

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, November 6, 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

Seth Crissman and Greg Yoder

Bring Your Peace
LCC Children's Choir

Call to Worship

One: We gather with joys and sorrows and memories of joy and sorrow.

Many: **We gather from hope or habit, with happiness or heartbreak.**

One: We gather knowing every scuffed pew is a place a child sat

Many: **and that every dusty hymnal was held by someone singing.**

One: We gather, not only to remember, but to be present to God

Many: **and to be truly supportive of one another.**

Opening Hymn

65

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Holy One, you have promised to be with us, and long ago sent your Spirit to abide among us and guide us to a future of goodness. We come seeking your truth, your justice, your kindness. O God, you are with us this morning. Let us feel your presence and welcome you into our lives. Come and fill these desires of our hearts. Amen.

Anthem

Tomás Luis de Victoria

Verbum caro

LCC Chancel Choir

While transubstantiation (a belief of the literal conversion of the Eucharist into the body and blood of Christ) is not dogma in the UCC, we can take this Latin text a bit more figuratively as an expression of the mystery of Communion. It says that, while intellect may not be able to grasp this mystery, the faith in hearts may.

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

Harold Friedell

Day by Day

A Time of Sharing Stewardship Moment Call to Offering

Paul Pierce

Offertory

Ben Malkevitch

Take This Day

Jesse Bobbitt, soprano, Ben Malkevitch, piano

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)

The gifts that might seem, in our sight, to be small, O God, you bless and increase to fill your house with splendor. Where you dwell, where your Spirit abides, prosperity will abound. We are happy to offer these gifts to you. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Michael Greenland

Haggai 1:15-2:9

In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says our God of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says our God of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says our God of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says our God of hosts. The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says our God of hosts.

Reflection

Reverend Joanna D'Agostino
Glory and Splendor

Service of Holy Communion

Everyone, no matter who you are and where you are in life's journey, is welcome to participate in this sacrament at LCC.

Invitation to Communion

Prayer of Remembrance and Consecration

Sharing of the Elements

One: You hold the bread of heaven. Honor it. It is consecrated to perfectly match your need. Receive it.

All: **We eat it in hope.**

One: You hold the cup of blessing. Honor it. It is consecrated so you become one of the Saints of Communion. Receive this one small sip – deeply.

Many: **We drink it in joy.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, we give you thanks that no one is over your table and no one is under your table, but that we all share your love together. We are in the midst of difficult times for all your children – illness, fire, heat, storm, earthquake, violence – and particular sorrows and griefs and decisions for those we know. We are so grateful that you have brought this Communion to us, so we may surround with its strength and comfort those we know, and search out those we do not know to offer hope and help widely and freely. Amen.

Closing Hymn

618

How Firm a Foundation

Benediction

Postlude

Frank Fettman

Bread and Wine
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