

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, January 30, 2022



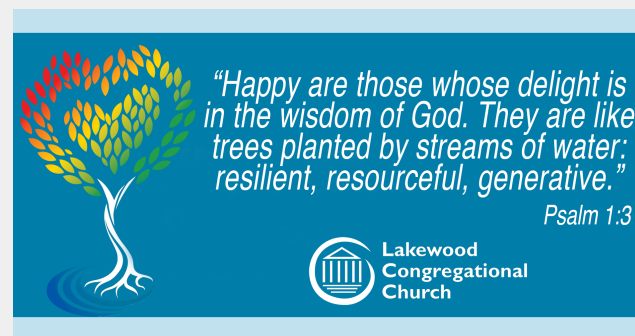
An Order of Worship to be followed in your home,
along with our Livestream Service at 10:00 am

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

traditional, arr. Malkevitch

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Noah Hamrick, bass; Ben Malkevitch, piano

Call to Worship

One: O God of Change and Stillness, of Wounds and Repair,
All: in you we find our sense of balance—a place to land and to breathe.
One: May we grow our attention towards that which gives life,
All: and cultivate connections of community and care.
One: May grace touch all that changes us,
All: and all that we hold unfold with peace.
One: May we gather in this space claiming healing as our birthright,
All: and bring with us the medicines of service and compassion.
One: Let us come together to transform ourselves to transform the world,
All: and move like living water—ever adapting, ever faithful, ever full of all that can be. Amen.

Opening Hymn

284

Gather Us In

Reception of New Members

Invitation

Questions for the New Members

Affirmation of Faith

One: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God. Do you believe in God?
Many: I believe in God.
One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
Many: I believe in Jesus Christ.
One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
Many: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Expression of Welcome

One: Let us, the members of Lakewood Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.
Many: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

We Welcome You

Words and Music by Ben Malkevitch

The musical score is written on three staves in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics. The third staff contains the melody for the third line of lyrics. The lyrics are: "We wel-come you to our com-mu-ni-ty and share our warm em-brace. May you al-ways know a home here, im-bued with ho-ly grace, and find your love re-flect-ed in each and ev-ery face."

Faith Formation

All youth (preK-8th 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

Prayer in honor of Health and Human Service Sunday (See Insert)
Rev. George Graham, LCC Member and Vice President of the UCC's Council for Health and Human Service Ministries
Rev. Catherine Lawrence, LCC Minister of Health and Wholeness

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 of loaves and fishes, of bread and of wine, we bring
before you our diversity of gifts, knowing that they will be
multiplied for the benefit of many. Accept our offering to
both give and receive, trusting that there is abundance in
togetherness, and generosity in you. Amen.

Anthem

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

Sicut cervus

Jesse Bobbitt, Gwendolyn DeLaney,
Shaun McGrath, Noah Hamrick

*As the deer longs for running waters,
so my soul longs for you, my God.*

The Reading of God's Word

Paula Deal

Luke 4:21-30

Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, 'Is not this Joseph's son?' He said to them, 'Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Doctor, cure yourself!" And you will say, "Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum." ' And he said, 'Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's home town. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.' When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

The Hill to Die On

Closing Hymn

277

Christians, We Have Met to Worship

Benediction

Postlude

David Paxton

Blessed Be the Lord
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
- 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.*