CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR

United Methodist

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

October 11, 2026

11:00 a.m., Great Hall

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

2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Hts., OH 44118 | 216-321-8880 | www.cotsumc.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GREAT HALL **11:00 a.m.**

OPENING TO GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME — The Rev. Andy Call

FOUNDATION SUNDAY FOCUS — Matt Graban

* CALL TO WORSHIP [1] — David Hildebrandt

One: There is so much in this world that needs to be fixed.
Many: We wonder what we have to give that would make any difference.
One: Like Jesus' disciples, sometimes we are not sure what to do.
Many: It feels like a daunting task.
One: But Jesus reminds us that even just sharing a meal can express God's love.
Many: We are called to give in the ways we can,
treating each other as neighbors, not "others."

* HYMN OF PRAISE #559 *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* WESTMINSTER ABBEY

CALL TO CONFESSION — Rev. Call

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of every person and every relationship,
forgive us when we doubt our ability
to give for the sake of love.
Help us remember that Jesus has shown us all we need to know
and God's love is already in us as we are in God's love.
Even though it is difficult,
help us to give, not hoard;
help us to serve, not judge;
help us to reach out, not pull back.
Help us to risk reciprocal relationship
so all will know the gift of God's presence.

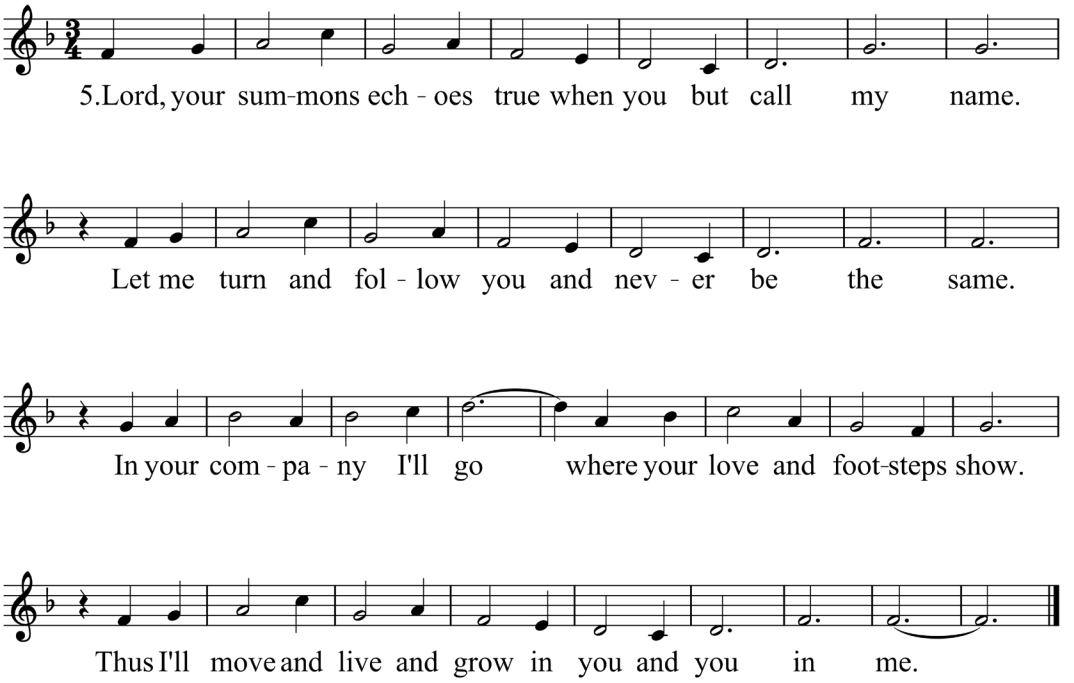
(Silence is kept.)

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 — *Will You Come and Follow Me* — Tom Trenney
Chancel Choir



* THE GOSPEL LESSON — John 14:8-14 — Mr. Hildebrandt

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

THE MESSAGE — *Show Us* — Rev. Call

OFFERING OUR LIVES IN DISCIPLESHIP

HYMN OF REFLECTION — *God, Whose Grace Redeems Our Story* — BEACH SPRING
See back cover

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 — Rev. Call

OFFERTORY — *Love Divine* — Phillip Stopford
Chancel Choir

* DOXOLOGY (#95) & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #579 — *Lord God, Your Love Has Called Us Here* — CAREY'S (SURREY)

* BENEDICTION — Rev. Call

* POSTLUDE

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* The people may stand.

Don Verkuijlen, Director of Traditional Music & Organist; Ethan Morris, organ scholar

[1] Marcia McFee, Worship Design Studio (adapted)

The flowers on the altar are dedicated in loving memory of Mark Wagner, a gift of Martha Wagner.

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 age 3 through 5th grade are invited to join in our Godly Play and Children's Music programs, between 9:45AM 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.

