


Avon Lake Presbyterian Church

Friends in Christ, Serving Together with Love

*September 1, 2024, Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
with Guest Pastor Rev. Kurt Walker*



*Be doers of the word,
and not merely hearers.*

James 1:22

*Hearing assistance available: FM receivers
and earpieces are stored near the AV room.
See sound technician with questions.*

*Coffee House Worship: in education wing foyer.
Enjoy a more casual environment while
Worship is livestreamed from the sanctuary.*

GATHERING MUSIC

*We Are an Offering*Dwight Liles
Arr. Mark Hayes*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

Arr. Larry Shackley

Doug Day, piano

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Aria

BIST DU BEI MIR

Stolzel/J.S. Bach
Arr. Howard Helvey

Muriel Homer and Doug Day, four-hands at the piano

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT

The Family of God

FAMILY OF GOD

William J. Gaither

I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God—
I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood!
Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,
For we're part of the family, the family of God.

CALL TO WORSHIP *James 1*

One: Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger.

All: Let us welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save our souls.

One: Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers, so you may be blessed in all you do.

All: Pure religion is to care for orphans and widows and not to be stained by the world.

OPENING PRAYER

All: God of steadfast love, you have written your testimonies upon the hearts of your people; your commandments have guided them throughout the ages. We praise you for Jesus, who makes your will known to us. We sense your Spirit at work in our lives. Throughout all creation, you maintain your presence and give us cause for rejoicing. We acknowledge your marvelous deeds and give you all praise.

*OPENING HYMN

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

No. 610

AZMON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us take a moment for personal reflection.

All: God of strength and might, we confess our neglect of salvation's armor. We have not girded our loins with truth. The breastplate of righteousness is tarnished by our lax behavior. Our feet are caked with mud from battles fought unshod by the gospel of peace. We have laid aside the shield of faith and weakened our defense in a hostile world. Help us once again to don the helmet of salvation and to raise the sword of the word against the powers that oppose you, so that in all our struggles we may rely solely on your strength.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Here for your comfort the words of Paul: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (*Romans 8:38-39*). Accept your forgiveness and rejoice in a love stronger than our sin.

ANTHEM

Sonata in F Major

Georg Philipp Telemann

Susan Richardson, flute | Muriel Homer, organ

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** *Jeremiah 31, Psalm 51*

One: With clean hearts and renewed spirits, let us rejoice in the law of love written on our hearts. Let us share the peace of Christ with one another. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Family Prayer Song

Morris Chapman

Song Leader:

Come and fill our homes with Your presence
You alone are worthy of our reverence

Congregation:

As for me and my house, We will serve the Lord
As for me and my house, We will serve the Lord
As for me and my house, We will serve the Lord
We will serve the Lord

LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE*Peace Like a River*

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

I've got peace like a river
 I've got peace like a river
 I've got peace like a river
 in my soul
Repeat

I've got love like an ocean
 I've got love like an ocean
 I've got love like an ocean
 in my soul
Repeat

I've got joy like a fountain
 I've got joy like a fountain
 I've got joy like a fountain
 in my soul
Repeat

SCRIPTURE READING

James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Lynn Bondurant

SERMON

"A Way to Minister to Others"

Rev. Kurt D. Walkers

OFFERING/DOXOLOGYPraise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

No. 606

OFFERTORY PRAYER*COMMUNION**

All who profess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are welcome at the Lord's table. Please hold the bread until all have been served and partake as directed by the Pastor. Likewise, please hold the cup until all have been served and partake as directed. Please note that ALL bread is gluten-free and the cup is filled with juice.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

All: It is right to give our thanks to the Lord.**Words of Institution**

One: In your wisdom, O God, you made all things. Great is the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

One: Gracious God, send to us the Holy Spirit.

Receiving the Body and Blood of Christ**Prayer of Communion*****CLOSING HYMN***Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

No. 203

CHEREPONI

BENEDICTION

One: Each week we remind ourselves

All: to go out into the world. Return no one evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, and honor every person. Every person. And rejoice in the Lord always.

One: And now may the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with each of you, all your loved ones, and all your concerns, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

New life has bloomed here, God's love has warmed us.

Now the world calls us to go spread that word.

