

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, September 11, 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

Gordon Young

Prelude in Classic Style

Emma Kosht, trumpet; Ben Malkevitch, organ

Call to Worship

We will divide between East and West for our Call to Worship Today. For those of you in the center section, just choose a side and stick with it!

One: God, whom we gather to worship on this joyful Sunday

East Side: has blessed us through our wonderful Faith Formation leaders;

West Side: has comforted us through tender ministries of loving circles;

East Side: has challenged us through our youth fellowship and service;

West Side: has inspired us through choir participation and musicians;

East Side: has led us through insightful church leadership

All: Come, let us worship God, in thanks and praise.

Opening Hymn

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Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

O God, We are so happy to gather together today; to see our church family, to feel the buzz of a new year and to prayerfully wonder how to live into what is possible. On Rally Sunday we ask that you shine your light on us, so we can shine brightly in the world. Where chaos creates overwhelm, calm and focus our lives. Where boredom leads to apathy, empower and shake us up. Encourage us to set goals, to find structure, and to center our lives on you. May this hour and this year be filled with unexpected grace. Amen.

Anthem

R. Kevin Boesiger

Arise and Shine
LCC Chancel 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.

Prayer Response *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord* Whelpton

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)

With reverence and awe for your ways, we offer our gifts for the work of love and justice, the work of healing, restoring and setting free in your Holy name, God of our hearts. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Isaiah 60:1-5, 17-22

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
Instead of bronze I will bring gold,
instead of iron I will bring silver;
instead of wood, bronze,
instead of stones, iron.
I will appoint Peace as your overseer
and Righteousness as your taskmaster.
Violence shall no more be heard in your land,
devastation or destruction within your borders;
you shall call your walls Salvation,
and your gates Praise.

The sun shall no longer be
your light by day,

nor for brightness shall the moon
give light to you by night;
but the Lord will be your everlasting light,
and your God will be your glory.
Your sun shall no more go down,
or your moon withdraw itself;
for the Lord will be your everlasting light,
and your days of mourning shall be ended.
Your people shall all be righteous;
they shall possess the land for ever.
They are the shoot that I planted, the work of my hands,
so that I might be glorified.
The least of them shall become a clan,
and the smallest one a mighty nation;
I am the Lord;
in its time I will accomplish it quickly.

Reflection

Reverend Joanna D'Agostino

Accomplish it Quickly

Closing Hymn

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I Love Your Church, O God

Benediction

Postlude

Jeremiah Clarke

Trumpet Voluntary

Emma Kosht, trumpet; 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