

LAKESWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

1375 West Clifton Boulevard, Lakewood, OH



Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

October 19, 2025 | 10:00 AM

Photo from the LCC Women's Retreat in Fall 2025, HopeWood Pines
Liturgy Adapted from UCC Worship Ways

Announcements and Welcome

Prelude

*** Call to Worship** (Inspired by Psalm 121)

One: As the sun sets behind the hills,

Many: We celebrate hope in our Creator.

One: Even as the sun strikes the earth in daytime

Many: We celebrate peace in our Creator.

One: As we move about this earth from day to day

Many: We celebrate the love of our Creator.

***Opening Hymn**

#517

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

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

Righteous One, we are thankful that justice flows from you like a stream. You invite us to come and experience the equity of your love. We rejoice in knowing that justice is an aspect of your love and is without end. Enable us to be steadfast in our hope in you as we work alongside you to bring love and justice to the world. Amen

Reception of New Members

Jeff Brian

Victor Diaz

Tana Gargalianos

Darryl Forest

Joanne Heinert

Ray Heinert

Lacey Hoffman

Heather Holian

John Johnson

Invitation

Questions for the New Members

Affirmation of Faith

One: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God. 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.

Expression of Welcome

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

All: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our 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 knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Anthem

Phil Collins and Mark Mancina

Welcome to Our Family from Brother Bear
Julie, Shawn, Lindy, and Audrey Warren,
Tom Leatherman, Tim Hampton

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

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

A Time of Sharing

Offertory

arr. by Michael Galloway

We Will Know/Lamb of God

LCC Chancel Choir

The congregation is invited to sing along using the music printed in the bulletin when prompted by Peter.

We Will Know



* 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)

Steadfast One, receive our gifts in the gladness we give them.
Thank you that we have an abundance of resources to share so that every need is met. May we always give from wide open hearts, and may what we give, be used to bring a balm of justice. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Patti Komperda

Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

Keep Showing Up

*Closing Hymn

#546

Amazing Grace

*Benediction

Postlude

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.***