

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, July 11, 2021



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

Welcome and Announcement

Vicki Smigelski

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

Mary Lynn Lightfoot

Many Gifts, One Spirit
LCC Summer Pick-Up Choir

Call to Worship

Lauren Smigelski

One: Before the earth was formed, God chose us to be God's people.

Many: We gather together that we might sing of joy and hope, as God's beloved.

One: Before the stars glittered in the night sky, God knew us and loved us.

Many: We gather together to sing the good news of resilience, in the Spirit of Christ.

One: Before the rivers flowed to the seas, we were chosen as stewards of creation.

Many: We gather together to perceive the stirring of the Holy Spirit within our hearts. Let us worship God.

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Lauren Smigelski

Holy One, as we continue the journey into this new season, may this sacred hour connect us with you. Fill our hearts with hope and a keen awareness of your abiding presence. Drive us to make plans, goals, and dreams, but ensure that you direct each step along the way. Keep us centered on our covenant with you and one another, knowing that your call is always upon us, freeing us to joyful, liberating lives. Amen.

Opening Hymn

2

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

A Time of Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

Rachel Burns

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

Steve Hotchkiss

Call to Offering

Perhaps the most joyful and challenging of all the commandments involves a call to generosity and mutual care: to love one another as God loves us. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude, heartfelt commitment, and praise.

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)

Holy One, Take these gifts and bless them and let them serve your people right here and throughout the world. Empower us as faithful stewards and vital witnesses to serve through this church community. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Proverbs 16.1-9

Jan Young

The plans of the mind belong to mortals,
but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.
All one's ways may be pure in one's own eyes,
but the Lord weighs the spirit.
Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established.
The Lord has made everything for its purpose,
even the wicked for the day of trouble.
All those who are arrogant are an abomination to the Lord;
be assured, they will not go unpunished.
By loyalty and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for,
and by the fear of the Lord one avoids evil.
When the ways of people please the Lord,
he causes even their enemies to be at peace with them.
Better is a little with righteousness
than large income with injustice.
The human mind plans the way,
but the Lord directs the steps.

Reflection

Liz Spahr

Closing Hymn

595

Be Thou My Vision

Benediction

Michael Fleenor

Postlude

Jason Payne

Postlude on "Hymn to Joy"

Ben Malkevitch, organ

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: July 12-18

- Sunday, July 11, 8:45am: Summer Pick Up Choir
- Sunday, July 11, 10:00am: Worship with Coffee Hour
- Sunday, July 11, 2:00pm: *Seussical* Performance
- Monday, July 12, 7:30pm: Prayer Shawl Ministry (on the Kasper's porch)
- Saturday, July 17, 9:00am-12:00pm: Trinity Pantry and Meal
- Saturday, July 17, 10:00am-12:00pm: Equity Lab Meeting, Parlor
- Sunday, July 18, 10:00am: Worship with Coffee Hour
- Sunday, July 18, 7:30pm: Youth Group (incoming 6th grade thru 2021 grads. Details to come!)

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.*

