

# Lakewood Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

Sunday, March 13, 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.

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## Prelude

Marta Keen, arr. Althouse

*Homeward Bound*

Jesse Bobbitt, soprano; Ben Malkevitch, piano

## Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 27)

One: God is my light, my hope, my all in all: whom shall I fear?

**Many: God is the stronghold of my life: of whom shall I be afraid?**

One: One thing I asked of God: let me live in the shelter of you, in the beauty of your realm, in the wonder of your house.

**Many: We seek your face, God! Do not turn aside!**

One: Teach us your way, God, show us your path through all that life brings.

**Many: We shall see the blessing of God: come, Holy Spirit!**

## Opening Hymn

# 461

*Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

## Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

God, you desire to gather us together. Like a mother hen protecting her chicks, you spread your wings over us for safety, warmth, and comfort. As we gather, instill in us strength and courage, as you have done for the generations before us and as you will do for the generations after us, that we might seek justice and peace in your name, Amen.

## Anthem

arr. Dan Forrest

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

LCC Chancel Choir

## Faith Formation

## A Time of Prayer

*(We will sing this Taizé chant as many times as the Holy Spirit moves us to.)*

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer,  
When I call, an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O  
Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me.

## 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

*Give Me a Clean Heart*

# 515

## A Time of Sharing

## Call to Offering

## Offertory

Clara Wooford

*Andante*

## 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)

God of all goodness, we thank you for your blessings: more numerous than the stars, more steady than the beat of our hearts. We dedicate our gifts and rededicate ourselves to your vision of hope and wholeness. May all that we do and all that we give be a testament to your love. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

## The Reading of God's Word

Patti Komperda

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?'

And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, 'I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,

## Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

*Count the Stars*

## Closing Hymn

# 601

*I Am Thine, O Lord*

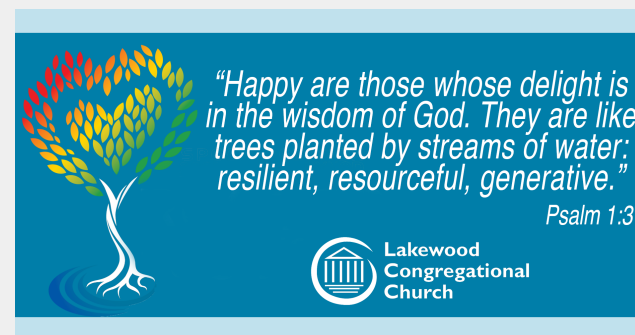
## Benediction

## Postlude

César Franck

*Invocation in G minor*

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

# LENTEN *Schedule*

## Calendar

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



***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.***