God's grace go with you; may it sustain you.

To bring us together; to praise God again!

POSTLUDE

To God Be the Glory

William H. Doane

Arr. Mark Hayes

Muriel Homer and Doug Day, four-hands at the piano

Welcome to Avon Lake Presbyterian Church!

*“In awe, we Receive God’s Grace and Gospel.
In gratitude, we Respond with Worship and Servanthood.
In love, we Represent Jesus Christ as we minister to transform lives
in family, community, and the world.”*

As you join us for worship at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church, we hope that you will sense God’s presence, be caught up in joyful praise, be challenged by God’s Word and leave strengthened to live for Christ in the world.

In the event you need to step out of the Sanctuary, speaker systems are in both the foyer and the nursery so that you may listen to the worship service. When leaving the Sanctuary during the service, take care to close the door softly.

Please silence cell phones during our worship services.

Offerings may be given through [SimpleGive](#) and are always appreciated. Scan this code with your smartphone to easily access SimpleGive.



Confidential prayers from the Healing Prayer Ministry are available at the back of the sanctuary after worship.

Cornerstone Preschool begins their school year September 3.

Rally Day is September 8! Join us for worship with Pastor Eric Dillenbeck followed by games, a pie-eating contest, and animal encounters with Nora the Explorer!

Welcome, Reverend Walker!

The Rev. Kurt Dean Walker currently services in a validated ministry as Director of Spiritual Care at Wesleyan Village, a Life Plan Community located in Elyria. He has previously served as a chaplain at Breckenridge Village in Willoughby and in two Acute Care Hospitals located in Southern Indiana. His calls to serve congregations have included an interim ministry at East Side Presbyterian Church in Ashtabula, an interim ministry in Indiana, and as installed pastor to congregations in Iowa and Wisconsin. He has served the Presbytery of Western Reserve as past Moderator of COM and was the Teaching Elder Commissioner for the Presbytery at the 2022 General Assembly in Louisville, Kentucky. Kurt earned his MDiv from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and was ordained in 2005 by the Western Kentucky Presbytery. He also holds a Master of Arts degree in Child Development and Family Living from Western Kentucky University. He concluded a Chaplain Residency in 2014 earning four units of Clinical Pastoral Education. He likes to read, golf, garden, and is a licensed private pilot. Kurt lives in Amherst with his wife, Rev. Jennifer Walker Noyes, his son, Isaac and two cats.

This Week at the Church

- Monday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m. The Church office will be closed in observance of Labor Day.
- Tuesday:** The church staff will meet at 9:30 a.m. Prayer Group will meet at 3:00 p.m. on Zoom. First day of school for Cornerstone Preschool. Worship & Spiritual Life will meet at 7:00 pm.
- Wednesday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m. Handbell Choir will meet in the Sanctuary at 6:45 p.m., followed by Chancel Choir at 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday:** Mission will meet at 4:15 p.m. Yoga begins at 6:30 p.m.
- Friday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m.
- Next Sunday:** Rally Day Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. with pulpit fill Rev. Eric Dillenbeck. Rally Day activities will follow worship.
- Birthdays:** Lynn Morway, *today!* Ryan Hamilton, 9/2; Nancy McBride, 9/2; Leslie Knox, 9/3; Jean Shane, 9/5; Ed Carter, 9/8

Please keep in your prayers this week...

Karen Francy who suffered an aneurysm.

Beth Swartz who tripped and sustained a broken bone in her foot.

Linda Kurak as she lives through the effects of Parkinson's disease.

Noel Peel and **Charlie & Debbie Swartz** who need continued healing.

Church Leaders and Volunteers

Pulpit Fill

Reverend Kurt Walker

Director of Music

Rick Fortney

Greeters

Barb Zadroga, Jean Shane, Beth Swartz

Worship Assistant

Lynn Bondurant

Ushers

Ken & Deb Reichlin

Sound Board

Mike Ciarrone

Projections

AmyLynn Kaspar

Communion Servers

Matt & Sybil Wendling, Kathy Navarro, Sherry Spenser

Hymn Ensemble

Jackie Day, Susan Richardson, Sarah Waggoner, David Brunner, Ed Homer

Avon Lake Presbyterian Church

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