

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, June 20, 2021



An Order of Worship to be followed in your home,
along with our Livestream Service at 10:00am

Welcome and Announcements

If you are new among us, welcome. Please know we are glad you're here; you're welcome in our remote community and you're welcome in our physical community when the time is right.

At Lakewood Congregational Church, we strive to be people of extravagant welcome. Whether you are young or old, gay or straight, single or partnered, happy or sad, confused or inspired, street smart or college-educated, whether you can't pay your bills or you have more than enough to share—no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here in this place, to worship a loving God who welcomes us all. As I stand in this sanctuary I join my heart with you and I pray that you might feel the refuge of this space.

May the Peace of Christ be with you. Let us worship God.

Prelude *Hidden Things* Rosía Crean
Gwen Delaney, mezzo-soprano; Ben Malkevitch, piano

This meditative art song by Rosía Crean, a contemporary genderqueer composer based in Chicago, is a setting of a poem by Greek 19th century author, Constantine Cavafy. It speaks to the struggle, past and present, of queer folks to live authentically in society.

Call to Worship

One: It's beautiful when all of the people live together in unity!

Many: **When waters are rough,
We hold each other tightly.
When the sea begins to swallow us,
We hold each other tightly and call on God.**

One: But we also need God and each other when there are no looming waves.

Many: **We can splash and play in the shallow end
And venture into deeper waters with trusted friends.
Delighting in refreshing currents of community
And savoring each burst of laughter,
God's love is expansive, delightful, and enduring
forever.**

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Ever-living God, you are like the sea: Powerful and endless, yet soothing and constant. Let us feel your refreshing presence as we gather near your waters to wade in the possibilities of life that you offer us this day. Amen.

Hymn *[see insert]*
For Everyone Born

A Time of Prayer

A Litany for Father's Day

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is
the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.**

A Time of Sharing

Call to Offering

Doxology (in unison)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

Big-hearted God, we ask you to take these gifts, bless them, and use them to calm storms and create in our communities new, imaginative, and life-giving streams. Amen.

A Litany for Pride Sunday

Vocal Solo *Prayer* Ricky Ian Gordon
Gwen Delaney, mezzo-soprano; Ben Malkevitch, piano

Ricky Ian Gordon (1956-), a gay American composer, is known for writing songs and operas, which draw from a varied mix of classical vocal and musical theatre styles. He is well-loved for his gifts at helping a text soar on the wings of simple, powerful melody, as you can hear from this setting of a Langston Hughes poem from his cycle “Genius Child.”

The Reading of God’s Word

Thom Geist

Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, ‘Let us go across to the other side.’ And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, ‘Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?’ He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, ‘Peace! Be still!’ Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, ‘Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?’ And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?’

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D’Agostino

Swamped

Benediction

Postlude Introduction to *Appalachian Spring* Aaron Copland

Through his ballets, film scores, symphonic, choral, piano, and solo vocal works, Aaron Copland was instrumental in creating a distinctive “American” sound in classical music, rooted in folk tunes, hymns, and evocations of our wide open spaces. Despite his iconic contributions to

the arts, like Langston Hughes, he never publicly acknowledged his queerness; it was not safe. This section of *Appalachian Spring* captures both a wistful searching for identity and a warm, inner pride.

Offering and Contribution Collection

Please consider fulfilling your pledges during this time. Financial gifts are always welcome, and our church feels the call to respond to the needs around us as they arise. Financial stability allows us to do so more effectively. So, let us give generously of our time, talent, treasure to further the work of God in our community. You can do so in the following ways:

- Writing and mailing a check to Lakewood Congregational Church, 1375 W. Clifton Blvd., Lakewood, OH 44107
- Texting STEWARD to 44-321
- Sending a gift through your bank’s online bill pay
- By using the donate button on the church’s website www.lcc-church.org
- Call the church office at (216) 221-9555 to discuss other options

LCC EVENTS: June 20-June 27

- Sunday, June 20, 10:00am: Worship with Outdoor Coffee Hour
- Monday, June 21, 7:00pm: Executive Team Meeting
- Wednesday, June 23, 7:00pm: Men’s Group Gathering (Kasper Household)
- Thursday, June 24, 7:30pm: AA (Social Hall)
- Saturday, June 26, 1:00pm: Mulching Day (Volunteers Needed)
- Sunday, June 27, 10:00am: Worship with Outdoor Coffee Hour

- Sunday, June 27, 3:00pm: We Make the Road by Walking Group (final meeting at Jan Young's)

Our Mission Statement proclaims our common goal.

*We strive to be a welcoming,
worshipping community of faith,
helping people discover and deepen
their relationship with God, growing as
disciples of Christ, and reaching out in
faith and loving service.*

In keeping with the spirit of our Mission Statement,

*Lakewood Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ,*

is an Open and Affirming congregation.

*We welcome people of all sexual orientation,
ages, differing abilities, and ethnic, economic,
and racial backgrounds into
the full life and ministry of our church.*

*We declare this in the name of the Still Speaking God,
whose Son, Jesus Christ, welcomed
all people into God's circle of grace.*

