

CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR

United Methodist

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



April 12, 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

Arleen Twist

One: How joyful it is, to celebrate the good news of God's love!

Many: We are called to be Easter people!

One: Darkness cannot claim us!

Many: Fear cannot bind us!

One: Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen, indeed! Amen!

* HYMN OF PRAISE #145

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Call

PRAYER OF CONFESSION ²

Lord, we confess that we love our lives as they are.

We struggle with even the idea of change.

We wrestle with the thought of doing things differently.

But we know that the life we cling to is only a half-life.

Only you, O Lord, can give us true life in full.

Forgive us for holding onto the wrong things.

Teach us by your Spirit to let go of our agendas and assumptions.

Help us to let go of our self-righteousness and false notions of power.

Give us the strength and courage to try new things.

Encourage us – and even push us –

to let go of ourselves so we can fully embrace you, Holy God.

We pray these things in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

(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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Noël Nouvelet
David McHenry & Tom Scott

French traditional

* THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 12:24-27

Ms. Twist

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

Many: Thanks be to God.

THE MESSAGE

Death Is Hard

Rev. Call

OFFERING OUR LIVES IN DISCIPLESHIP

HYMN OF REFLECTION #317

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

O FILII ET FILIAE

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 & OFFERINGS

* DOXOLOGY (#95) & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Call

* HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #304

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

REGENT SQUARE

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Call

* POSTLUDE

* The people may stand.

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

¹ Nancy C. Townley, Worship Matters

² Amy Loving, The Worship Closet

*The flowers on the altar are dedicated in memory of Ronald Voorhees,
a gift of Joan & Tom Voorhees.*

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 at the round tables 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 church office for room locations and details. Scan the accompanying QR code for complete information about our Children's and Youth Ministries.

Unified Worship April 19

Mark your calendars! Next Sunday, April 19, there will be a single, unified worship service in the Great Hall at 10:30AM. Our guest preacher on that day will be Bishop Mande Muyombo. Bishop Muyombo serves as the resident bishop of the North Katanga Annual Conference in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Prior to his election to the episcopacy in 2017, he was the Assistant General Secretary for Missions and Evangelism on the General Board of Global Ministries, having previously served as its Executive Secretary for Africa. Bishop Muyombo is a past president of Kamina Methodist University, holding bachelor's and master's degrees from Africa University as well as a master's degree in theology and Doctor of Ministry from Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City. He is the first graduate of Africa University to be elected bishop. In addition to his role in North Katanga, Bishop Muyombo serves as the secretary of the Council of Bishops and is the chair of the Connectional Table, the visioning body of The United Methodist Church. We are thrilled to welcome him to Church of the Saviour.

Little Free Pantry

The daffodils are blooming and spring is here! Time to add warmer weather food donations to our Little Free Pantry. Please scan the accompanying QR code to see a list of our most needed items. Thank you for your generous support for this mission and the Cleveland Heights Community.



Love to Sew Ministry

Join us for fellowship and creativity in Calvary Hall as we make essential items for the UMC Midwest Mission Distribution Center (MMDC). We have some supplies to share, but you may wish to bring your own machine, scissors, etc. You don't need to have experience to participate. We welcome anyone who can cut fabric, press fabric, or learn basic sewing. Join us on Saturday, April 18 at 10AM and/or Tuesday, April 21 at 1PM.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

We have offered our Church Members so many opportunities to volunteer over this past worship season, and the response from you, our church family, has been overwhelming. For that reason, we want to honor you, our amazing body of volunteers, at the third annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. If you have served COTS or a ministry COTS supports in ANY capacity this past year, please join us for a special evening in the Great Hall on Wednesday, May 6 from 6:30-8pm. To be clear, this event is for *anyone* and *everyone* involved in local or global ministries, UWF initiatives, and those who give their time to the many services and programs that happen inside COTS' walls. RSVPs to the church office are helpful but not required: 216-321-8880.

March Evensong at Trinity Cathedral

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 on Monday, April 20 at 7 pm at Trinity Cathedral (2230 Euclid Avenue). The service will be led, as always, by organist and director of traditional music Don Verkuijlen, the Evensong choir, and COTS clergy. Come and experience this timeless tradition in the community surrounded by beautiful music as together we listen, pray, and reflect.

UWF Spring Flea Market

The United Women in Faith are hosting their biannual flea market in the Great Hall Thursday-Saturday, April 30-May 2. Donations will be accepted on Sunday 4/26 from 12:30pm-6:00pm, Monday 4/27 from 8:00am-8:00pm, and Tuesday 4/28 from 8:00am-8:00pm. Scan the accompanying QR code for all the details about donating and shopping. Many volunteers are needed throughout the week; from set-up, to cashiers, to bakers, and beyond. Please contact Mary Freer at cotsflea@gmail.com or 216-242-6144 to sign up. Volunteers receive special shopping privileges!



