



March 22nd, 2026

10:15 am Worship Service

The Gift of Extravagance

FIFTH SUNDAY
IN
LENT

LAKEVIEW

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

8639 Columbia Rd • Maineville, OH 45039

www.lakeviewucc.com • (513) 683-2073

LAKEVIEW UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 22nd, 2026

Rev. Ruth Hopkins
Interim Pastor

Corey Nieman
CYF Minister

Natalie Nolte
Dir. Vocal Music

Irina Hall
Dir. Instr. Music

Ministers
All People

IMPORTANT INFO

Connecting

If you are joining us for the first time, welcome! If you'd like more information about Lakeview, you can email the office: info@lakeviewucc.com, visit our website: lakeviewucc.com, or chat before or after the service with one of our fellowship volunteers/greeters.

Childcare

Nursery Care for our youngest children will be available starting at 10am in Room 7 (in the CE Wing). Older children and teens are encouraged to enjoy the opening portion of the worship service in the sanctuary. They will be dismissed to Sunday School during the Passing of the Peace.

Restrooms

You're invited to use the restroom that corresponds with your gender identity or the restroom that is the safest and most comfortable for you. Gendered, multiple-occupancy restrooms are available through the North double glass doors in the Narthex, across from the conference room.

Open and Affirming
Lakeview is an O&A church and has affirmed a public covenant welcoming people of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions in the full life and ministry of our congregation.

Prelude

Irina Hall

Welcome and Announcements

Time of Centering

Irina Hall

Call to Worship

based on Psalm 126

One: Our God has done great things for us!

Many: **Yes, God has done great things for us, and we are overjoyed.**

One: Unexpectedly, God has changed our circumstances for the better,

Many: **Like finding water in the desert wasteland.**

One: Let those who plant with tears reap the harvest with joyful shouts.

Many: **Let those who go out crying and carrying their seed, come home with joyful shouts, carrying their bounty of abundance.**

All: ***Let us thank God for the gifts that God has provided.***

Gathering Song

More Love to You, O Christ

(v. 1-2)

Opening Prayer (unison)

Gracious God: On this fifth Sunday in lent, we come to you, grateful for the gift of the silence. In our stillness, may we come to you with gratitude and praise. You are constantly holding us, guiding us, and empowering us with your grace. You continually offer us a grace that often feels so unexpected and undeserved. We thank you that you continue to amaze. We stand in awe of your love and compassion. We thank you for the unexpected gifts by which you have blessed your people. Amen.

Hymn of Community

More Love to You, O Christ (v. 3)

Passing the Peace of Christ

One: The Peace of Christ be with you

Many: **And also with you.**

One: Let us share Christ's peace.

Call to Prayer

Change My Heart, O God

Prayers of the People

One: In the power and presence of God:

Many: We share your prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father-Mother, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Special Music

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus
by Trevor Manor, c.2016 Choristers Guild

Chancel Choir,
Bill Overholt, *cello*

The Reading of the Hebrew Scriptures, Isaiah 43: 16-21

MSG

This is what God says, the God who builds a road right through the ocean, who carves a path through pounding waves, The God who summons horses and chariots and armies— they lie down and then can't get up; they're snuffed out like so many candles: "Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it? There it is! I'm making a road through the desert, rivers in the badlands. Wild animals will say 'Thank you!' —the coyotes and the buzzards— Because I provided water in the desert, rivers through the sun-baked earth, Drinking water for the people I chose, the people I made especially for myself, a people custom-made to praise me.

Reading of the Gospel According to John 12:1-8

NRSV

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.

Morning Message

The Gift of Extravagance

Rev. Ruth Hopkins

Hymn

Savior, an Offering Costly and Sweet (v. 1-3)

A Word About Giving

One Great Hour of Sharing

AIM

[Unmarked gifts will be designated for our general operating fund. If you are making a gift to the mission of the month or any other option, please note that on your check or giving envelope (available in the pews).]

