

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Thursday, April 6, 2023



An Order of Worship to be followed in your home,
along with our Livestream Service at 7:00pm

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

arr. J. William Greene

Savior, When In Dust to You

Confession and Assurance

Call to Confession

Quiet is kept, following the call, for personal reflection and confession.

Prayer of Confession

One: Most merciful God of grace,

All: **we confess to you, in community, that we have participated in systems of sin: in the cycle of greed and scarcity; in the fear perpetuated by hierarchies; in shaming and shunning; in choosing power and prestige over "the least of these;" in failure to reduce harm and suffering for your beloved children; and in failure to see our own selves as beloved and belonging.**

We have worked against your dream, O God, a place where all people are liberated and whole. We have not loved your creation with our whole heart; we have not loved our

neighbors as ourselves; we have not loved ourselves. For the sake of Jesus, who showed us the way to love above all, have mercy on us. We will repair the harm we've done, we will allow your grace to renew us, and we will do better, to the glory of you and all that is holy.

Quiet is again kept for personal reflection.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

One: ...Beloved Community, believe the good news of the gospel:

Many: Through God's grace and justice, we are restored and transformed.

Anthem

arr. Gilbert Martin

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

LCC Chancel Choir

Service of Holy Communion

The Invitation

Giving Thanks

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: Holy Wisdom, ... we praise you, saying:

Many: Holy, holy, holy, vulnerable and compassionate God, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God:

Hosanna in the highest.

One: Blessed is our sibling Jesus,
bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh,
from whom the cup of suffering did not pass,
who, on the night that he was betrayed,
took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said,

**Many: Take, eat, this is my Body, my Living Presence, given for you.
Do this to re-member me, to bring us together in the world.**

One: In the same way he took the cup, after supper, saying,

**Many: Drink of this, all of you;
for this is my Blood, my Very Heart, given for you.
Do this to re-member me, to bring us alive in the world.**

One: This bread and this cup signify the new covenant,
For in the mystery of faith,

**Many: Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ is here, Christ will come.**

One: Therefore, as we eat this bread and drink this cup... make us one

body in Christ, that we, who are baptized into his death may walk in newness of life; that what is sown in dishonor may be raised in glory; and what is sown in apathy may be raised in power.

All: Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Everyone, no matter who you are and where you are in life's journey, is welcome to participate in this sacrament at LCC. Today we will receive Communion at the front of the sanctuary by intinction, coming forward by row. You may select a piece of bread and dip it in juice, or choose a pre-packaged cup. If you are unable to come forward but would like to receive Communion, please signal to the ushers and they will come to you.

Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

Prayer after Communion

One: Let us pray... joining us in suffering, death, and resurrection.

Many: **Help us to experience the sacred mysteries of your body and blood so that we may feel the sacred within ourselves, and show it forth in our lives, thus proclaiming that you live again. Amen.**

Service of Shadows (Tenebrae)

The Shadow of Betrayal — Mark 14:10-11, 17-21

Maic D'Agostino

The Shadow of Agony & Arrest – Luke 22:39-48, 54a

Charlotte Petrie

Send your Spir-it to set us free, — send your
Spir-it to set us free. — Fill our hearts and minds; loose the
chains that bind. Send your Spir-it to set us free. —

The Shadow of Denial – Luke 22:54b-62

Julie Warren

The Shadow of Accusation – Mark 15:1-15

Michael Komperda

Hymn

(at the end)

My Song Is Love Unknown

The Shadow of Mockery – Matthew 27:27-31

Liz Spahr

The Shadow of Crucifixion – Luke 23:32-43

Lindy Warren

Quiet is kept for personal reflection.

The Shadow of Death – Mark 15:33-39

Rev. Catherine Lawrence

The Shadow of Burial – John 19:38-42

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

Hymn

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Were You There?

The assembly departs in silence.

After a brief time, the lights will be raised to aid in making your way.

My Song Is Love Unknown

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Samuel Crossman, 1664; alt.

2 Cor. 5:15-19; Heb. 5:7-10

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,
2 God left the rich - est throne sal - va - tion to be - stow;
3 Some - times they threw down palms and sweet - est prais - es sang.
4 What has my Sov - ereign done? What makes this rage and spite?
5 I sing my plain be - lief, one song my heart out - pours:

Love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.
But Christ as flesh and bone the world re - fused to know.
Ho - san - nas and glad psalms through streets and mar - kets rang.
Christ gave new strength to run, re - stored the gift of sight.
Nev - er was pain nor grief, nev - er was love like yours.

O who am I, that for my sake my God should take frail
But, O my Friend, my Friend in - deed, who at my need did
Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, for blood and death they
Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could

flesh and die? My God should take frail flesh and die?
life ex - pend; who at my need did life ex - pend.
thirst and cry; for blood and death they thirst and cry.
'gainst Christ rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst Christ rise.
glad - ly spend; I all my days could glad - ly spend.

Tune: RHOSYMEDRE 6.6.6.6.8.8.8.
John D. Edwards, c. 1840

Offering and Contribution Collection

Please consider fulfilling your pledges during this time. 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
- 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

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.***