

# Lakewood Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

Sunday, August 27, 2023



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

## Welcome and Announcements

Charlotte Petrie

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

Bryan Sirchio

*Slow Me Down*  
Chris Burns, guitar & vocals

## Call to Worship

Charlotte Petrie

One: Give thanks and praise to the Holy One!

**Many: We bow down in reverence as we, the temple of the Living God, gather for worship.**

One: Sing praises with your whole heart!

**Many: We exalt our God who is faithful and steadfast in love.**

One: Hear the word of our great and glorious God!

**Many: We listen in anticipation for the Sovereign One remembers all God's beloved people.**

## Opening Hymn

# 595

*Be Thou My Vision*

**Prayer of Invocation** (in unison) Charlotte Petrie

God of Many Names, we gather as a people formed by you. You drew us from your living waters. You give us breath and life and being. You meet us in the sanctuary and on the sofa. You call us by name with purpose, care, and love. May our time together in this space or online, remind us of our connectedness to you, each other, and all creation. May you be glorified, honored, and worshiped in spirit and in truth. May we be rooted, challenged, and encouraged in love. We welcome your presence among us. We seek your guiding Spirit. We place our trust in you. Amen.

**Children's Message** Rachel Burns

**Hymn** # 494

*They'll Know We Are Christians*

**A Time of Prayer** Rev. Catherine Lawrence

**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.

**A Time of Sharing**

**Call to Offering**

**Offertory**

**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)

Gracious God, we thank you for the measure of faith you have given to each of us. Increase us in generosity, compassion and prophetic courage so we may continue to be your body in and for the world. With Thanksgiving we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen

**The Reading of God's Word** Patti Komperda

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

**Reflection** Julie Warren

*Must Be Nice*

**Special Music** David Byrne & Brian Eno,  
arr. Audrey Warren

“One Fine Day” from *American Utopia*

Chris Burns, Hannah & Noah Hamrick, Michael Komperda,

Liz Spahr, Audrey, Julie, Lindy & Shawn Warren

**Benediction** Julie Warren

## Postlude

Arr. Marge Adler

Super Hero Melody

### ***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](http://www.lcc-church.org)
- Call the church office at (216) 221-9555 to discuss other options