VOTE!
The November 3 election matters, and every vote counts. Make your voting plan now, and consider voting early and in person so you have time to fix any issues and avoid Election Day lines. There is a poster in the Parlor with voting information and key dates. Once you've voted, add a star to the poster!

Volunteers from COTS' delegation to Greater Cleveland Congregations will be available in the Great Hall Lobby before and after each Sunday worship service to answer questions through November 1.

Furthermore, GCC's "Battle for Democracy" initiative leaders are in need of volunteer neighborhood captains, connectors, canvassers, phone bankers, and poll monitors. Scan the accompanying QR code to read position descriptions and sign up.

Issue 11 GCC Endorsement
Greater Cleveland Congregations, of which Church of the Saviour is a member, has officially endorsed a vote of "yes" on Issue 11 on the November 3 ballot. Cuyahoga County Health and Human Services seeks a renewal of a 4.7 mill levy and an additional levy of 2.5 mills which would be in effect for 10 years. If passed, the increase would amount to ~ $7.50 per month on a $100,000 home. The primary reason for the levy is that the federal and state governments have cut back much of the funding necessary to administer various safety net programs such as mental health and addiction treatment, children services, Medicaid and SNAP services, re-entry services, emergency food assistance, homeless services, and services for seniors. Thus, the county must either significantly reduce the availability of these services or come up with the funding from our local taxpayers.

Clergy and Staff Appreciation
October is clergy and staff appreciation month in the United Methodist Church. We will recognize and thank all of our wonderful clergy and staff on Sunday, October 25 during all three worship services.

We would like to encourage members of the congregation to send a personal note to COTS staff letting them know how much you appreciate their hard work and dedication. Notes may be written to individual staff members or to the entire staff and dropped off at or mailed to the church office. There will be an insert in the bulletins on October 25 that includes staff emails if you prefer to send a message via email.

We are fortunate to have such a devoted team of people leading our church, managing programs, taking care of the facility, and supporting our congregation. Please join us in thanking these wonderful servants of Christ. —COTS Governing Board

“The Chosen” Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Whether you have followed Christ for many years or are simply curious about who Jesus is, *The Chosen* video series offers an engaging opportunity to experience the Gospel accounts in a fresh way.

Starting with Season 1, Episode 1, we will watch video segments with an open Bible and an open heart, comparing what we see on screen with God's Word, and reflecting on what it teaches us about Jesus and his love for us. Each video segment will have scripture passages to reference and questions to respond to in small discussion groups. Peter Evangelista will facilitate the sessions and can be reached with any questions at PizonPete@aol.com or 216-647-4774.

Join us in Room 121 from 7:00 - 8:30pm on the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays of each month, beginning November 17. Scan the QR code to sign up.

Community Meal Ministry

Our first community meal is almost here! We have many volunteers for preparation and serving, but we would welcome a few more COTS folks to mingle, eat, and connect with our guests to make them feel welcome. If you are free on Wednesday, October 14, starting at 5:30pm, and would enjoy a pasta dinner with friends and neighbors, please come and join us! If you have questions, please contact Renee Leonard at 216-409-9840 or reneeleonard17@gmail.com.

October Evensong

Join us at Choral Evensong worship taking place at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 19 in the sanctuary at Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118. The service will be led, as always, by organist and director of traditional music Don Verkuijlen, the Vox Salvatoris premiere evensong chamber ensemble choir, and COTS clergy. Come and experience this timeless tradition in the community surrounded by beautiful music as together we listen, pray, and reflect.

New Church Photo Directory

Last chance! A professional photographer is here today, Sunday, October 11 until 1PM to take complimentary photos of anyone who would like to be included in a new church photo directory. Walk-ins are welcome! Make your way down to Room 50 in the Early Learning Center via the Great Hall Lobby elevator to join the queue.

Foundation Sunday

Today we recognize The Church of the Saviour Foundation during worship. Founded in 1955, the Foundation's mission is to provide permanent support to Church of the Saviour by underwriting major maintenance of the church's facilities, providing start-up funds for new ministry initiatives and church programs, and supporting local and worldwide mission work.

Thanks to the contributions of church members and friends and careful investment by the Foundation board, the Foundation is able to provide grants totaling more than $500,000 each year. There are many ways to give to the Foundation, and gifts of any amount are appreciated. Donors that include the Foundation in their estate plans become members of the honorary Tower Society. Scan the QR code to view a list of giving opportunities. If you have any questions about The Church of the Saviour Foundation, please contact Cathy Belk (cathynbelk@gmail.com).

Love to Sew Ministry

The mission of Love to Sew is to be in fellowship while creating items needed by others. We welcome both novice and experienced sewers. We also need people to cut and press fabric. We will continue to produce items requested by the UMC Midwest Mission Distribution Center: baby items, book bags, hygiene bags quilts and more. Join us Saturday, October 17 from 10AM-12PM and/or Tuesday, October 20 from 1-3PM. Please email questions to Kevin Louise Schaner at schanerkevin@gmail.com.

