

Connecting all to Christ to become
healthy in God and courageous in love.



CITIZENS

of Heaven

Traditional Worship - April 19, 2026 - 8:30 & 11:00 am

Entering into the Spirit of Worship

Greeting

8:30 - Tom Beattie
11:00 - David Morgan

Prelude

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Jason Payne

***Call to Worship**

8:30 - George Walker
11:00 - Jane Frankeberger

Leader: We gather today as people whose hope is not in our circumstances, but in our King.

People: Our citizenship is in heaven, and our joy is rooted in Him.

Leader: When life is hard and the path is uncertain...

People: We trust that God is still at work.

Leader: Even in hardship...

People: What feels like a setback, may be a setup for the gospel.

Leader: So, we come to worship the One who reigns over all.

All: Let us lift our voices to Jesus – our hope, our joy, and our King.

***Hymn**

Sing With All the Saints in Glory

#258

Cherub Choir (11:00 only)

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
Dean Wagner, piano

The Uniting of our Hearts in Prayer

Prayer

8:30 - Pastor Bryan George
11:00 - Pastor Susan Curtis

Lord's Prayer

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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Proclaiming the Word of God

Anthem

It Is Well With My Soul
Choir; Phil Lantry, piano

John Ness Beck

The Anthem, "It Is Well With My Soul" is given by Don and Dee Dee Sultzbach in honor of their children, Deborah, Sharon and John

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 4:7-12

pg. 936

Prayer of Confession

Heavenly Father, we confess that we often lose heart when life becomes difficult. When we are pressed, we become anxious. When we are perplexed, we lose trust. When we suffer, we question Your goodness. Forgive us for relying on our own strength instead of Your power within us. Forgive us for seeing hardship as an obstacle rather than an opportunity for Your work. Renew our hearts, O God. Help us to trust You in every season and to carry the life of Jesus even in our weakness. We lay our burdens before You now and receive Your grace. Amen.

Offering our Gifts to God

Music Down in My Soul
Women's Chorus; Phil Lantry, piano

Moses Hogan

*Response in Song (11:00 only)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts; Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts. Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication (11:00 only)

*Hymn (11:00 only)

I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace (v. 1 & 2)

#571

Scripture

Philippians 1:12-18

pg. 952

Message

Kingdom Perspectives
Citizens of Heaven

Pastor Jared Priset

Sending Forth

*Closing Hymn

Lead On, O King Eternal

#478

*Benediction

Postlude

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Diane Bish

*Those who are able, please stand

Choir Director & Organist/Accompanist - Dean Wagner

Altar Flowers: are given by Donna Smith
in memory of Craig Smith and Donna's parents

Acolytes: Sylvia Long & Kasima Willey

Contemporary Worship - April 19, 2026 - 9:30 am

Praise Songs	<i>Battle Belongs</i> <i>Trust in God</i>	
Welcome		Matt Ritzert
Worship Song & Offering	<i>Highlands (Song of Accent)</i>	
Prayer		Pastor Robby Strock
Scripture	Philippians 1:12-18	
Message	Kingdom Perspective Citizens of Heaven	Pastor Jared Priset
Closing Song	<i>Faithful to the End</i>	
Benediction		

Sermon Outline

Focus: Kingdom perspective sees hardship not as an obstacle, but as an opportunity for the gospel to advance. What feels like a setback to you may be a setup for the gospel.

I. God Uses Hardship to Advance the Gospel

“What has happened to me...has really served to advance the gospel” (v. 12)

Paul doesn't deny hardship – he reinterprets it

Joseph: what was meant for evil, God used for good (Genesis 50:20)

You're not stuck – you're sent.

II. Your Situation Is a Platform

“My imprisonment is for Christ...” (vv. 13-14)”

Paul's chains became a platform for the gospel

Others gained courage because of his faith

People are watching how you walk through hardship.

Your life is speaking, so, what is it saying about Jesus?

III. The Gospel Advances No Matter What

“Christ is proclaimed...and in that I rejoice” (vv. 15-18)

God uses imperfect people (Moses, David, Peter, Jonah)

The mission is bigger than our comfort or reputation

Question: Is Jesus being made known through my life?

IV. Joy comes when we stop asking, “Why is this happening?”

and start asking, “How is the gospel advancing through this?”

April Missional Measure:
Was Christ a priority as I used my time, talents and treasures today?

Connect

Spring Concert

Join us on **Friday, May 8th**, 7:00 pm, for a concert featuring Dr. Jason Priset and Eileen Moore. Jason—Jared’s twin brother—is a gifted musician who will be performing on renaissance lute, joined by Eileen, soprano. Their program, “Lutany, Love Songs and Laments,” promises to be a beautiful and moving evening of music.

