR code for more info and to sign up.



Know Your Rights Booklets Available

In these times of increasing ICE raids on homes, schools, and businesses, it is important that our immigrant neighbors know their rights and have plans in place if they are detained. "Know Your Rights" booklets are available at the Sanctuary and Great Hall entrances. The booklets contain information on a variety of topics including instructions on how immigrants can plan for their children's protection if they are detained, how they can obtain legal advice, and how they should behave if they encounter police or immigration authorities. The booklets are in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole. If you have immigrant friends, co-workers, or acquaintances, please take and share this resource with them.

Youth Mission Trip Dinner or a Day of Serving?

Would you like to put your faith into action? Make a difference in Cleveland? Want to experience why our youth are so great? Or our leaders? Enjoy a great meal with good company? Sign up to join us for a day of serving July 14-18, or for dinner, July 14, 15, 16, or 18. All abilities can participate. Contact Curt Campbell with questions. We would love to have you join us! RSVP by July 10.



Please register your attendance at today's worship service.

Thank you!

