

# Lakewood Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

Sunday, May 15, 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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Our annual Music Sunday is a testament to the integral connection between faith and artistic expression, and to LCC's commitment to the value we place on music as part of our worship community. We encourage you to sing out on the hymns and listen to the beautiful sounds of words and music which we offer today before our God.

## Prelude

Arthur Mann  
Valerie Stephenson

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*  
LCC Handbell Choir

*Joseph Daso, Paula Deal, Gwendolyn DeLaney, Noah Hamrick,  
Michael Komperda, Leah Molinari, Bob Paraska, Peggy Shaw,  
Cathy Spicer, Susan Walker, Robert Wenz, Carol Wilson, Jan Young*

## Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 98)

One: O sing God a new song, who has done marvelous things.

**All: God brings steadfast love and faithfulness to all humankind. All the ends of the earth have seen our God triumphant.**

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

**All: Sing praises to God with the lyre and the sound of melody. Make a joyful noise before our Savior, with resounding trumpets and horns.**

One: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

**All: Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy.**

## Opening Hymn

# 90

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

## Prayer of Invocation

One: Music is more than notes on a page.

**All: It is a universal language which binds all humanity together, reaching across continents and cultures. It brings us joy when we need it most, and comfort, and strength. Let it remind us today, and every day, of your supreme love for us, your people. Amen.**

## Anthem

Dan Forrest

*A Covenant Prayer*  
LCC Chancel Choir

*Dan Forrest (b. 1978) studied with the legendary Alice Parker and took the reins over at Beckenhorst Press in Columbus, a music publishing company founded by John Ness Beck, one of our beloved Max Bunker's teachers. Forrest has written compositions for choirs, orchestras, and wind ensembles, but much of his music is specifically for church choirs. This devout covenant prayer is his setting of a soaring text by John Wesley.*

## Reading

Tim Hampton

"You are the Music" by Marcia Newton

## Anthem

arr. Bradley Ellingboe

*Down to the River to Pray*

LCC Chancel Choir

Bradley Ellingboe (b. 1958) is an expert on the songs of Edvard Grieg and edits *Choral Literature for Sundays and Seasons*, a compendium of sacred choral music. *Down to the River to Pray* was recently made popular in the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou*, and his well-crafted arrangement honors the style of that song, whose origin is unknown but became popular as a folk song in the mid-1800's.

## 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.*

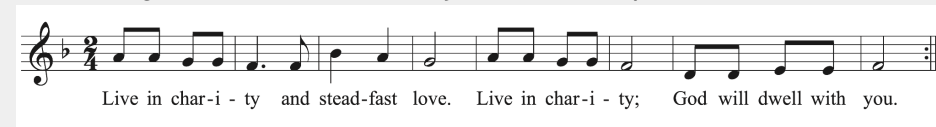
## Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

## A Time of Prayer

### Invitation to Prayer

*We will sing this Taizé chant as many times as the Spirit moves us.*



Live in char-i - ty and stead-fast love. Live in char-i - ty; God will dwell with you.

## 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***Day by Day*

Harold Friedell

**Reading***“Where Everything Is Music” by Rumi*

Liz Spahr

**A Time of Sharing****Call to Offering****Offertory***Ave Maria*  
LCC Chancel Choir

Franz Biebl

*Franz Biebl (1906-2001) wrote this setting of the Ave Maria (including portions of the Angelus) as well in 1959. Interestingly enough, the original version was written for a double male choir of firemen. While this piece did not become popular for quite a while in German, American choirs whom Biebl invited to German to sing on Bavarian State Radio fell in love with it and, after Chanticleer recorded it, he wrote this mixed-choir arrangement, which is now the most popular version.*

**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)

**Jesus, please accept our gifts, offered humbly in your name, and guide us to use them in ways that magnify your name and carry forth a message of universal love throughout the world. Amen.**

**Hymn***Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

# 2

**The Reading of God’s Word***Psalm 150*

Michael Komperda

**Reflection**

Ben Malkevitch

**Reading***“The Gift to Sing” by James Weldon Johnson*

Cathy Spicer

**Anthem***The Prayer of the Children*  
LCC Chancel Choir

Kurt Bestor

*Kurt Bestor (b. 1958), a composer of several TV and film scores and several albums of Christmas music, was inspired to write Prayer of the Children by his time living in the former Yugoslavia in the 1970’s. In the 1990’s, during the wars there, Bestor was moved to write this prayer. The next-to-last line was originally written as a Croatian translation of the words “Can you hear the prayer of the children,” but, given recent events, Bestor encourages us to sing it in Ukranian translation, which you will hear us do today.*

**Closing Hymn***My Life Flows On*

# 619

**Benediction***Places of the Heart*  
LCC Chancel Choir

Mike Galloway

**Postlude***Carillon*  
LCC Handbell ChoirGeorges Bizet  
arr. Douglas Wagner

Thank you to the talented musicians who have been dedicated members of our musical ensembles during our 2021-22 season:

LCC Chancel Choir (\* - section leader and soloist)  
Sopranos: *Jesse Bobbitt\**, *Leah Jennings*, *Kaleigh Macalla*, *Heather Tuck-Macalla*, *Jan Young*  
Altos: *Jennifer Browning*, *Gwendolyn DeLaney\**, *Peggy Shaw*, *Liz Spahr*  
Tenors: *Steve Hotchkiss*, *Michael Komperda*, *Eric Macalla*, *Shaun McGrath\**  
Basses: *Tim Hampton*, *Noah Hamrick\**, *Bob Paraska*, *Robert Wenz*

***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.*

**Offering and Contribution Collection**

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