Simply Jesus Book Study

"Why am I here?" "How can I live a meaningful life?" Most people wrestle with these kinds of questions. We want our lives to make a difference. We want to "leave the world a better place." It seems to be a fundamental human drive.

Church of the Saviour is offering a course aimed at helping people find answers to these questions. The course, called "Simply Jesus," is based on the book of that title by Anglican priest and theologian N.T. Wright. Using Wright's method of weaving history and theology together, we will gain a deeper understanding of who Jesus is and come away with some good answers to the question, "Why should I follow him?" You may just find, in a deep-seated and powerful way, that following Jesus is the key to living a meaningful life.

The course is being offered at two different times, to make it accessible to as many people as possible: Mondays from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM, and Thursdays from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The first meetings will take place on October 12th and October 15th. There will be a total of 16 sessions, with some breaks for holidays, so the last sessions will take

place during the week of February 22nd. David Hildebrandt will be the facilitator. If you'd like more information, please contact him at dhildebr1961@gmail.com or 229-378-0636. Scan the QR Code or call the office to sign up. We hope to see you there!

Braver Angels: Skills for Managing Difficult Conversations
All are welcome to attend a free workshop on Thursday, October 15 from 6:80-8 p.m. in the parlor designed to help people manage difficult conversations, an especially useful skill in these times of growing polarization in our country. Political and cultural positions are often infused with intense emotions—anger, contempt, and distrust—that are threatening our most valued relationships with family and friends. Facilitated by Dr. Bill Shaul, co-founder and ambassador of the NE Ohio Chapter of Braver Angels, a national, grassroots, non-partisan, non-religious organization that seeks ways to depolarize the country. Let's learn how to re-engage with others in a constructive, respectful way.

Embark New Member Orientation
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 take place next Sunday, October 18 at 12:30 p.m. in the parlor and will include lunch and childcare upon request. Scan the QR code to register.

Seeking Advent Devotional Submissions
The last lines in the Bible (depending on the version) are, "Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints." (Revelation 22:20b-21) This is what we anticipate and celebrate during Advent.

As Advent approaches, we would love to share the different ways those in our COTS community anticipate the coming of Jesus Christ by creating our very own Advent devotional. It will be shaped around the four themes of the season: Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace. Would you consider submitting something? It can be anything pertaining to one or more of those themes - an original devotional message, a scripture verse, book excerpt, poem, song, or artwork. Anything that is meaningful to you during Advent is acceptable. Not sure it's right? Send it anyway and we can have a conversation. Please include attribution for any author or artist whose work is used. Email your submission by November 3 to Lorrie Goss at COTSadvent@gmail.com.

Grands Day at Fairfax Elementary, November 11 & 12

Every year, Fairfax Elementary hosts “Grands Day”—a special morning when students bring a grandparent, family friend, or mentor to share breakfast treats and browse the Scholastic Book Fair together. It's a wonderful tradition, but some children don't have a “grand” who can come, and those kids miss out.

Last year, more than 30 COTS volunteers showed up as honorary grands—and we're doing it again. Meet in the church at 8:05am on either 11/11 or 11/12 to walk over together. You'll be paired with a child, join them for a festive celebration in the gym, and help them pick out a book to take home. Volunteers are asked to purchase one book at the book fair for their student. Scan the QR code to sign up to join us! It's a great opportunity to make a meaningful connection with a child right across the street.

Cedar-Lee Candy Crawl

Church of the Saviour will host a table at the Cedar Lee Candy Crawl on Saturday, October 24 and we need volunteers to help make it a great afternoon! Join us for any stretch of time between 2:30–6:30pm at the Marquee apartments green space at the corner of Lee Road and Meadowbrook to hand out candy, facilitate a simple craft, and connect with kids and families in our neighborhood. Scan the QR code to sign up. It's a fun way to put smiles on faces, meet our neighbors, and get the word out about our children's programming. Come in costume if you're feeling it!

COTS Youth Christmas Green Sale

Order your Christmas Greens and support Youth Missions! Decorate your home for Advent *and* love your neighbors at the same time. Your purchase helps make it possible for our youth and leaders to put their faith into action in Cleveland and beyond. Orders can be placed online at cotsumc.org (scan the QR code), with a paper form from the youth in the parlor after worship, or in the church office. Orders must be received by November 1. Pick up in the COTS Cafe on November 29.

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Monday, October 12
Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group, 6:30PM

Wednesday, October 14
Free Community Dinner, 5:30PM

Thursday, October 15
Braver Angels Workshop, 6:30PM

Friday, October 16
Jr. Youth—Outdoor Games, 7:00PM
Sr. Youth—Shop & Pack Grad Care Packages, 7:00PM

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

CHURCH of the SAVIOUR

HYMN OF REFLECTION *God, Whose Grace Redeems Our Story* BEACH SPRING

Please register your attendance at today's worship service.

Thank you!