

# Lakewood Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

Sunday, August 15, 2021



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

## 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.

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**Prelude**

*Vocalise*  
Christopher Clark, organ

David Paxton

## Call to Worship

One: For cool mornings and rumbling afternoon storms, for amazing days and even more ordinary evenings, for deep friendships and shallow wading pools:

**Many: We give thanks to God!**

One: For the laughing God who tickles us with joy, for the broken-hearted Love who joins in our struggles:

**Many: We give thanks to God at all times!**

One: For the Bread of heaven who feeds us hope, for the Spirit of grace who teaches us to dance:

**Many: We give thanks to God at all times and for everything!**

## Back to School Blessing

Rachel Burns

*We celebrate the beginning of the school year and ask for God's blessing upon the children, the educators, and the families who support them. Students, teachers, educators, and school staff of all ages are welcome to come forward to receive a back-to-school blessing and pin for their backpacks. Those who are worshipping with us remotely are encouraged to go get your backpacks now to receive the blessing with us. Pins are also available for anyone who is not present today.*

## Opening Hymn

#491

*As Grain on Scattered Hillsides*

## A Time of Prayer

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

Offertory

arr. Philip

Keveren

*I've Got Peace Like a River*

Christopher Clark, organ

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)

By your grace, Holy God, may our gifts become the bread which feeds the hungry, water which flows through drought ravaged lands, community for the lonely, and medicine for the sick. By your grace, Holy God, may we offer more and more as you feed us with the Bread of life. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Elizabeth Schuldt

Psalm 34: 9-14

O fear the Lord, you his holy ones,  
for those who fear him have no want.  
The young lions suffer want and hunger,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Come, O children, listen to me;

I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Which of you desires life,

and covets many days to enjoy good?

Keep your tongue from evil,

and your lips from speaking deceit.

Depart from evil, and do good;

seek peace, and pursue it.

## Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

## Closing Hymn

#511

*Strong, Gentle Children*

## Benediction

## Postlude

Tom Birchwood

*Joy Unceasing and Infinite Praise*

Christopher Clark, 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, and 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](http://www.lcc-church.org)
- Call the church office at (216) 221-9555 to discuss other options

## LCC EVENTS: August 15 - August 22

- Sunday, August 15, 10:00am: Worship, Blessing of the Backpacks with Coffee Hour
- Sunday, August 15, 11:15am, Youth Group (6-12 grades)
- Thursday, August 19, 7:00pm: AA
- Saturday, August 21, 9:00am-12:00pm: Trinity Community Meal/Food Pantry
- Sunday, August 22, 10:00am: Worship with Coffee Hour
  - Option 1: 1:00pm-3:00pm: Confirmation Field Trip to the Cleveland Museum of Art

### ***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.***

