

# Lakewood Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

Sunday, October 16, 2022



An Order of Worship to be followed in your home,  
along with our Livestream Service at 10:00 am

*The flowers on the altar are  
dedicated to the Glory of God in honor  
of welcoming our New Members to  
Lakewood Congregational Church*

## 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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## Prelude

Michael W. Smith

*Breathe*

Jennifer Browning, alto  
Ben Malkevitch, piano

## Call to Worship

One: Righteous One, you are ever listening.

**Many: We come boldly, lifting our praise to you, because we know you hear us.**

One: Bringer of Justice, you reveal truth to us.

**Many: You help us to see how things are and how they can be.**

One: Eternal God, you persist in love and justice.

**Many: We want to persist in love and justice too.**

## Opening Hymn

*Take Me to the Water*

# 367

## **Prayer of Invocation** (in unison)

Righteous One, we are thankful that justice flows from you like a stream. You bid us to come and experience the equity of your love. We rejoice in knowing that justice is an aspect of your love and is without end. Enable us to be steadfast in our hope in you as we work alongside you to bring love and justice to the world. Amen

## **Anthem**

Lloyd Larson

*I Will Lift Up My Eyes*

LCC Chancel Choir

## **Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

*Caroline Trela, child  
of Lindsay Ellen Meggas  
and Joseph Daniel Trela*

## **Sung Response**

*Glad you're here  
Noah Hamrick, vocals*

## **Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

*Bridget Sutter*

## **Reception of New Members**

*Audrey Hancock*

*Lance Herschberger*

*Monica Herschberger*

*Barbara Longest*

*Shaun McGrath*

*Bridget Sutter*

*Sharon Schuldt*

## **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.*

## **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**

John Stainer

*Amen*

## **A Time of Sharing**

### **Call to Offering**

### **Offertory**

June Nixon

*Meditation*

### **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)

**Steadfast One, receive our gifts in the gladness we give them. Thank you that we have an abundance of resources to share so that every need is met. May we always give from wide open hearts, and may what we give, be used to bring a balm of justice. Amen.**

## **The Reading of God's Word**

Beth Abbott

Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow

keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.” And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

## Reflection

Reverend Joanna D’Agostino

*Why Church?*

## Closing Hymn

# 459

*Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

## Benediction

## Postlude

arr. John Turner

*All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name*

The White Rose on the altar is in celebration of the baptism of **Caroline Ellen Trela**, daughter of Lindsay Meggas and Joseph Trela. Her proud grandparents are Barbara Van Hala and James Trela. She honors the memory of her grandparents who have passed, Dale Meggas and James Trela. Her proud godparents are Elyse Busa and David Trela. Caroline was born July 11, 2022.

## ***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

