

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, September 25, 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

Bethel Music and Jenn Johnson

Goodness of God

Chris Burns

Call to Worship

One: When we are left to our own devices, we become like weak and cracked vessels, unable to sustain love, mercy and justice.

Many: But when we come before God, seeking God's healing love, we are given the strength and courage to serve others.

One: We often want to have our own way in all that we do.

Many: We have a difficult time trusting in God.

One: Lord, come to us this day, healing our mistrust and our hesitancy.

Many: Give us spirits ready to receive your forgiveness and mercy.

Opening Hymn

97

Fairest Lord Jesus

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

God, we give you thanks that you make us redeemers, not just receivers of redemption. You bring us among friends and then ask for each one of our signatures to change your world. We hold the earthenware jar you call the church and fill it with all your promises. Amen.

Anthem

Susan Callaway

Rise Up Early in the Morning

LCC Chancel Choir

Faith Formation

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

Baumbach

Let the Words of My Mouth

A Time of Sharing

Call to Offering

Offertory

Rosalie Bonighton

Meditation in Eb

Ben Malkevitch, organ

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)

Bless, O God, these our gifts, and bless our desire to participate with you in the building of your realm among us. Accept these gifts as a sign of our love for you and for our neighbors. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Patti Komperda

Luke 16:19-31

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

Reflection

Reverend Joanna D'Agostino

A Great Chasm

Closing Hymn

464

God of Grace and God of Glory

Benediction

Postlude

Norman Warren

Laetatus Sum

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

LCC Calendar of Events:

- **Monday, September 26**
 - 7:00pm: AA, Social Hall
- **Tuesday, September 27**
 - 1:00pm & 6:30pm: Fall Reflection Series, Parlor
 - 7:00pm: Prayer Shawl Ministry
- **Wednesday, September 28**
 - 7:30pm: Blazing River Freedom Band, rehearsal, Social Hall
 - 7:30pm: Pub Theology, Lakewood Food Truck Park
- **Thursday, September 29**
 - 10:00a
 - : Coffee Hour with Rev. Joanna
 - 6:00pm: Handbell Rehearsal, Sanctuary
 - 7:30pm: AA, Social Hall
 - 8:00pm: Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- **Sunday, October 2: Worship for All Ages, Birthday Sunday**
 - 11:00am: Fellowship Hour, Parlor
 - 7:00pm: AA, Social Hall
- **Monday, October 3**
 - 7:00pm: AA, Social Hall
- **Tuesday, October 4**
 - 1:00pm & 6:30pm: Fall Reflection Series, Parlor