

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, September 5 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.

Prelude

by Ben Malkevitch

A Day of Rest

Ben Malkevitch, baritone and piano

Call to Worship

One: Praise God!

All: Sing to God a new song!

One: Give thanks to our Creator

All: We rejoice in our sovereign God

One: Let us praise God with dancing and music

All: Let the faithful sing for joy as we praise God together!

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Hospitable God, you invite us to a banquet where the last may be first, and the humble and the mighty trade places. Let us share your abundance with no fear of scarcity; let us greet strangers as angels you have sent! Send your Spirit now so that we may find a place at your table and welcome others with radical hospitality. In the name of Jesus, Guest at all our tables, we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn

392

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

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

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)

Generous God, you have made rich and poor, powerful and
vulnerable alike in your image. Bless the gifts we have
gathered today that we may use them to protect the afflicted
and bring greater justice to your world. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Michael Greenland

James 2:1-10, 14-17

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

Service of Holy Communion

*Everyone, no matter who you are and where you are in life's
journey, is welcome to participate in this sacrament at LCC. At
this time, we are using individually-packaged communion
elements.*

Invitation to Communion

Prayer of Remembrance and Consecration

... Holy God, bless every bread near the mouth of any one of your children so that it becomes the strength and hope and holiness each of us needs. Bless the small plastic cup or the beautiful chalice - and every glass in between - that reminds us that we can never spill your love and we always and in all places drink your healing. Amen.

Sharing of the Elements

Leader: You hold the bread of heaven. Honor it.

It is consecrated to perfectly match your need. Receive it.

Unison: We eat it in hope.

Leader: You hold the cup of blessing. Honor it.

It is consecrated so you become one of the Saints of Communion.

Receive this one small sip - deeply.

Unison: We drink it in joy.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, we give you thanks that no one is over your table and no one is under your table, but that we all share your love together. We are in the midst of difficult times for all your children - illness, fire, heat, storm, earthquake, violence - and particular sorrows and griefs and decisions for those we know. We are so grateful that you have brought this Communion to us, so we may surround with its strength and comfort those we know, and search out those we do not know to offer hope and help widely and freely. amen.

Closing Hymn

A Hymn for Labor Day



1. All our work and all our be - ing come from you, most gra - cious Lord.
2. Some may nur - ture those who hun - ger, tend and heal the bro - ken heart;
3. Let us la - bor in the know - ledge that no task can be too small,



Ev' - ry task which lies be - fore us is Cre - a - tor's will — out - poured.
set our flag - ging spir - its danc - ing, spark our vis - ion through their art.
that the God who stretched the heav - ens no less shaped the least — of all.



Help us as we build your king - dom, know we la - bor not in vain;
Oth - ers teach and of - fer coun - sel, hear life's bur - dens, ease its care;
Give us strength, Lord, to — ac - com - plish what you set our hands to do,



give us sure and deep con - vic - tion for the tasks that you or - dain.
strive for jus - tice, peace and free - dom for all peo - ple ev' - ry - where.
that by serv - ing those a - round us, we re - turn the gift to you.

Postlude

John Turner

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Ben Malkevitch, piano

all people into God's circle of grace.

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
- Call the church office at (216) 221-9555 to discuss other options

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*