Offertory

Irina Hall

Doxology

[please stand as you are moved and able]

*For time to savor God's good gifts
For space to breathe and hearts to lift
For ways to reach out and to give
We offer thanks and vow to live!*

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

O God of abundance, You feed us every day. Rise in us now. Make us into your bread that we may share your gifts with a hungry world and join in your reign of love and justice with all people, everywhere. Amen.

[please be seated]

Parting Hymn

When Peace Like a River (v.1)

#438

*When peace, like a river, upholds me each day,
when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot,
you have taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."
It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul),
it is well, it is well with my soul.*

Benediction (unison)

Let us be strong and resilient like living stones.
May God's presence be the rock under our feet, the flame that kindles our passion, and the wings that lift us to pursue our vision.
May the Spirit of Life sustain us and guide us.
Blessed be.

Postlude

Irina Hall

**"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!"**



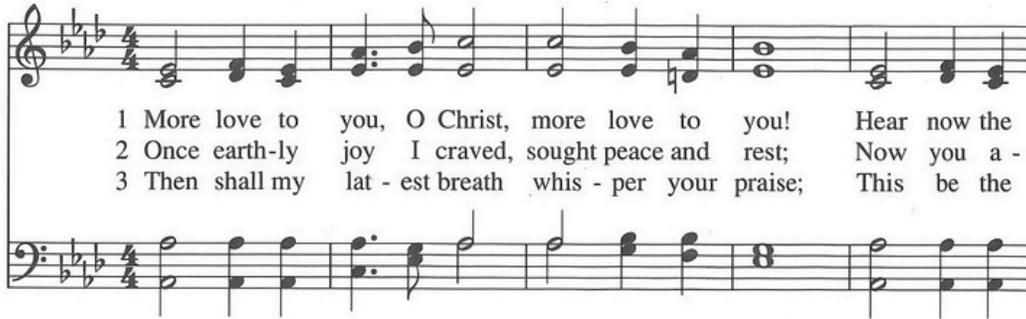
We make a point to say this from the pulpit most Sundays. We like saying it. We like what it means. It means that at Lakeview United Church of Christ you don't have to be sure about your understanding of God to worship here. It means that in this community of faith you are welcome to share your gifts and your needs---no matter what they are. It means that no matter your race, nationality, sexual orientation, gender identification, age, ability, or whatever it is that makes you you, our welcome to you is extravagant!

If you have found yourself excluded and alienated, spiritually homeless or questioning, you are welcome here. If you have ever felt there is no room for you within Christianity or the Church, you are welcome here. We are a community of faith that celebrates diversity and strives to fulfill our mission to: Reach out through God's spirit by Involving, Serving and Learning Together. We hope you will return and even consider joining this band of fellow travelers. Let's journey together!

More Love to You, O Christ

456

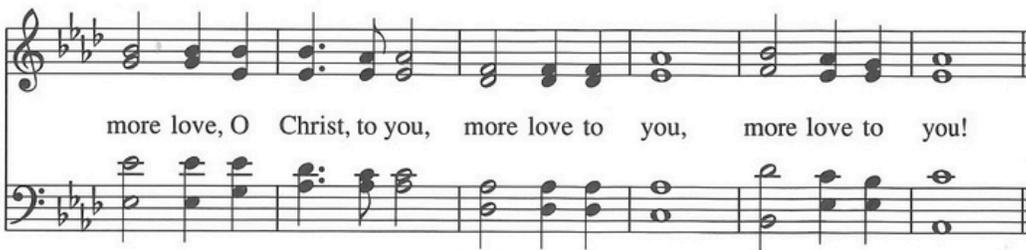
Elizabeth P. Prentiss, c. 1856; alt.



1 More love to you, O Christ, more love to you! Hear now the
2 Once earth-ly joy I craved, sought peace and rest; Now you a -
3 Then shall my lat - est breath whis - per your praise; This be the



Refrain
prayer I make faith to re - new.
lone I seek, give what is best: In all I say and do,
part - ing cry my heart shall raise:



more love, O Christ, to you, more love to you, more love to you!

Elizabeth Prentiss, a teacher and author of numerous books, wrote this hymn at a time of grief and physical illness. It was published some fifteen years later, together with William H. Doane's tune.

