

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, April 24, 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

James Anders

Andante
Ben Malkevitch, piano

Call to Worship

One: As light through the clouds or walking on the roads,

Many: The Risen Christ is in our midst.

One: Inside our sanctuaries or out in the community,

Many: The Risen Christ is in our midst.

One: Here in the world as it is and in the world as it should be,

Many: The Risen Christ is in our midst.

One: Let us worship God together.

Opening Hymn

530

I've Got Peace Like a River

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Living God, when the Risen Christ appeared to his disciples, he greeted them in peace and breathed the Holy Spirit upon them. Breathe your Spirit upon us as we gather with glad hearts and joyful voices. Open our ears to hear you speaking, and our hearts to respond with joy. Send us out to proclaim what we have seen and heard: Christ is risen. He is risen indeed! Amen.

Anthem

Lloyd Larson

Glorious, Risen Christ
LCC Chancel Choir

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

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 *Let the Words of My Mouth* Adolph Baumbach

A Time of Sharing

Call to Offering

Offertory

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)

Holy God, You make your presence known to us if we listen, calling us to use our gifts to enhance this world. May the gifts we share today and each day create a church of grace and a community of love. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Sarah Pierce

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen

me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D’Agostino

Closing Hymn

537

My Hope Is Built

Benediction

Postlude

Alice Downes

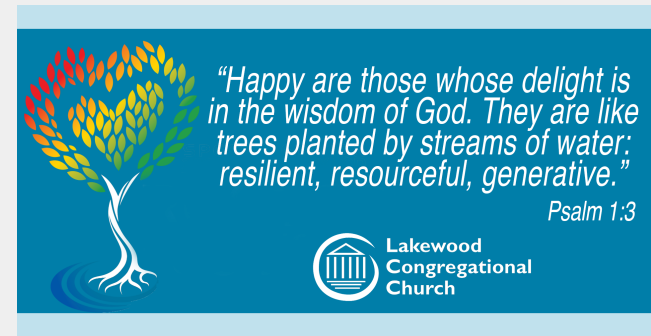
Fanfare

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



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.