

Lakewood Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Sunday, May 7, 2023



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

The White Rose on the altar is in celebration of the baptism
of **Miles Parlanti Klein**, son of Melissa Parlanti Klein and Ben Klein.
Miles was born on August 31, 2018

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. Lisa Hoekstra

In the Garden
Ben Malkevitch, piano

Call to Worship

One: We are God's household, crafted by the Architect of creation:

**Many: our hearts a shelter for the outcast;
our hands open to the stranger.**

One: We are God's people, created in the divine image:

**Many: to tell others of God's love,
to offer mercy as freely as we have received it.**

One: We are God's children, called to give of ourselves:

**Many: chosen to serve the lost and lonely,
gifted to minister to a hurting world.**

Opening Hymn

Where Jesus Lives

M.D. Ridge

Refrain




Where Je - sus lives there is room for all; there is room for
all where Je - sus lives, — and a place for you will be wait - ing
there. — Come to me: I will bring you home. —

Verses



1. I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.
2. Have faith in God; have faith — in me.
3. Peace — I leave, my peace — I give.



to Refrain

1. No one seeks the Cre - a - tor ex - cept through me.
2. Know wher - ev - er I am, you will al - so be.
3. God's own Spir - it will guide you through - out your life.

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Divine Architect, in times of uncertainty, you are the ground that steadies us. When nothing feels stable or secure, your abiding presence is our strength and our comfort. Remind us, O God, that we need not look far for you. As close as our breath, our neighbor, and every creaturely thing - you reach for us. Thanks be to you. Amen.

Anthem

Stan Pethel

Built on the Rock
LCC Chancel Choir

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Miles Parlanti-Klein

Welcoming Song

Traditional

Down to the River to Pray

Noah Hamrick, bass

Please join in singing!

As I went down to the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way, and who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord, show me the way!

1. Oh sisters, let's go down. Let's go down, come on down,
Oh sisters, let's go down, down to the river to pray.
2. Oh brothers, let's go down. Let's go down, don't you wanna come,
Oh brothers, let's go down, down to the river to pray.
3. Oh sinners, let's go down. Let's go down, come on down,
Oh sinners, let's go down, down to the river to pray.

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

Day by Day

Friedell

A Time of Sharing

Call to Offering

Offertory

Elliott Lacks

Meditation

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)

Holy God, we have received so much blessing from You to walk through this past week. We are grateful for the blessings You have given us, and we return some of them to You. Please use it for your work. In Jesus Christ's name. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Michael Greenland

John 14:1-14

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.

Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the

Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

Divine Architect

Service of Holy Communion

Invitation to Communion

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. After you have received Communion, please form a circle around the perimeter of the Sanctuary and remain standing.

Words of Remembering

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing of the Elements

Communion Music

Traditional

A Medley

Chris Burns, vocals and guitar

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

Spirit of Christ, you have blessed our table and our lives. May the eating of this Bread give us courage to speak in faith and act in love, not only here, but in your precious world, and may the drinking of this Cup renew our hope in a fractured world. Wrap your hopeful presence around all whose bodies, spirits and hearts need healing, and let us become your compassion and safe refuge. Amen

Closing Hymn

Will the Circle Be Unbroken

*Will the circle be unbroken, by and by, Lord, by and by?
There's a better home a-waiting in the sky, Lord, in the sky*

Benediction

Postlude

Robert Jones

Sortie

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

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