

CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR

United Methodist

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



March 8, 2026

11:00 a.m., Great Hall

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GREAT HALL

11:00 a.m.

OPENING TO GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

The Rev. Andy Call

* CALL TO WORSHIP ¹

Diana Carter

One: We are on a journey of faith.

Many: We travel with Jesus Christ as our guide.

One: The promises of God shine like a star before us
and give us strength for the journey;

**Many: But still, in the wilderness,
we become impatient and rebellious, and lose our way.**

One: We gather, seeking to be fed by the manna of God's Word,
to rediscover the paths of righteousness.

**Many: The Word of God is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.
Come, let us worship our God.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE #479

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

ABERYSTWYTH

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Call

PRAYER OF CONFESSION ²

**Almighty God,
you have set before us the path
but we have wandered on our own
to try to find our way.**

**Sometimes we are like toddlers
and we hear your call and come back.**

**Other times, we are children testing boundaries,
ignoring your call until fear finally makes us look back.**

**And still other times we are full of youthful rebellion,
demanding to be cut loose and set free,
not knowing how much we still need
to seek your wisdom and guidance.**

**But most of all, too often we think we are adults
and have figured it all out and know our own way,
only to stumble and stray so far.**

**Remind us, parental God,
that we are always your children,
that we are never fully grown up in your sight,
that we always have much to learn.**

**Help us to seek you every day,
to acknowledge that we need your wisdom and guidance,
and help us to return to the path and walk with you.**

**In the name of Christ,
who is our companion on this journey of faith, we pray. Amen.**

(Silence is kept.)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Rev. Call

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

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

HEARING GOD'S WORD

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 16:1-8

Ms. Carter

One: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

THE MESSAGE

All That Is Needed

Rev. Call

OFFERING OUR LIVES IN DISCIPLESHIP

HYMN OF REFLECTION #452

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

SHARING OUR JOYS & CONCERNS

The Rev. Cindy Patterson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Rev. Call

OFFERTORY

I Believe
Chancel Choir

Phillip Moore

* DOXOLOGY #95 & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #140

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Call

* POSTLUDE

* The people may stand.

Don Verkuijlen, Director of Traditional Music & Organist; Alisdair Welty, organ scholar

¹ Flames of the Spirit by Ruth C. Duck

² Written by Rev. Mindi and posted on Rev-o-lution. <http://rev-o-lution.org>

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome—We're glad you're here!

At Church of the Saviour, we welcome people of all ages and abilities to grow in faith together. We celebrate children's voices, movement, and energy in worship! Coloring materials are available outside the Sanctuary, and the church library offers a quiet space, if needed. Nursery care is available in Room 100 from 9:30AM–12:00PM.



Children in PreK-4 through 5th Grade are invited to join in our Godly Play and Children's Music programs, between 9:50AM and 12:00PM. Middle and High School groups meet at 11:00AM. Visit the desk outside the Sanctuary for room locations and details. Scan the accompanying QR code for complete information about our Children's and Youth Ministries.

United Women in Faith Mission Workday

Please join the UWF this Tuesday, March 10 from 10AM-2PM in the Great Hall for a fun day of completing various projects that serve others. Outside missions supported through projects taken on this day include UMC Midwest Mission Distribution Center, Kairos Prison Ministry, and Royal Family Kids Camp. Lenten care cards will also be prepared for our homebound members and plastic eggs prepped for COTS' annual community Easter Egg Hunt. Participants are encouraged to bring recycled greeting cards (no Christmas cards, please) for a care project at Breckenridge senior living community.

Bring your own brown bag lunch for a break at noon. Beverages and desserts will be provided. While this event is sponsored by the United Women in Faith, ALL members of the community, both women *and* men alike, are invited and encouraged to participate. Questions may be directed to Kevin Schaner at schanerkevin@gmail.com.

Godly Play for Grown-ups

Thursday, March 26 from 7:00–8:30pm. What really happens when we take children’s spiritual lives seriously? Godly Play is more than a curriculum. It is a way of approaching faith that trusts children already have a relationship with God and a deep capacity for wonder. The strongest Godly Play programs grow in congregations where adults understand this theology of childhood and are open to its transformative possibilities. During Lent, our children are journeying through The Faces of Easter, a series of stories that revisit key moments in the life of Jesus—beginning with his birth and gradually moving toward the mystery of Easter. This gathering is an opportunity for you to experience the whole sweep of this journey firsthand.



Rather than explaining the Godly Play method, we will enter into it together—listening to sacred stories, responding together, and making space for creativity and wonder. Many adults are surprised by how grounding, spacious, and meaningful the experience can be. It’s a perfect way to prepare your own heart before Holy Week and Easter. This is not just about supporting children’s ministry. It is also a gift to yourself—time to slow down, reflect, and reconnect in this Lenten season with the playful, contemplative heart of our faith. Whether you work with children, love a child, or are simply curious, I hope you’ll join us, Thursday, March 26th at 7pm. When adults grow in wonder, the whole church grows stronger. Please scan the QR code to register by March 22. All are welcome!

