

# Lakewood Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

Sunday, November 13, 2022



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



*The cookies for the Fellowship Hour are  
dedicated to the Glory of God  
in celebration of  
Muriel and Tom Campbell's  
27<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

## 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

George Harrison

*Give Me Love (Give Me Peace on Earth)*  
Edie Barcelona, piano and vocals,  
Evey Lardi, vocals  
Nate Lardi, guitar

## Call to Worship

One: The Holy One is here in this community of faith:

**Many: Great is our God and greatly to be praised!**

One: Let us bless the Holy Name forever and ever

**Many: Great is our God and greatly to be praised!**

One: Let us meditate on God's wondrous works

**Many: Great is our God and greatly to be praised!**

One: Let us bless and praise God's name forever and ever

**All: Great is our God and greatly to be praised!**

## Opening Hymn

*The Gifts We Give to God*

## The Gifts We Give to God



1. The gifts God gave to us a - bound through all our lives,  
2. We have a wealth of skills, which sure - ly are the key  
3. So let us pledge to - day, and fu - ture days and years,



en - rich - ing hearts and minds so all of us may thrive.  
to help im - prove the world, ful - fill our de - sti - ny.  
to give back to our God, whose call we clear - ly hear.



He gave us all we need to let our souls be freed.  
While ri - ches do give aid, their po - wer quick - ly fades,  
Think how we all can grow through gifts that we be - stow,



What aid then, and what deeds shall we give back to God?  
com - pared to what we've made, and build in God's true name.  
how far the world can go, through gifts we give to God.

Words and Music by Ben Malkevitch

### Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Unwavering One, we are thankful for the clarity found in you. You welcome us, even when we're uncertain. We delight in knowing that even when we stumble over ourselves, your love picks us up and steadies us. You are love, and you keep your promises to us. Help us to embody those loving promises in our lives every day. Amen.

### Anthem

Randall Thompson

*The Road Not Taken*  
LCC Chancel Choir

### The Road Not Taken by Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

### 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

Harry Clarke

*Into My Heart*

**A Time of Sharing**  
**Call to Offering**  
**Stewardship Moment**  
**Offertory**

*O Divine Redeemer*  
Shaun McGrath, tenor  
Ben Malkevitch, organ

Cameron Wereb  
Charles Gounod

**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)

**Divine One, receive our gifts in the love we give them. Thank you for blessing us with gifts to share, so the needs of your people can be met. We offer our gifts with clarity. May what we give be used to bring wholeness to your world. Amen.**

**The Reading of God's Word**

Psalm 98

O sing to the LORD a new song,  
for God has done marvelous things.

God's right hand and holy arm  
have gained God victory.

The LORD has made known God's victory;

God has revealed God's vindication in the sight of the nations.

God has remembered God's steadfast love and faithfulness  
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Tom Leatherman

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.  
Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy  
at the presence of the LORD, for God is coming  
to judge the earth.  
God will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.

**Reflection**

Reverend Joanna D'Agostino

*Finding Clarity*

**Closing Hymn**

# 566

*Be Still My Soul*

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

Bob Marley

*Three Little Birds*

Next Generation Band

Edie Barcelona, piano and vocals,  
Evey Lardi, alto saxophone and vocals  
Nate Lardi, guitar

***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