



August 2, 2026

Mantua Center Christian Church
Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Arms

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Cynthia Klingemier

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If you decide to attend in person, please note the following:

- * The upstairs nursery is available for your children. There are also coloring sheets at the church entrance for the children.
- * After the Children's Moment, all kids through 4th grade are welcome to attend Sunday School class which will run until 12pm.
- * Hearing Assistance is available at MCCC! Please see Carol Magyarics or Rick Painley (our video techs.) for help in setting this up.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 2, 2026

PRELUDE

“Blessed Assurance”
[by Wilda Jackson Auld]

Steve Stork

WELCOME

Rev. Cynthia

Announcements

~ for Mission Updates

*Ministry Leaders and congregants are welcome to come forward to the mic,
to give a mission update or share ways for people to
get involved in missions and ministries.*

OPENING SCRIPTURE

Psalm 32:8-9 NRSV

Rev. Cynthia

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
9 Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,
else it will not stay near you.

***Response**

“Holy, Holy, Holy” (2x)

#111

Holy, holy, holy.
My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you:
Holy are you, Lord!

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Carol Buzbee

ONE: Rejoice and be glad, all you who love the Lord!

ALL: Unfailing love surrounds those who trust in God.

ONE: All whose hearts are open-

ALL: Sing and shout for joy!

ONE: Let us worship God.

***OPENING HYMN**

“You Are My Hiding Place”

#554, vs. 1-2

1 You are my hiding place
You always fill my heart
With songs of deliverance
Whenever I am afraid,
I will trust in You.

[Chorus]
I will trust in You
Let the weak say, “I am strong,
in the strength of my God.”

2 You are my hiding place
You always fill my heart
With songs of deliverance
Whenever I am afraid,
I will trust in You.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Invitation

Carol Buzbee

Offertory

Music

“Give Thanks”

Steve Stork

[arr. Tom Fettke]

***Offertory Response**

#46

“The Doxology” *[Note alternate words]*

Praise God from whom all grace flows forth!

Praise Life, all creatures here on earth!

Praise Light who guides us on our way!

Praise Love who forms us day by day! Amen.

Offering Prayer

Carol Buzbee

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Rev. Cynthia

(After the Children’s Moment, the children are invited to go to Sunday School with Faith Brewer – our Children’s Ministry Intern – for a lesson, snack, and time to play!)

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Cynthia

COMMUNION

Meditation

Drema Herron

***Communion Hymn**

#390, vs. 2-3

“Lord of the Highest Love”

2 Then dearest Christ, draw near,
while we your table spread;
and crown the feast with heavenly cheer,
yourself the living bread.

3 And when the loaf we break,
your own rich blessing give,
may all with loving hearts partake
and all new strength receive.

Prayer

Words of Institution

Music

“Fill My Cup Lord”

[by Richard Blanchard]

Liz Meeker

Rev. Cynthia

Steve Stork

SCRIPTURE**Numbers 22:22-31****Rev. Cynthia**

22 God's anger was kindled because he was going, and the angel of the Lord took his stand in the road as his adversary. Now he was riding on the donkey, and his two servants were with him. 23 The donkey saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road, with a drawn sword in his hand, so the donkey turned off the road and went into the field, and Balaam struck the donkey, to turn it back onto the road. 24 Then the angel of the Lord stood in a narrow path between the vineyards, with a wall on either side. 25 When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it scraped against the wall and scraped Balaam's foot against the wall, so he struck it again. 26 Then the angel of the Lord went ahead and stood in a narrow place, where there was no way to turn either to the right or to the left. 27 When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it lay down under Balaam, and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he struck the donkey with his staff. 28 Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and it said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" 29 Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have made a fool of me! I wish I had a sword in my hand! I would kill you right now!" 30 But the donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not your donkey, which you have ridden all your life to this day? Have I been in the habit of treating you this way?"
And he said, "No."

31 Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road, with his drawn sword in his hand, and he bowed down, falling on his face.

SERMON**"The Donkey Knows"****Rev. Cynthia*****CLOSING HYMN****#559, vs. 1-3****"All the Way My Savior Leads Me"**

1 All the way my Savior leads me;
what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt his tender mercy,
who through life has been my Guide?
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,
here by faith in him to dwell,
for I know, whate'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well;
for I know, whate'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well.

2 All the way my Savior leads me,
cheers each winding path I tread,
gives me grace for every trial,
feeds me with the living bread;
though my weary steps may falter,
and my soul athirst may be,
gushing from the Rock before me,
Lo! a spring of joy I see;
gushing from the Rock before me,
Lo! a spring of joy I see.

3 All the way my Savior leads me;
O the fullness of his love!
Perfect rest to me is promised
in my Father's house above;
when my spirit, clothed immortal,
wings its flight to realms of day,
this my song through endless ages:
Jesus led me all the way;
this my song through endless ages:
"Jesus led me all the way."

BENEDICTION

Rev. Cynthia

POSTLUDE

"Brighten the Corner Where You Are"
[arr. Rob Roy Peery]

Steve Stork

*Thank you for joining us at
Mantua Center Christian Church!*

Special thanks to Rev. Cynthia Klingemier for serving as our Interim Minister. Thanks to Carol Buzbee for being our Worship Leader and Faith Brewer for leading our Children's Sunday School. Thanks, also, to our Elders, Drema Herron and Liz Meeker for leading our Communion, and especially to Steve Stork for providing us with his wonderful music this morning!
We are a blessed congregation!

