

# Lakewood Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

Sunday, January 16, 2022



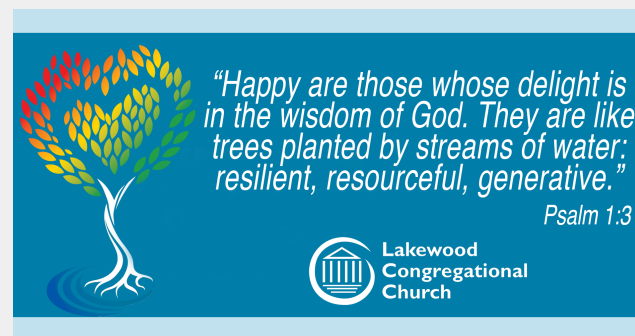
An Order of Worship to be followed in your home,  
along with our Livestream Service at 10:00 am

## 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

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*  
Shaun McGrath, tenor  
Ben Malkevitch, piano

arr. K. Lee Scott

## **Call to Worship**

One: What are you looking for?

Many: **A better job, a bigger house, a smaller car, my cell phone.**

One: What are you looking for?

Many: **A vacation spot, a quiet moment, my coffee mug.**

One: What are you looking for?

Many: **Peace, wholeness, love, acceptance...**

One: What are you looking for?

Many: **The grace of God, the freedom of Christ, the voice of the Holy Spirit. Let us never be too busy to realize it.**

One: Let us worship the One in whom all things are possible.

## **Prayer of Invocation (in unison)**

Creating, Calling, and Faithful God,  
we come to this time and place to be with you,  
to worship you, and to learn from you.

May our time together

be like your creation of light in the shadows  
that you called good.

May it be that you would call us good

while we respond to your call and as we listen to you. Amen.

## **Opening Hymn**

# 75

*I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*

## **Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

Griffin Stephens

Daughter of Philip and Devon Stephens (Waddell)

## **Faith Formation**

*All youth (preK-8<sup>th</sup> grade) are welcome to join in today's Faith Formation classes. Rachel and the leaders will guide them to their classrooms. Children can be picked up there after worship.*

## **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)**

**O God, we commit to use all our gifts— wisdom, knowledge,  
faith, healing, working of miracles, prophecy, discernment,  
tongues, administration, hospitality, and finances— in the  
service of acting as co-workers with you and each other for  
peace and justice to flow like a mighty stream. Amen.**

## **Anthem**

arr. K. Lee Scott

### *The Apple Tree*

Jesse Bobbitt, Gwendolyn DeLaney,  
Shaun McGrath, Noah Hamrick

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

Patti Komperda

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

The Baptism of Jesus

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

## **Reflection**

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

## **Closing Hymn**

# 683

*O For a World*

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

Edward Broughton

*Be Thou My Vision*  
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, 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.*