Tune: MORE LOVE TO YOU 6.4.6.4.6.6.4.4.
William H. Doane, 1870

Lent Five: Living Stones Meditation

Where there is no extravagance
there is no love,
and where there is no love
there is no understanding.

-Oscar Wilde 1854-1900

Dive deeply into the miracle of life and let the tips of your wings be burnt by the flame, let your feet be lacerated by the thorns, let your heart be stirred by human emotion, and let your soul be lifted beyond the earth.

-Vilayat Inayat Khan 1916-2004
"Call of the Dervish"

128 Change My Heart, O God

♩=100
C

G/B F/A Dm Gsus C F/G

Change my heart, O God, make it ev-er true.
 Reprise: *Change our hearts, O God* make them ev-er true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.
Change our hearts, O God may we be like you.

You are the Pot - ter, I am the clay.
 You are the Pot - ter, We are the clay.

Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.
 Mold us and make us, this is what we pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ev-er true.
 Change our hearts, O God make them ev-er true.

Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.
 Change our hearts, O God may we be like you.

Words (verse 1) and Music: Eddie Espinosa
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 "GIVE2LAKEVIEW"



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Savior, an Offering Costly and Sweet

John 12:1-3; Eph. 5:1-2

Edwin Parker, 1888; alt.

1 Sav - ior, an of - fer - ing cost - ly and sweet
 2 Dai - ly our lives would show weak - ness made strong,
 3 Some word of hope for hearts bur - dened with fears,
 4 Thus, ev - er serv - ing you, till e - ven - tide

Mar - y of Beth - an - y laid at your feet;
 toil - some and gloom - y ways bright - ened with song,
 some balm of peace for eyes swol - len with tears,
 clos - es the day of life, may we a - bide;

May our love's in - cense rise sweet - er than sac - ri - fice,
 Some deeds of kind - ness done, some souls by pa - tience won,
 Some dews of mer - cy shed, some way - ward foot - steps led,
 And when earth's la - bors cease, bid us de - part in peace,

Sav - ior to you, dear Sav - ior to you.
 Sav - ior to you, dear Sav - ior to you.
 Sav - ior to you, dear Sav - ior to you.
 Sav - ior to you, dear Sav - ior to you.

Edwin P. Parker served as the minister of the First Church of Christ (Center Church, Congregational) in Hartford, Connecticut, for fifty years. Parker was also a choir director, composer, and arranger. He wrote this hymn to summarize a sermon.

Tune: LOVE'S OFFERING 6.4.6.4.6.6.4.5.
 Edwin Parker, 1888

Lakeview's Mission of the Month: MARCH

One Great Hour of Sharing

The March mission is One Great Hour of Sharing, in which we join Christians in seven other denominations to support relief services wherever and whenever disaster strikes in the U.S.A. and abroad, and also to provide long-term development and assistance, refugee resettlement, and social services. For more information on our missions, see the A.I.M. bulletin board in March and the March Link article.



**One Great
HOUR**
OF SHARING



You are invited to honor or memorialize a loved one in the Easter Sunday bulletin by making a donation to the flower fund or the Lakeview Foundation. Forms are available in the narthex.

DONATIONS FOR KINGS FOOD PANTRY:

- Kidney/Chili Beans
- Beef Stew
- Condiments
- Biscuit Mix
- Diced Tomatoes
- Hamburger Helper
- Ramen Noodles



March SPECIFIC NEEDS!

Personal Care Products:

- Laundry Soap
- Shampoo
- Body Wash
- Men & Women's Deodorant



Join us on Saturday morning, March 28th to help weed the flower beds before Easter. Many hands make light work.



Be sure to mark your calendar for our next Second Sunday Lunch n'Learn, April 12th!
Watch for more details in the April LINK.



Transfiguration Spirituality Center in Glendale is presenting two upcoming retreats for the LGBTQ and Trans community:

Rainbows of Hope: Queer Joy in the Struggle Across the Ages May 29 - 31, and
The Divine Knows My Pronouns July 10 - 12, 2026.

