

The Worship of God

January 4, 2015

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ. We encourage you to use this time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, greet our visitors and share your friendship with those around you.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

ORGAN PRELUDE: La Crèche Alexandre Guilmant

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: A Maiden Most Gentle Andrew Gant

CHORAL INTROIT: "All My Heart This Night Rejoices" Johann Georg Ebeling

Hark! a voice from yonder manger, soft and sweet, doth entreat, "Flee from woe and danger! Brethren, come! from all doth grieve you, you are freed; all you need I will surely give you." Come, then, let us hasten yonder! Here let all, great and small, kneel in awe and wonder! Love him who with love is yearning! Hail the star that from far bright with hope is burning!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 172: "We Three Kings" KINGS OF ORIENT
(The congregation rises as the organist begins the hymn.)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Peace be to this house and to all who enter here.

People: "By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures."

Minister: As a shining star once guided the magi to the birthplace of the infant Jesus, so may all who enter here shine as God's light in the world.

People: May the Lord watch over our going out and our coming in, now and forevermore.

* THE GLORIA PATRI REGENT SQUARE

**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Come and worship, come and worship, Light of light: our Star, our Sun.**

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL ADORATION: "Glory to God" from *Messiah* G.F. Handel

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, goodwill towards men.

FAMILY DEDICATION

*Today we celebrate the dedication of Savannah Grace Wright,
born on June 17, 2014, to Lenka and Robert Wright.*

HOMILY

THE COVENANT

Minister: Do you parents present your child before God, in solemn dedication?

Parents: We do.

Minister: Do you commit yourselves as parents to bring up your child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Parents: We do.

Minister: Do you promise to instruct your child in the teachings of Jesus Christ and in the practice of prayer, and to provide guidance in the development of a Christlike character?

Parents: We do.

Minister: Do you promise, to the best of your ability, so to shape your home life, by your words and by your example, that your child will naturally come to an open confession of Christ as Lord and enter into the fellowship and service of the church?

Parents: We do.

Minister: As a congregation, what pledge do you make to these parents?

People: We rejoice in this new life that has come into your family, and we pledge to you our support, encouragement, and prayers as you seek to raise your child in a Christian home. We further pledge to do our part in nurturing your child's growing faith through worship, teaching, and service.

THE UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, our heavenly Parent, we have received our children in trust from you. Acting as stewards of this holy trust, help us to love our children unselfishly, and to guide them into righteous living. We pledge our lives to the fulfillment of this holy calling, and pray for your divine help through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHILD

ANTHEM: "Do You Know Your Shepherd's Voice?" Suzanne Lord

Do you know your Shepherd's voice? Are you list'ning with your heart? Have you stopped to hear him calling, felt the peace his words impart? As the world shouts its orders that are easiest to hear, won't you draw away and listen to your Shepherd standing near? Are you listening? The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet waters and he restores my soul!

MEDITATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Minister: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

* HYMN 173: "As with Gladness" DIX

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Regent Square Edwin C. Johnson

* THE DOXOLOGY AWAY IN A MANGER

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

PROCLAMATION

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON: "Reflections of Authority: Herod and the Magi" Dr. Wright

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

THE APPROACH TO THE TABLE: "He Shall Purify" from *Messiah* G.F. Handel

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

UNISON CONFESSION OF SIN

Forgive us, O God, for those times when we have made this holy season a whirlwind of lists and activities, a flood of joyless obligations, and an avalanche of heartless generosity. Calm our rush and soothe our anxiety. Grant us your true and eternal peace through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD: "This is my body which is broken for you."
THE SHARING OF THE CUP: "This is the new covenant of my blood."

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into Hell; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

- * RECESSIONAL HYMN 165: "Once in Royal David's City" IRBY
(Persons desiring membership in our church are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn.)
- * THE BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
- * ORGAN POSTLUDE: Chant du Roi René Alexandre Guilmant
- * Congregation stands.

The white poinsettias on the chancel are given to the glory of God and in memory of Webster Henry and in honor of Nancy Henry by the Henry family.

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright	Elizabeth Edwards	Amy Shortt
<i>Senior Minister</i>	<i>Associate Minister</i>	<i>Minister of Music</i>
Anna Adkins	Mark Gansor	Hunter Cuthrell
<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>Organist</i>	<i>Crucifer</i>

*Children's worship aids are available in the narthex.
Bibles and Wireless Hearing Aids are available in the Prayer Room off the narthex.
Childcare is available in the Preschool Building.*

The paraments on the altar and pulpit, along with the ministers' stoles, provide us with visual cues about the meaning of our faith. The color of the season of Epiphany is white, reminder of the light that guided the magi and of our own charge to be light to the world. The Celtic Cross with its circle symbolizes the sacrificial love and eternal nature of God. The Acolyte brings light to the altar as a reminder of Christ, the Light of life, and leads us out of the sanctuary as a reminder that we are to take this light to the world. In the same way, we begin and end our worship following the cross as a symbol of God's self-giving love for us all.

BENEVOLENT OFFERING

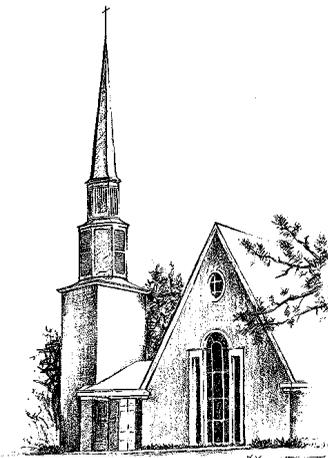
As we do each time we have communion during morning worship, today we will receive a Benevolent Offering for local ministries. Our youth will collect the offering at each of the exits as we leave worship.

WE WELCOME OUR GUESTS

We welcome our guests and would like for you to know more about Lakeside Church and its ministry. Members of Lakeside are persons on a journey of faith. Our church seeks to be a worshipping and serving community where the gospel of Jesus Christ is modeled and proclaimed.

Our church is Baptist by tradition and heritage, but in our worship and practice we seek to move beyond the label of a denomination to incorporate the richness of other Christian traditions. In our community service we support many ecumenical ministries that convey God's love beyond the lines of any denomination.

We receive members by affirmation of their faith or by transfer from other Christian churches. We honor the previous baptism of persons coming to Lakeside from other Christian denominations. If you are interested in knowing more about our church and its ministries, please fill out a guest card or speak to one of the ministers or members.



Epiphany at Lakeside

Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27804