

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, July 31, 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

One Thing
Chris Burns, voice and guitar

Hillsong

Call to Worship

One: Our Loving God gathers us from the east and the west, from the north and from the south.

Many: The Holy One is in our midst. Let us say so!

One: We cried out to our God in times of trouble and eased our distress.

Many: The Holy One is in our midst. God leads us on right paths.

One: Our Provider satisfies our thirst and meets our needs.

Many: The Holy One is in our midst. Consider God's steadfast love!

Opening Hymn

Bigger Barns

words by Carolyn Gilette

"Big - ger barns are what I need!" So a rich man
"Big - ger barns are what we need for our mo - ney,
God of love, we long to know what will make us
said one day. "From my wor - ries I'll be free
gad - gets, more!" Lord, we're temp - ted to be - lieve
tru - ly blest. Je - sus taught us long a - go
when my wealth is stored a - way." "Fool!" God said, "To -
hav - ing wealth, we'll be se - cure! Some - where chil - dren
wealth won't give us peace or rest. You are our se -
day you'll die! Will your wealth mean a - ny - thing? All life's
cry for food or to have a doc - tor's care. Can our
cu - ri - ty! Safe in you, we serve, O Lord. May we
bless - ing real - ly lie in my life that wealth can't bring."
big - ger barns be good when poor neighbors know des - pair?
find we're rich in - deed when we're shar - ing with the poor.

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Holy Love, we worship you as your people. You tether us to you in righteousness and covenant. Reveal your face to us. Let us see you in our midst, in our neighbors, and in ourselves. Clothe us in love and compassion, and continually fashion us as your people for you are our God. Amen.

Special Music

Alfred Fedak

Wordless Song Within the Waters

LCC Summer Choir

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.

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)

Loving God, may we demonstrate our love through these gifts. Bless them and magnify them so that all creation will benefit from your abundance and gift of life and love. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Michael Greenland

Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life

is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

Reflection

Reverend Joanna D'Agostino

Closing Hymn

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Take My Life and Let It Be

Benediction

Postlude

Douglas Wagner

Recessional on "To God Be the Glory"

Ben Malkevitch, organ



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