

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, February 20, 2022



WORSHIP

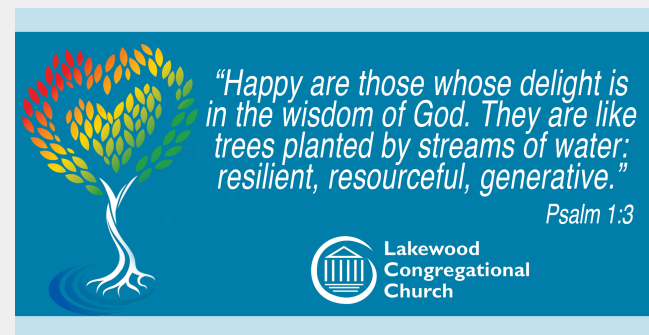
An Order of Worship to be followed in your home,
along with our Livestream Service at 10:00 am

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

Billie Hanks, Jr.

Lonely Voices Crying in the City
Ben Malkevitch, voice and piano

Call to Worship

One: Come, all you whose souls thirst for the living God.

Many: We come in search of help and hope.

One: Come, you who are acquainted with grief and despair.

Many: We come bearing our doubts, our wounds, and our fears.

One: Come, you who are in need of good news.

Many: We come in search of joy, truth, and light.

One: Come and find refuge and shelter.

Many: Let us worship God together.

Opening Hymn *Let Justice Flow Like Streams*



1. Let jus - tice flow like streams of spark - ling wa - ter, pure,
2. Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3. So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



En - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
An ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
And jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

Prayer of Invocation

Holy One, you are deep within our world, calling us to join you in creating abundant life for all. Open our hearts to recognize you. Free us to trust your call and follow; Enable us to repent, and forgive, and join in your work. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Anthem

K. Lee Scott

Write Your Blessed Name
LCC Chancel Choir

*Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart,
There to remain so indelibly engraved
That no prosperity, that no adversity
Shall ever, ever move me from your love.
Be to me a strong tower of defense,
A comforter in tribulation, a deliverer in distress,
And a faithful Guide to the courts of Heaven
Through the many temptations and dangers of this life,
O Jesu, my only Savior!
Write your blessed name, O Lord...*

HASO Moment

*Our youth reflect on this weekend's Homeless Awareness
Sleep-Out experience.*

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

Invitation to Prayer

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

Into My Heart

304

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)

Accept these gifts, we humbly pray, O God. Let them give you honor and glory, and empower us as we serve the needs of your people. Let the called and redeemed of God say, Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Thom Geist

Luke 6:27-38

'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the

ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

'Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

But do I have to like my enemies?

Closing Hymn

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Community of Christ

Benediction

Postlude

David Walters

Episode

Dave Kasper, alto sax;
Ben Malkevitch, piano

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

Our Mission Statement proclaims our common goal.

*We strive to be a welcoming,
worshiping 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.*