

LAKWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

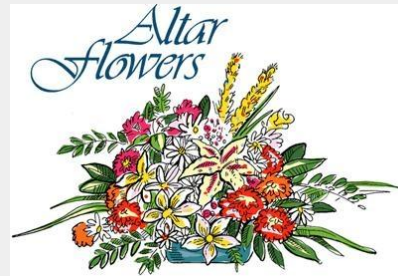
1375 West Clifton Boulevard, Lakewood, OH



Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

October 26, 2025 | 10:00 AM

Liturgy Adapted from UCC Worship Ways



*The flowers on the altar are dedicated
to the Glory of God
in loving memory
of **Thomas Aguilar-Downing**
from Cathy and Peg Calamia-Downing*

Announcements and Welcome

Prelude

Kasey Musgraves

The Architect

Chris Burns, vocals and guitar

Allison Turnbull, vocals

* **Call to Worship** (Inspired by Psalm 65)

One: God moves with us throughout this earth and nurtures the soil,

Many: Our neighbors are awed by God's works.

One: God's river flows with water, and the fields are blessed by the Spirit.

Many: Our neighbors are awed by God's gifts.

One: God's wild fields overflow with joy.

Many: Our neighbors are awed by God's grace.

***Opening Hymn**

#560

Leaning On the Everlasting Arms

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

God our Redeemer, draw near to us as we draw near to you in worship. Open our eyes to see, our ears to hear, and our spirits to encounter the revelation you have for us this day. Transform us with the truth of your love and grace, in the name of the one in whose way we walk. Amen.

Anthem

Howard Helvey

Precious Lord, Take My Hand
LCC Chancel Choir

Faith Formation

After the Choir Anthem, youth (6-12th grade) and youth leaders are invited to leave for Faith Formation. We have Pre-K thru 5th grade Faith Formation for the whole service today.

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

*** 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 One, Bless these gifts that we offer back to you – the gifts of our resources, the gifts of our hearts. Use them so that others may come to know healing and connection. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word

Cathy Calamia-Downing

Luke 18:9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

***Closing Hymn**

#339

Just As I Am, Without One Plea

***Benediction**

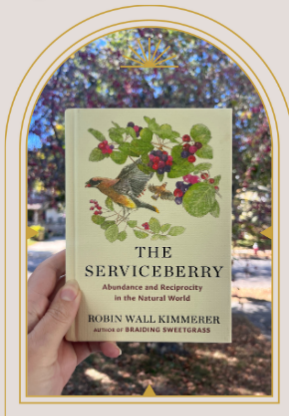
Postlude

All-Church Read

The Serviceberry:

Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World

by Robin Wall Kimmerer



Limited Copies will be available to borrow through the church library.

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.***