For information and registration, please visit www.ctretreats.org or check out the flyers in the narthex.

FAMILY PROMISE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Lakeview made a commitment several years ago to assist host church St. Pat's Episcopal Church in Lebanon during their rotation week, and Lakeview handles Monday nights. This happens 4 times a year at the renovated facility on 600 Cincinnati Ave. in Lebanon.

Next Date: Monday, April 27, 2026

Volunteers are needed to:

—Provide a dish for the evening meal (4 volunteers).

—Host the families during evening hours (about 5 p.m. to about 8:45 p.m.)—2 volunteers needed. This involves helping to set out dinner and clean up, as well as hanging out with the guests and maybe doing activities with the kids (bring a craft or art project if you wish, depending on the ages of the children).

—Spend the night—2 volunteers needed. You will have your own space to sleep. There are no real duties except to make sure everyone is accounted for, turn off lights and lock up the common area, and be there in case any emergencies occur (you will have emergency contact numbers). In the morning you are free to leave as soon as you need to.

Please let Ellen Abel (ellenabel1016@gmail.com; 513-967-5022) know if you can help out, or sign up in the narthex! Support will be provided for those who have and have not done this before. It is a great and eye opening experience, allowing you to put your faith and values into action. Thank you for your continued support of this mission!



Learn more:

[Caracole.org/AIDSwalk](https://caracole.org/AIDSwalk)

Sunday, March 29th

WALK IT. RUN IT. ROCK A WIG.



This year's theme invites you to bring the big hair. Wigs are encouraged—so go bold, go colorful or go totally over-the-top as you walk, run or cheer from the sidelines.

Get your wig on and join Caracole for our 13th annual Cincinnati AIDS Walk + 5K/10K Run on Sunday, March 29 at Spring Grove Cemetery & Arboretum.

Whether you're tackling the 5K, running the 10K or bringing a little one to the Lois Kay Kids Fun Run, there's something for everyone.

All proceeds benefit our mission to positively change lives in the fight against HIV.

Learn more,
donate and
register at
caracole.org/AIDSwalk



Be sure to join us Sunday,
March 29th at 10:15am
for our Palm Sunday service!

THIS WEEK at Lakeview



TODAY

10:15 AM Sunday Worship
1:00 PM Lumos Strike- Sanct/FH

Monday, March 23

12:00 PM AA- FH
6:30 PM BSA Scouts- FH
7:00 PM AA - 12&12 Study -CR

Tuesday, March 24

5:30 PM Cub Scouts- FH/CR
7:00 PM EC Meeting- zoom
8:00 PM AA - FH/CR

Wednesday, March 25

10:00 AM Lakeview Quilters-CR
12:00 PM AA Meeting - FH
6:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal - Sanct.
7:00 PM NAR-Anon - CR
7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 26

7:00 PM AA Meeting— FH
7:00 PM Al-Anon — CR

Friday, March 27

Saturday, March 28

8:30 AM AA Meeting- FH
9:00 AM Garden clean-up

*Note: This Calendar does not reflect ALL facility scheduling.
Please email or call the office to check availability and/or
request space.*

In Our Prayers

Mac McKenzie;
Eric K (Joyce's friend)
Karen Baumann & Larry;
Harry, Ernie, Karen (Pam's friends);
The Paul Family; Lynn Potts;
Tim (Pam's Brother-in-law);
Mike Maile; Fred Wood;
Tom & Ruthie McCormack;
Linda Crawford & family;
Sue Anderson;
Patsy (friend of Pam)
Bob Sandman & family



Birthdays this Week

Dale McOsker (25)
Ann Tsui (26)



*Office Hours this week will include:
Tuesday | 0-2; Thursday | 1-2; Sunday | 2-4p.
Add'l service, remote & rehearsal hours vary.
Email: info@lakeviewucc.com*



Holy Week

April 2nd Maundy Thursday Service of Service
7:00pm, rooms 8/9
April 3rd Good Friday Zoom Service
7:00pm, online only
April 5th **Easter Sunday!**
10:15 am Sanctuary
Join us as we welcome the gift of
new life!