Choral Anthems

We are extending the opportunity for the congregation to purchase an anthem for the Sanctuary and Chancel choirs. It can be a meaningful way to honor or memorialize a loved one to purchase an anthem which usually cost about \$125. Each time the music would be offered in worship we would commemorate the gift in the bulletin (e.g. “Given in memory of Virgil and Wanda Wagner by the family”). These purchases also free up some of the budget to bring in additional instrumentalists or purchase additional music. If you would like to sponsor an anthem reach out to Dean Wagner, dean@churchofthelakes.org and he can share suggestions with you.

Baptism by Immersion

A Baptism by Immersion service will be held on **Sunday, May 24th**, after the 11:00 services. Anyone who has never been baptized into the Christian faith or those who would like the chance to make a profession of faith in Jesus and be baptized by immersion are invited. There will be an informational meeting with Pastor Jared on *Sunday, May 17th*, 5:30 pm in room 206. If this is a first baptism this meeting is strongly encouraged, those reaffirming their baptisms are not required to attend. For more information contact Cassandra in the church office, 330-499-8972.

Church Podcast

In our podcast feed you’ll find our weekly sermons along with additional content, including sermon spinoffs, conversations with ministry partners, and stories that highlight our mission and vision. Search ‘Church of the Lakes Ohio’ on your favorite podcast app, or listen at churchofthelakes.org/kingdom-conversations if you don’t have a podcast player.

Serve

Vacation Bible School Volunteers

Vacation Bible School has 2 sessions: mornings, 8:45 am - 12:15 pm, **June 8th -12th** or evenings, 5:30 - 8:30 pm, **June 7th - 11th**. To volunteer, email Angela@churchofthelakes.org. Volunteer training is *Tuesday, April 28th* at 10:00 am or 6:30 pm, in room 206.

Youth Car Wash Fundraiser

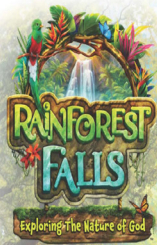
Help support the youth mission trip to Henderson Settlement in Kentucky this summer by attending their fundraiser car wash on **Sunday, May 3rd**, 2:30 - 5:30 pm in the church parking lot. All money raised will help pay for our youth to go on this mission trip. Cash is preferred, but checks will be accepted. If you are unable to attend the car wash but still want to contribute please mark your check and envelope with ‘Youth Mission Donation’.

WAYS TO GIVE

Visit churchofthelakes.org/online-giving or text: give to 330-961-5524

Offering envelopes are located in the pews

For EFT instructions contact Stephanie Strock, stephanie@churchofthelakes.org



Church of the Lakes

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026

For children age 4 - 6th grade

Mornings: June 8th - 12th

8:45 am - 12:15 pm

Evenings: June 7th - 11th

5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE:

CHURCHOFTHELAKES.ORG

JESUS in the HOME

Family FUN Night

BOWLING NIGHT

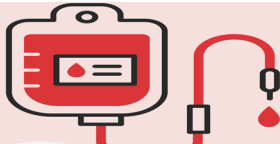
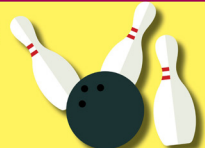
Sunday, April 26th

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Register at churchofthelakes.org

\$12 per person

2 hours of bowling
shoe rental
& pizza dinner



American Red Cross

DONATE BLOOD

SAVE A LIFE

MAY 16, 2026
9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Church of the Lakes
5944 Fulton Dr NW

REGISTER NOW!

Sign up at redcrossblood.org
Use sponsor code 'churchofthelakes'

Build with the Kerns Family
Church of the Lakes



Ready to volunteer?

1. Visit habibuild/COTL and click "Sign Up to Volunteer."
2. Select your preferred volunteer shift(s).
3. Tell us a little about yourself.
4. Provide your emergency contact information.
5. Click "Continue."
6. Review the Release and Waiver of Liability, add your signature to agree, then click "Submit." You will receive an automatic email confirmation and text.



Questions?
Contact Habitat:
330-915-5888

Scan to sign up!



Submit your news, information or announcements to betsi@churchofthelakes.org.



Please pray for: Lori Moss, Holly Bolinger and LaVerne Strohfus.

Condolences to Melanie Ensley, Tiffany Lokie & families on the passing of their grandmother, Florence Parke.

To submit prayer requests call 330-499-8972 ext. 203 or email: prayer@churchofthelakes.org.