

# *Avon Lake Presbyterian Church*

*Friends in Christ, Serving Together with Love*



THANKS & GIVING

## SPIRITUAL FOOD

AUGUST 4, 2024

*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

*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**

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*  
CWM RHONDDA

Setting by Ralph C. Schultze

**PRELUDE**

*Simple Gifts*

Joseph Brackett  
Arr. Gert Th. Walter

*The Old Rugged Cross*

George Bennard  
Arr. Gert Th. Walter

Sherry Spenser, bassoon | Cathy Graves, flute

**WELCOME****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** *John 6*

One: We do not live by bread alone, but by the life-giving word of God's love.

**All: God, give us the bread of life, today and always.**

One: Too long we have lived in hunger, seeking to fill our appetites with food that leaves us wanting.

**All: Too long we have starved ourselves of spiritual food that truly satisfies.**

One: "I am the bread of Life," Jesus tells us. "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry."

**All: "Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."**

One: Come, Holy Spirit. Feed us with your grace and love.

**All: May we love our neighbors, ourselves, and you, so that we may never be hungry again. Amen.**

**OPENING PRAYER** *John 6*

**All: Spirit of God, dwell among us and revive us. You know the deep hungers that motivate us, and the attempts we make to satisfy these hungers. You alone know the grace and peace that can nourish us to full strength, in body and soul. Feed us, Bread of Life, with food that lasts. Give us enough to share with others who also hunger, even if they know not what they hunger for. We rejoice in your bread, for it truly satisfies. Give us the wisdom to receive it, that we may taste and see your goodness, O Lord. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN***Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

No. 65

CWM RHONDDA

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *John 6, Ephesians 4**Let us take a moment for personal reflection.*

**All:** God of abundance, you long to feed your children, whenever we are hungry. Yet we often turn away and seek happiness elsewhere. When we compete with others for status, help us support one another in love. When we measure our worth by our productivity, help us rest in the assurance that we are your children. When we avoid conflict, move us to speak your truth in love. Return us to your ways, Holy One, that our souls may be satisfied and our hearts may be at peace. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *John 6*

One: Christ's table is open to all who will join the feast. Come, eat; be loved and forgiven. Then share this good food with all who hunger.

**ANTHEM***Climbin' Up the Mountain*

Negro Spiritual  
Arr. Wm. Henry Smith

Avon Lake Presbyterian Men's Ensemble: The Presbyterones

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE** *Ephesians 3*

One: Whether we come to worship with regrets and sadness or with joy and thanksgiving, passing the peace of Christ heals the broken places in our lives and seals our bonds of fellowship. Let us take time to share this gift of peace with one another, both in this worship space and in our hearts. 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**[Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35](#)

John Weeden

**SERMON**

"Spiritual Food"

Pastor Rick Stein

**\*OFFERING/DOXOLOGY***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

No. 606

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER****WELCOMING JOSH BOWYER INTO MEMBERSHIP****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****Words of Institution****Receiving the Body and Blood of Christ****Prayer of Communion****COMMUNION MUSIC***In Christ There is No East or West*

Setting by Paul Bouman

ST. PETER

*Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*

Setting by Raymond H. Haan

REST

**\*CLOSING HYMN***O Christ, the Great Foundation*

No. 361

AURELIA

**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**

*I've Got Peace Like a River*

Spiritual

Arr. Gary Lanier

Sherry Spenzer, bassoon | Cathy Graves, flute | Barbara Graves, piano

*O Christ, the Great Foundation*

Setting by Austin C. Lovelace

AURELIA

# 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.*

**If you feel you would like a call or visit from Pastor Rick**, please contact the church office at 440-933-6240.

**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.

**If you haven’t been receiving weekly e-news**, please use this code to give permission for [Constant Contact](#) to email you. Our e-news is sent out every Friday at 2:00 p.m. To scan the code, open your camera on your smartphone and point it as though taking a picture of the code. An option to open a webpage will pop up; just tap that link and sign up for e-news!



**Photos are needed of Elders and Deacons.** Please email a photo of yourself to [alpresby@avonlakepc.org](mailto:alpresby@avonlakepc.org).

**Women’s Ensemble** will be leading us in worship on August 11. All women are invited to join! Rehearsal will be Wednesday, August 7 at 7:00 p.m.

**The ALPC Music Ministry Summer Get-Together** will take place at Barbara Graves’s summer home in Huron on Saturday, August 24 at noon. This is a great opportunity to join us as you consider joining Music Ministry for the 2024-25 season. All are welcome!

**Choir rehearsals** will begin Wednesday, August 28. As always, Handbell Choir will meet at 6:30 p.m. followed by Chancel Choir at 8:00 p.m. The choirs will begin leading us in worship for the 2024-25 season on Rally Day Sunday, September 8.

**A send-off party for Pastor Rick and Mary** will be held August 25 following worship. Please join us in celebrating their time at ALPC!

## *Please keep in your prayers this week...*

**Gary Uhl** who is undergoing treatment for cancer.  
**George Lawson** who is home and making good progress in his recovery.  
**Marian Conn** who is home recovering from knee replacement surgery.  
**Linda Kurak** as she lives through the effects of Parkinson's disease.  
**Lynn Morway** who is home recovering from ankle surgery.  
**Noel Peel** and **Charlie & Debbie Swartz** who need continued healing.

## *This Week at the Church*

**Monday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m. The Property Committee, HR Committee, and Worship & Spiritual Life Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m.  
**Tuesday:** The church staff will meet at 9:30 a.m. Prayer Group will meet at 3:00 p.m. on Zoom.  
**Wednesday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m.  
**Thursday:** The Mission Committee will meet at 4:15 p.m. The PNC will meet at 5:30 p.m. Yoga begins at 6:30 p.m.  
**Friday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m.  
**Saturday:** Fix-It day begins at 9:00 a.m.  
**Next Sunday:** Worship begins at 10:00 a.m.  
**Birthdays:** Shannon Brunner, *today!* Ian Call, 8/9

## *Church Leaders and Volunteers*

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Rick Stein</b>
<b>Director of Music</b>	<b>Rick Fortney</b>
Greeters	Gino & Michele Meehan
Worship Assistant	John Weeden
Sound Board	Mike Ciarrone
Projections	AmyLynn Kaspar
Communion Servers	Mike & Cheryl Dean, Jenni Stryczny, Cris Till
ALPC Men's Ensemble	David Brunner, Doug Day, Mike Dean, Ed Homer, Clayton Dusek, Jeff Hansen

## **Avon Lake Presbyterian Church**

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