

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Wednesday March 3, 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

Ben Malkevitch

Meditation

Ben Malkevitch, piano

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Friends and neighbors, in the middle of our busy week, we pause to observe Ash Wednesday together as a faith community.

All: We come to remember that God made us from fragile, blessed dust and breathes through us the breath of life and love.

One: From dust we are created in God's image and to God's good dust we shall return.

All: With dust and oil we claim the mark of God's beloved creature.

One: Today we begin our 40-day Lenten journey to discover who we are created to be as God's beloved.

All: In daily practices of prayer and service we will embark upon this Lenten journey.

One: We follow Jesus, God's Beloved Child, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh in whom we see God's image most clearly.

All: So come, let us pray for strength and imagination to follow Jesus wherever he will lead us this Lent.

Prayer of Confession

God of Compassion, We turn toward you now. Forgive our pride and forgive our insecurities. Forgive our self-absorption and forgive our self-destruction. Forgive our doubts and forgive our confidence. Forgive our longing for attention and forgive our desire to hide. Forgive each step we take away from you. "Create in me a clean heart, O God. And renew a right spirit within me." Amen.

Opening Hymn

518

Give Me a Clean Heart

Scripture

Psalm 51

Reflection

Reverend Joanna D'Agostino

Special Music

Paddy McAloon

Mercy / Sweet Gospel Music

Maic D'Agostino, voice and guitar

Blessing and Imposition of Ashes

(You are invited to come forward to receive ashes on your hand or on your forehead. If you are unable to come forward and still wish to receive ashes, please signal to a greeter, and they will be brought to you in your seat)

Scripture Response

Isaiah 58:11-12

The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Closing Hymn

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall

be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

Benediction

Christ be with me.

Christ be within me.

Christ behind me.

Christ before me.

Christ beside me

Christ to win me.

Christ to comfort and restore me. Christ beneath me.

Christ above me

Christ in quiet.

Christ in danger.

Christ in hearts of all who love me.

Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

Let us go in the peace of Christ

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Ashes to Ashes

Ben Malkevitch, piano

Jane McNeal

LENTEN *Schedule*

Calendar

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| Sunday, February 27, 10:00 am | Mardi Gras Worship Service, with David Kasper and his Dixieland Band |
| Wednesday, March 2, 6:30pm | Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary) |
| Tuesday, March 22, 6:30 pm | Taizé and Labyrinth Service (Social Hall) |
| Friday, April 1, 7:00pm | Youth Musical "Shrek, the Musical" |
| Saturday, April 2, 7:00pm | Youth Musical "Shrek, the Musical" |
| Sunday, April 3, 2:00pm | Youth Musical "Shrek, the Musical" |
| Sunday, April 10, 10:00 am | Palm Sunday Worship Service |
| Thursday, April 14, 6:30 pm | Maundy Thursday Service (Sanctuary) |
| Friday, April 15, 7:30 pm | Community Good Friday Service; a collaborative service of the Lakewood Ministerial Association (Hosted by LCC/Trinity; Sanctuary) |
| Sunday, April 17, 10:00 am | Easter Sunday Service An Easter Egg Hunt for children will follow worship. Please meet in the Memorial Garden. |

Social Hall Labyrinth Dates and Times

Not to be confused with a maze, a labyrinth is a singular path leading to the center and back out again. The practice provides space to quiet the mind and heart. Walk LCC's big canvas labyrinth in the Social Hall during the times listed or make an appointment in the church office.

- Following the Taizé Service March 22, 6:30pm
- During Office Hours March 23, 24, 25, 9am-3pm
- Saturday Morning March 26, 9am-noon



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. Wherever you are on life's
journey, we welcome you and all people of every sexual
orientation, age, ability, gender identity and expression, and
ethnic, economic, and racial background into the full life and
ministry of our church. We declare this in the everlasting grace
of the Still-Speaking God.*