

Lakewood Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

1375 West Clifton Boulevard, Lakewood, OH



Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

January 28, 2024 · 10:00 AM

Announcements and Welcome

Prelude

Beethoven
arr. Kendall

Prelude in F
Judy Fesko, piano

Call to Worship (from Psalm 111)

One: We come to worship...

Many: Giving thanks with whole hearts in the company of this congregation.

One: We worship the One who is gracious and merciful...

Many: Holy and awesome is God's name!

One: Let us worship God together!

Opening Hymn

#442

We Are Walking (Siyahamba)
(the choir will first sing a verse in Zulu;
then the congregation will join in for verses 1 and 2;
and then repeat verse 1 with the word 'praying')

Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Holy God, holy, gracious, and merciful we gather mindful of your covenant with us and all creation. We gather mindful of your wonderful deeds and your powerful work among us. Grant that we may be joined with all your creation in praising you in the name of the One who was, and is, and is to come. Amen.

Anthem

J. Jerome Williams
James Gossler

Sometimes a Light Surprises
LCC Chancel Choir

A Moment of Recognition of Judy Fesko

A Time of Prayer

Invitation to 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

Into My Heart

A Time of Sharing

Celebrating Health & Human Service Sunday

Rev. Catherine Lawrence

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)

Let us pray: **We worship with our whole hearts, and give with our whole hearts, remembering your covenant with us, O God. As we share these gifts, may they be for the work of faithful justice and gracious mercy through your church and in your world. Amen.**

The Reading of God's Word

Patti Komperda

Mark 1:21-28

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then

there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

On Shouting and Yelling, Trauma Triggers and Coping Mechanisms

Closing Hymn

#324

Your Words to Me are Life and Health

Benediction

Postlude

Our guest musician and choir director is Judy Fesko



The flowers on the altar are dedicated to the Glory of God in gratitude for Judy Fesko's support of our music ministry

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.*