Announcements August 2, 2026

- **1)** Don't forget that Rev. Cynthia has a Midweek Meditation on YouTube entitled, "Rev. C's Midweek Meditation" that is posted every Wednesday on YouTube. Sandi will send you a reminder each week with the direct link to view her segment. Feel free to subscribe to her site on YouTube! It's a great way to take a midweek break from the busyness of the summer season!
- **2)** Mark your calendar for our Annual Canoe Trip on Sunday, August 9th at 12:30pm. We will have pizza first at Camp Hi in Hiram, then depart for a ride down the Cuyahoga River. More details will be coming soon.
- **3)** "Cans for Kids" supports Kids Weekend Meals. Our next collection date is August 9th. Items needed are: Canned Pasta or Pasta Cups, Spaghetti or Alfredo Sauce, and Baked Beans. We collect regularly on the 2nd Sunday of each month, but you may also bring your items any time and place them in the designated bins at the back of the church!
- **4)** The next Kids Weekend Meals workdays: by Tues. Aug. 11th all bread deliveries must be in, Aug. 12th for packing bags, and Aug. 13th for delivering bags. Thanks to all the many volunteers who help make this mission possible! You are a blessing!
- **5)** Every Wednesday we still have Dwelling in the Word from 1:15-2:30pm with Diane Johnson as the facilitator. Hope you can join in some interesting conversation! (Life Study on Wednesday evenings has stopped for the summer but will resume in the fall.)
- **6)** "4th for the 4C's" (Crestwood Coalition for Community Care) will collect needed items on Aug. 23rd. Items needed for August are: Peanut Butter, Jelly (Grape or Strawberry), Pancake Syrup, and Pancake Mix (Just add water!) We also collect for the Free Clothing and Diaper Giveaway that day. Items needed are: Diapers sizes, 2, 4, 5, & 6, Baby Wipes, and ONLY 15 gallon trash Bags. (No more Black bags are needed!) Thanks for your support. We now have bins at the back of the church to collect items at any time so feel free to bring them in at your convenience!!
- **7)** Our next Loaves & Fishes free community dinner will be August 27th from 5-6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your friends for an evening out and see what our menu will be! This is a free dinner, but donations are gratefully appreciated.
- **8)** Attention Hilltop Knitters! Our next scheduled meetings at Hilltop Church will be on Monday, August 3rd & 17th. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month, from 1:30-3pm. All are welcome to come and work on their projects while sharing in fellowship!!
- **9)** Save your can tabs (from soup, pop, pet food, etc). The collection jar is located on the lower-level entrance window. The proceeds will benefit research for NFS (Neurofibromatosis) - a genetic disorder that causes tumors to form in the brain, spinal cord, and nerves. Get your family and friends to save them too! Thanks to Mike & Pat Hoskin for raising awareness!

****10) Don't forget to mark your 2027 Calendar for our Bicentennial celebrations! Sunday, Jan. 24, 2027 - we will have a potluck and program. Then, Sun. June 6, 2027 we will host a larger celebration including some VIP'S and former pastors! Plan to celebrate our 200 year anniversary!**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- * The Mantua Shalersville Chamber of Commerce is hosting a **Scholarship Fundraising Picnic on Thursday, August 13th from 6-8pm on the Mantua Green.** Who's brave enough to take the plunge for a good cause? Please join us at 6pm on the Mantua Green for this community, family friendly event. Thanks to a generous sponsorship from **Baker's 4wd LLC** we will be dunking again at our community picnic. We're looking for fun-loving volunteers to be our Dunk Tank Dunkees at our Scholarship Fundraiser Picnic! Every splash helps raise money for local student scholarships. Hope to see you there!
- **Farmers & Makers Market on August 14th & 28th from 4-7!** This event is held on the 2nd & 4th Fridays in June, July, August & September at the Granary in downtown Mantua! Mark your calendars and bring your friends for a fun evening! More info at: Facebook Farmers&MakersMarketontheGreen
- MARSI (Mantua Area Restoration Society, Inc.) will have their next **"2nd Friday Supper" on Friday, August 14th, from 4-7pm.** This dinner is a fundraiser by donation only. Eat-in or Take-Out available.
- **Los Venados is sponsoring their 3rd Annual Back to School Bash!** It will be at the Crestwood High School on Sat. Aug. 15th from 5-7 and is a FREE event open to all children, regardless of their school district! There will be lots of freebies, activities and family fun for all (even free haircuts!). Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity and spread the word! (See the attached flyer in this email, and also in the bulletin on Sunday!
- **Plan to join in the "Poker Paddle" from on September 12th from 1-6pm!** It runs from Camp Hi in Hiram to Buchert Park in Mantua Village, Ohio. Information and registration can be found at: www.mantuarotaryclub.org.
- The Mantua Shalersville Chamber of Commerce is also hosting a **Golf Outing on September 18, 2026.** The event will be held at Sugarbush Golf Club in Garrettsville, Ohio. They need 4 more teams to sign-up. 8am Shotgun start, lunch by Los Venados Taco Truck from 11am-2pm, a 50/50 drawing, and an awards presentation at 2pm. All proceeds will benefit the Chamber Scholarship Fund and Community Initiatives. To sign-up, contact Nany Sheppard at (330) 281-3776. Cost is \$360 per team & includes Golf, Cart, & Lunch.