

# Lakewood Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

Sunday, November 7, 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

Pribble, Pribble, and Ripley

*The Psalm One Song (Rooted and Fruitful)*

LCC Children's Choir

## Call to Worship

One: We remember...

**Many: ...teachers and storytellers who made God's stories  
come alive for us and**

Children and Youth: We give thanks!

One: We remember...

**Many: ...choir members, praise bands, organists, and all the  
musicians who sang and played your praises and**

Children and Youth: We give thanks!

One: We remember...

**Many:** ...preachers and lay leaders who led our worship  
through the years and

Children and Youth: We give thanks!

One: We remember...

**Many:** ...parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, sisters,  
brothers, and siblings who sat with us on Sundays and  
lived out their faith all week long and

Children and Youth: We give thanks!

One: We remember...

**Many:** ...our church families - this one and others we have  
loved. We remember all those who have been a part of  
this faith family and

Children and Youth: We give thanks!

One: We remember...

**Many:** ...our ancestors in the faith whose courage enables us  
to be here today. For our siblings in the faith whose  
names are remembered only by God

Children and Youth: We give thanks!

## **Opening Hymn**

# 637

*For All the Saints*

## **Anthem**

Peter Aston

*O Sing Unto the Lord a New Song*  
LCC Chancel Choir

## **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.

Prayer Response

*Day by Day*

Friedell

## **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)**

Thank you, O God, for the gifts of your people. Help us that we rely  
not on our own understanding in the use of these gifts, but to seek  
your wisdom. Knowing that as we do, your will be revealed and  
your people near and far will be blessed. Amen.

## **The Reading of God's Word**

Liz Spahr

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

Naomi, her mother-in-law said to her, 'My daughter, I need to  
seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now  
here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have  
been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the

threshing-floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing-floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then, go and uncover his feet and lie down; and he will tell you what to do.' She said to her, 'All that you tell me I will do.'

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When they came together, the LORD made her conceive, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, 'Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without next-of-kin; and may his name be renowned in Israel! He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has borne him.' Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her bosom and became his nurse. The women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, 'A son has been born to Naomi.' They named him Obed; he became the father of Jesse, the father of David.

## Reflection

Rev. Catherine Lawrence

## Service of Holy Communion

**Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether** (*verse 1*)

# 392

### Invitation

[The invitation is simple: come and eat of the feast.  
Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul.

We receive the bread and wine connected to the ages:  
to the saint of old who felt unworthy,  
to the seeker eager to know God,  
to the teenager who wonders what it's all about,  
to the child who eats with unburdened faith.

Woven into this time, the hopes and tears of generations.  
There is great joy here.  
No one is turned away, for God is the host.]

### Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether (*verse 2*)

#### Prayer of Remembrance

Pastor: God is in this place.

People: **And in our hearts.**

Pastor: Open yourself to the nudging God.

People: **We feel the breath of the Spirit.**

Pastor: Remember God made flesh.

People: **Jesus, who taught us a new way.**

Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table, ... [to taste the feast, the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith.

Time and time again you've offered your grace, even as we have stepped away, you continue to call us to be your people.

You have never left us. We praise you for second, third, and fourth chances. You are ever-patient, always faithful.

We give thanks for this time of celebration. For the One this meal remembers. For the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

With those who have gone before us: Whose hands touched the bread, whose lips embraced the cup, we worship you. We glorify you.]

### Remembering

We remember those who have died in the past year.  
We celebrate their lives, even as we continue to grieve.

We remember the saints of Lakewood Congregational Church:

*George Alkire*      *Donald Gottlieb*      *Virginia Hancock*  
*Doris Holmok*      *Kate Lunsford*      *James Skillen*  
*Peggy Wardin*

And we invite you to speak aloud the names of the saints who have gone before us this year. *(bell tolls)*

This is the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

**Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether** *(verse 3)*

### **Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine**

[Gathered with his friends, Jesus took bread, broke it and said: "This is my body, broken for you. Take and eat." And pouring the wine: "This is my blood, spilled out for you. Do this in remembrance of me."]

### **Prayer of Consecration**

God of all, send your Spirit to this place so that those gathered here, in this sacred moment, may know your presence. As we eat the bread and drink of the cup, make us one with the saints, and with our siblings in faith around the world.

**Be with us God, not only here but in every moment of our lives. Help us to know you, To be guided by the Holy Spirit, And to live Christ. Now and forever. Amen.**

### **Sharing the Bread and Wine**

This is the feast prepared for you.

Come and share for all is ready.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Creative, connecting God, you have sent your Spirit and made us the body of Christ; From child-like faith, to youthful energy, from middle-aged mindfulness, to elder's wisdom. We thank you for this time, this remembrance. Increase our faith. Help us to love. Encourage us to act. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn**

*[will be an insert, possibly a one-pager if it doesn't fit]*

1. Re - jice in God's saints, to - day and all days;  
 2. Some march with e - vents, to turn them God's way;  
 3. Re - jice in those saints, un - praised and un - known,  
 4. Re - jice in God's saints, to - day and all days;

a world with - out saints — for - gets how to raise.  
 some need to with - draw, — the bet - ter to pray.  
 who bear some-one's cross, — or shoul - der their own.  
 a world with - out saints — for - gets how to praise.

Their faith in ac - quir - ing the hab - it of prayer,  
 Some car - ry the gos - pel through fire and through flood;  
 They shame our com - plain - ing, our com - forts, our cares;  
 In lov - ing, in liv - ing, they prove it is true:

their depth of a - dor - ing, God help us to share.  
 our world is their par - ish; their pur - pose is God.  
 what pa - tience in car - ing, what cour - age, is theirs!  
 the way of self - giv - ing, God, leads us to you.

## Benediction

## Postlude

Michael Higgins

### *A Jubilant Finale*

Ben Malkevitch, organ

**LCC Events: November 7 - November 13**

## 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

***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.***



*“Happy are those whose delight is  
in the wisdom of God. They are like  
trees planted by streams of water:  
resilient, resourceful, generative.”*

*Psalm 1:3*



**Lakewood  
Congregational  
Church**