

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, May 22, 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

Lowell Mason, arr. Brian Buda

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Ben Malkevitch, piano

Call to Worship

One: Let the Creator be home among us.
All: In our hearts, may God be welcome.
One: May God's love shape our every thought.
All: May our actions lead to God's justice.
One: May our words be words of life.
All: May God's Spirit lead us.
One: May God's peace dwell within us.
All: Amen.

Opening Hymn

#284

Gather Us In, vs. 1, 3, and 4

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

God's love is our nourishment. God's truth is our liberation. God's words are our wisdom, God's peace, our home. Welcome to the love of God. Amen.

Reception of New Members

Beth Abbott

Dot Beyer

Stephen & Leah Brown

Caitlin Galloway

Martin & Kadryn McPherson

Tamara & Regan Reik & Audrey Barno

Invitation

Questions for the New Members

Affirmation of Faith

One: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God. Do you believe in God?

Many: I believe in God.

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

Many: I believe in Jesus Christ.

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Many: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Expression of Welcome

One: Let us, the members of Lakewood Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

Many: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

We Welcome You

Words and Music by Ben Malkevitch

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'We Welcome You'. It consists of three staves of music in 4/4 time, written in treble clef. The lyrics are: 'We wel-come you to our com-mu-ni-ty and share our warm em-brace. May you al-ways know a home here, im-bued with ho-ly grace, and find your love re-flect-ed in each and ev-ery face.'

Anthem

Stan Pethel

Built on the Rock

LCC Chancel Choir

Recognition of Faith Formation Leaders

Thank you to our Faith Formation teachers, who have volunteered their time and energy to help our children and teenagers grow in faith and friendship throughout this school year. Our young people, their families, and our entire church family are so grateful for each one of you.

PreK-Kindergarten: Laura Germaine, Nora Germaine, Amy Lardi, Evelyn Richards

1st-3rd grade: Melissa Armstrong-Brine, Julie Marlin, Charlotte Petrie, Bri Raynes

4th-5th grade: Paul Pierce

6th-8th grade: Paige Smigeski, Scott Suttell

9th-12th grade: Chris Burns, Becky Machovec

Faith Formation

All youth (4 year olds - 12th graders) 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

Felix Mendelssohn

Gracious Creator Hear Our Prayer

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)

May these gifts be used to build the Beloved Community through our hands of service, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and in the name of Jesus, our Messiah. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

John 14:23–29

Darren Toms

Jesus answered him, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. 'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

Reflection

Not As the World Gives

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

Closing Hymn

431

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Benediction

Postlude

Simon Peberdy

Nun danket

Ben Malkevitch, organ

There is a Congregational Meeting immediately following our service this morning. We expect the meeting to be brief. Coffee and lemonade will be available in the Narthex for those who do not wish to attend the meeting.

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
- Call the church office at (216) 221-9555 to discuss other options

