Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, May 21, 2023



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 Jon Foreman

Your Love Is Strong

Dave Kasper, piano and synthesizer

Mad McLaughlin, voice and ukulele

Michael Kasper, voice and guitar

Call to Worship

One: The word of God came to Jonah Many: The word of God comes to us:

One: Go

Many: Despite your fears

One: Speak

Many: the truth of God

One: Love

Many: your neighbor and your enemy

One: Forgive

Many: as you have been forgiven

One: Receive

Many: grace upon grace

overflowing from the fullness of God.

Opening Hymn

75

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Carys Leighton Crone

*Congregational Assent

One: Jesus calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support and care to the one about to be Baptized, as she lives and grows in Christ?

All: We promise our love, support, and care.

One: And will you unite with the church in all times and places

in affirming our faith in the triune God.

One: Do you believe in God?

All: I believe in God.

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

The Rite of Confirmation

Carys Leighton Crone Peyton Rose Diemert

Peter Benjamin Humphreys* Bridget Rees Katzenberger

Evelyn Paige Lardi Grant Alexander Richards

*Peter was confirmed on May 17, 2023 at our Confirmation rehearsal, due to a scheduling conflict

Prayer of the Congregation

Almighty God, who created and called these children beloved, taught them forgiveness, and promised each of them a place of belonging, evoke in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in

evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Welcome

One: Let us, the members of Lakewood Congregational Church, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

All: We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's love and justice.

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of Lakewood Congregational Church, we extend to you the hand of Christian love.

Anthem Dan Forrest

A Covenant Prayer LCC Chancel Choir

Faith Formation

All youth (Pre-K-5thgrade) 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

Amen

Stainer

A Time of Sharing Call to Offering Offertory

Alexandre Guilmant

Cantabile
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)

God of Abundance, We dedicate these gifts for your work in the world, so that we may transform lives with your love and your grace. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Paula Deal

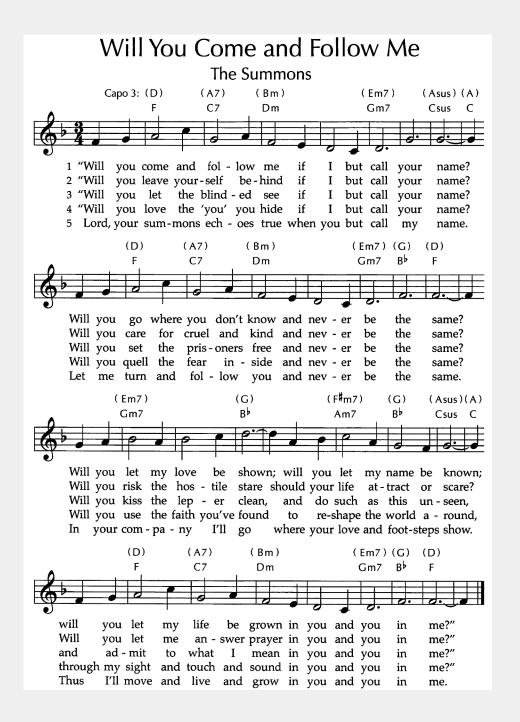
Excerpts from the Book of Jonah

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

Go With Ease

Closing Hymn



Benediction

Postlude Alice Jordan

Trumpet Tune
Ben Malkevitch, organ



The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the Glory of God in honor of our Confirmation Students

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.

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