

Olivet Lutheran Church

5840 Monroe Street ✠ Sylvania, Ohio 43560

July 5, 2026 ✠ 10 a.m.

**An asterisk indicates portions of our liturgy where you are welcome to stand.*

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus

Arr. Heather Sorenson

*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross—marked at baptism—as the presiding minister speaks:

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of + Jesus Christ, God forgives us all our sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

*GREETING & SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KIDS OF THE KIN(G)DOM

*HYMN OF PRAISE

This Is the Feast

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*PRAYER OF THE DAY

John Gonia

Let us pray (*brief silence*). We gather on a weekend our nation celebrates freedom. Still, we know all are not free. Our scriptures today remind us of the yearly festival Jewish people celebrate to give thanks for freedom from *their* enemies. Still, in our country, Jewish communities cannot always gather in safety, free from fear. Lord Jesus, teach us your peace and your love. Remind us of the freedom found in the gospel alone. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

ESTHER 7:1-10; 9:1-2, 20-22, 29-32

Sue Hamen

When the king and Haman came in for the banquet with Queen Esther, the king said to her, “This is the second day we’ve met for wine. What is your wish, Queen Esther? I’ll give it to you. And what do you want? I’ll do anything—even give you half the kingdom.”

Queen Esther answered, “If I please the king, and if the king wishes, give me my life—that’s my wish—and the lives of my people, too. That’s my desire. We have been sold—I and my people—to be wiped out, killed, and destroyed. If we simply had been sold as male and female slaves, I would have said nothing. But no enemy can compensate the king for this kind of damage.”

King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is this person, and where is he? Who would dare do such a thing?”

Esther replied, “A man who hates, an enemy—this wicked Haman!” Haman was overcome with terror in the presence of the king and queen. Furious, the king got up and left the banquet for the palace garden. But Haman stood up to beg Queen Esther for his life. He saw clearly that the king’s mood meant a bad end for him.

The king returned from the palace garden to the banquet room just as Haman was kneeling on the couch where Esther was reclining. “Will you even molest the queen while I am in the house?” the king said. The words had barely left the king’s mouth before covering Haman’s face with dread.

Harbona, one of the eunuchs serving the king, said, “Sir, look! There’s the stake that Haman made for Mordecai, the man who spoke up and did something good for the king. It’s standing at Haman’s house—seventy-five feet high.”

“Impale him on it!” the king ordered. So they impaled Haman on the very pole that he had set up for Mordecai, and the king’s anger went away.

It was on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month (that is, the month of Adar) that the king’s order and his law were to be enforced. On the very day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to overpower them, the tables were turned against them. The Jews overpowered their enemies instead. The Jews joined together in their towns in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus to defend themselves against those who tried to harm them. No one was able to stand in their way because everyone was afraid of the Jews.

Mordecai wrote these things down and sent letters to all the Jews in all the provinces, both near and far, of King Ahasuerus. He made it a rule that Jews keep the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar as special days each and every year. They are the days on which the Jews finally put to rest the troubles with their enemies. The month is the one when everything turned around for them from sadness to joy, and from sad, loud crying to a holiday. They are to make them days of feasts and joyous events, days to send food gifts to each other and money gifts to the poor.

Queen Esther, daughter of Abihail, along with Mordecai the Jew, wrote with her full royal power to show that this second letter about Purim was correct. Letters conveying good wishes and words of friendship were sent to all the Jews throughout the one hundred twenty-seven provinces in the kingdom of Ahasuerus. Their aim was to make sure that the Jews kept these days of Purim at the proper time, following the rule that Mordecai the Jew and Queen Esther had made. The rule fit well with what they themselves had agreed to do forever and with other things they did—like fasting and lamenting. Esther’s order made these features of Purim part of the law, so it was written down.

Holy wisdom, holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia

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***GOSPEL: Luke 1:68-72**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

“Bless the Lord God of Israel

because he has come to help and has delivered his people.

He has raised up a mighty savior for us in his servant David’s house,

just as he said through the mouths of his holy prophets long ago.

He has brought salvation from our enemies

and from the power of all those who hate us.

He has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,

and remembered his holy covenant.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Melissa Micham

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Blessed Be the God of Israel

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**OFFERING &
MUSICAL OFFERING**

By This They Will Know
Mark Allen, Arr. Dennis Allen

Carol Miller, Alto

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept our first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING & LORD’S PRAYER**

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WELCOME TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God

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SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

CONCERNS OF THE PARISH

***BENEDICTION**

The Holy Three, the Holy One, increase your hope, strengthen your faith, deepen your love, and + grant you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

This Is My Song

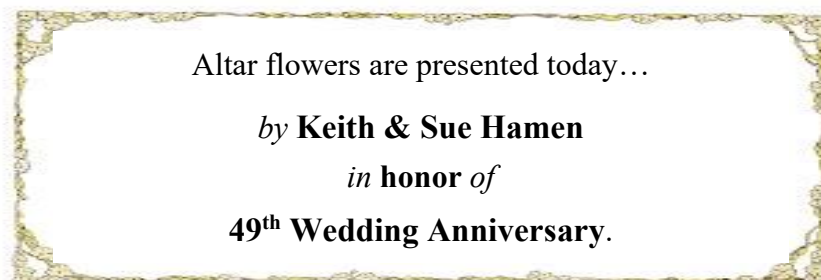
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***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for creation!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy
Dan Forrest, Arr Douglas E. Wagner



Rev. Melissa Micham, Lead Pastor
Rebecca Cress, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries
Sarah Lewis, Accompanist/Organist
Carol Miller, Handbell Choir Director
Steve Hodge, Olivet Choir Director
Greeters: Stan & Marilyn Machosky
Acolytes: Blair Blakeman
Communion Assistant: Lana Heintz
Altar Guild: Darla Culberson, Jen Darm
Livestream/Sound Technician: Duane Abbott
Nursery Attendants: Eden Pollard, Skyler Fields
Ushers: Dave McMacken, Gary & Bobbie Crane, Janet Beilstein
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