

LAKWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

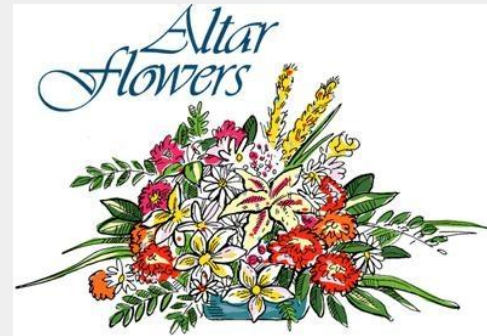
1375 West Clifton Boulevard, Lakewood, OH



Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

November 9, 2025 | 10:00 AM

Cover Photo: Cedar Waxwing in a Serviceberry Tree. Stock Image.
Liturgy Adapted from UCC Worship Ways



*The flowers on the altar are
dedicated to the
Glory of God
in celebration
of the ordination of
Suzy Lefelhocz
this afternoon at 3:00pm*

Announcements and Welcome

Prelude

Stephen Schwartz

When You Believe

Cora Barcelona, Al Hampton, Luci Robbins, Avery Spahr, Penny Spahr

* Call to Worship

One: The Holy One is here in this community of faith:

Many: Great is our God and greatly to be praised!

One: Let us bless the Holy Name forever and ever

Many: Great is our God and greatly to be praised!

One: Let us meditate on God's wondrous works

Many: Great is our God and greatly to be praised!

One: Let us bless and praise God's name forever and ever

All: Great is our God and greatly to be praised!

*Opening Hymn

#552

Standing On the Promises

*Prayer of Invocation (in unison)

Unwavering One, we are thankful for the clarity found in you. You welcome us, even when we're uncertain. We delight in knowing that even when we stumble over ourselves, your love picks us up and steadies us. You are love, and you keep your promises to us. Help us to embody those loving promises in our lives every day. Amen.

Anthem

arr. Martin Sirvatka

I'm Goin' Up A Yonder

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

We Thank Thee

A Time of Sharing

Stewardship Moment

Emma Petrie-Barcelona

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)

God of Infinite Love, Through our gifts of treasures, time, and talents we provide for our neighbors who lack basic necessities and who look for connection. May we create glimpses of heaven as we go through our days. With gratitude, we celebrate our gifts

**from you and dedicate our gifts to bring peace to this earth.
Amen.**

The Reading of God's Word

Doug Damron

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. Let no one deceive you in any way; for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Reflection

Rev. Joanna D'Agostino

Standing Firm

*Closing Hymn

#701

Shall We Gather at the River

Benediction

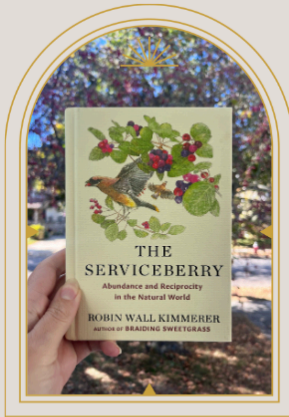
Postlude

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.***