Locals Missions Highlight: City Mission (*Four Weeks*)

Every four weeks a team from COTS cook for, serve, and connect with our friends at the City Mission. The prepared meal includes rice, meat, and loads of vegetables. The men enjoy having choices about their meal and the volunteers enjoy being able to say, “More?” and, “You can have both!” as they move through the line!

Although four weeks pass between these encounters, faces become familiar. Names are used. Commonalities are found. “We were born in the same year!” “I grew up there, too!” “I’ve had the same problem with a family member.” “Yes, God is good!”

Four weeks by four weeks at a time, friendships are forged. Three months ago, Bill, who has been at City Mission since June, shared his disappointment with feeling stuck—like doors were closed to him. He asked for prayer. Four weeks later, Bill shared his excitement and nerves about having an interview coming up. He asked for prayer. Four weeks after that, Bill shared that he’d started a new job! We all rejoiced and lifted grateful prayers.

Your generosity to the annual Christmas offering, which funds Local Missions, pays for the groceries that make these meals at the City Mission every four weeks possible. Your volunteer hours are what ensure the food is prepared and served. Your prayers for both the men being housed at City Mission and the volunteers serving their meal keep spirits buoyed. Thank you for your part in this valuable relational ministry!

Do Justice: A COTS Learning Series

4/16, 4/20, 5/4, and 5/11 from 6:30-8:30PM—This four-session series starting in mid-April and lead by Keisha Krumm, Greater Cleveland Congregations’ (GCC) Executive Director, invites our congregation into a deep, grounded conversation about what it means to do justice—not just give to charity—in Cuyahoga County today. Drawing on scripture, community organizing principles, and the lived work of GCC each session moves participants from reflection to action. The series includes readings, interactive learning, and concrete opportunities to get involved. Scan the QR code for specific session descriptions and more information about GCC’s mission.



Kairos Prayer Partners Needed

COTS will again be represented when the Kairos Inside Team conducts its 44th weekend event at Trumbull Correctional Institution on April 23 – 26. Our team of volunteers and the prison residents alike need your prayers! Please sign up for one or more 30-minute time slots on our prayer vigil, which will be shared with the inmates over the course of the weekend a testament of God’s love working for them through you. Please scan the accompanying QR code to participate.



Power In Progress: 15 Years of GCC Growth

Sunday, May 17 from 3-5 p.m. at Olivet Institutional Baptist Church
(8712 Quincy Ave # 14, Cleveland) Join Greater Cleveland

Congregations for an event of reflection, celebration, and momentum in honor of 15 years of growth and looking ahead to what's next. Featuring remarks from GCC founders: Rabbi Josh Caruso, Rev. Juanita Coffin, and Rev. Tracey Lind. RSVPs are requested by May 1. Some COTS members have expressed an interest in carpooling to this event. Please contact the church office to be connected.



Cleveland International Film Fest Volunteers Needed

Thousands of film lovers will visit the Cedar Lee Arts District during the Cleveland International Film Festival at the historic Cedar Lee Theatre from April 10-18. This will be a historic homecoming for the festival, which launched from the Cedar-Lee 50 years ago.



Our neighborhood is lucky to have the support and collaboration of an organization comprised of local business owners and close neighbor institutions called the Cedar Lee Special Improvement District. The SID is planning a campaign to welcome film festival visitors flocking from across Northeast Ohio and beyond. This is a huge publicity occasion for our neighborhood, and potentially a big business boom to all our neighbors on Lee Rd. Let's help them benefit from this unique opportunity!

Volunteers are needed to act as street greeters to welcome visitors and help festivalgoers explore everything the Cedar Lee Arts District has to offer. It's a super easy job that can have a BIG impact and allow us to bring our "COTS Loves Cedar-Lee" Ministry to the next level! No special knowledge or experience is needed to participate, and all physical abilities can be accommodated. All you need is enthusiasm and a welcoming smile! All volunteers will receive a gift courtesy of SID and the Cedar-Lee Theatre. Scan the accompanying QR code to sign up.

THIS WEEK AT COTS

Sunday, April 12

UPCaM Dinner & Church Sr. Youth Event, 5:30PM

Monday, April 13

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group, 6:30PM

Tuesday, April 14

American Red Cross Blood Drive, 12:00-6:00PM

Thursday, April 16

"Do Justice" GCC Series, 6:30PM

Friday, April 17

Epic Hide-&-Seek Jr. Youth Event, 7:00PM

Saturday, April 18

Love to Sew Ministry, 10:00AM

Sunday, April 19

Unified Worship in the Great Hall, 10:30AM

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



Please register your attendance at today's worship service.

Thank you!