Lent Devotional

On our Lenten journeys, each of us has the opportunity to commit to growing deeper in faith. To help us, church member Lorrie Goss has compiled daily musings for us to read, meditate, and pray on. Each week’s readings will be distributed via The Chimes newsletter and the Rooted devotional. Scan the QR code here to view the latest edition.



Join Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir has recently updated their rehearsal schedule. To better support busy schedules, rehearsals have moved to Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. The Chancel Choir is a warm, welcoming group of volunteers who enjoy making beautiful music together. While we strive for excellence, we also genuinely enjoy the process. No previous experience or music-reading ability is required—we will support and teach you along the

way. Whether you have sung in a choir before or you are considering it for the first time, you are wholeheartedly invited to join us. For more information, please contact Don Verkuijlen at dverkuijlen@cotsumc.org or reach out through the church office.

New Member Orientation – with Zoom option!

Have you considered taking the next step in connecting your faith and the church by becoming a member of Church of the Saviour?

Membership is like becoming a stakeholder - making the shift from participating to shaping who we are and what we do

together. Embark is a 90-minute session orienting you to some of the details about life at COTS - who we are, what we believe and why,

where we focus our energy, and how we grow in God's grace together. The next session will be Sunday, March 15 at 12:30 p.m. in the parlor or online via Zoom. Lunch and childcare upon request are included for those participating in person. Please scan the accompanying QR code to register.



Floral Dedications

The Church of the Saviour Foundation generously supports our popular Sunday altar flower dedication ministry. Beautiful altar arrangements for the 11 o'clock service are available for dedication in honor or in memory of someone special. Arrangements may be purchased for \$50 each, with the Foundation subsidizing the balance. One or both arrangements may be purchased on any given Sunday. To schedule a Sunday, contact Sarah in the church office at sdick@cotsumc.org or 216-321-8880.

Easter Festival of Flowers

Help beautify the Great Hall on Easter Sunday by participating in the COTS Festival of Flowers! You may dedicate flowers to a loved one's honor or memory. All honorees' and donors' names will then be listed in our Easter bulletin insert, and the flowers are yours to keep or donate to a local nursing home. In lieu of flowers, contributions to the Hunger Fund are also accepted. Scan this QR code or use the enclosed form to place your order by March 29.



Are you willing to help brighten the Easter season for our homebound members and friends by delivering a donated plant from the Festival of Flowers? Sharing the joy of the season in this way is something we do at Easter and Christmas here at COTS. If you feel shy about hand-delivering a plant to an individual, you can sign up to take a few flowers to nursing homes for the staff to distribute. These are not our members, but they are our neighbors. A sign-up sheet is located with Vera Orosz at the temporary welcome desk in the Tower Entrance, or you may call Sarah Dick in the church office at 216-321-8880 to

volunteer. Plants may be taken from the Sanctuary following the 11AM Easter Sunday service and delivered at your convenience in a timely manner.

March Evensong at Church of the Covenant

In just over a year since inception, Choral Evensong has quickly become a treasured part of the worship life at Church of the Saviour. With structural repairs necessitating temporary closure of the sanctuary, we decided to take the service into the community. With ecumenical support from neighboring churches, the next Evensong will take place Monday, March 16 at 7 pm at Church of the Covenant (11205 Euclid Avenue). The service will be led, as always, by organist and director of traditional music Don Verkuijlen, the Evensong choir, and COTS clergy - just in a different but inspiring space. Come and experience this timeless tradition in the community surrounded by beautiful music as together we listen, pray, and reflect.

Local Missions Update – Luke 3:11 Ministry

Luke 3:11 Ministry is an outreach program dedicated to those in need of basic necessities and relationship participation in by several COTS adults and youth. Luke 3:11 volunteers have partnered with the Helping Hands Ministry to provide meals, clothing, shoes, toiletries, blankets, tents, pet food, batteries, flashlights, etc. on a weekly basis to neighbors in need. Many thanks to all who gave to Church of the Saviour's Christmas offering, which funds Local Missions and enables Luke 3:11 to receive financial support to carry out its mission. For more information about Luke 3:11 Ministry's work in the community and opportunities to volunteer, please contact Roe Graham at 1slol@sbcglobal.net.

We Are Many, We Are One: A Freedom Rally for Prayer and Action

Today, Sunday, March 8 from 3-4:30PM at Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44112. All Are invited to join this interfaith worship service with a bias towards agitation and action—bringing together congregations and organizations across Northeast Ohio to proclaim a shared vision/call and to mobilize people of faith to stand in solidarity with our immigrant neighbors and for the freedom of us all. Scan the QR code to register.



THIS WEEK AT COTS

Sunday, March 8

COTS Youth Basketball Awards Ceremony, 12:30PM

Monday, March 9

Alzheimers Caregivers Support Group, 6:30PM

Tuesday, March 10

United Women in Faith Mission Workday, 10:00AM-2:00PM

Friday, March 13

Jr. Youth Dodgeball & Gagaball Tournament, 7:00PM

Sunday, March 15

Sr. Youth Impossible Treasure Hunt, 7:00PM

Visit cotsumc.org/events for additional programming information
& regularly scheduled events.



Please register your attendance at today's worship service.

Thank you!

