

The Worship of God

DRIVEN INTO THE WILDERNESS

March 18, 2012

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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. Following the service, greet our visitors and share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

ORGAN PRELUDE: Wondrous Love

Samuel Barber

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Chorale Dorian

Jehan Alain

CHORAL INTROIT

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the wellspring of life.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 517: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

HYFRYDOL

(The congregation rises as the organist begins the hymn.)

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit, into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit; let us find that second rest.
Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

People: Our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;

Minister: Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

People: The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

Minister: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

People: Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

* THE GLORIA PATRI 35

GREATOREX

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL ADORATION

Theodore Dubois

Christ, we do all adore thee, and we do praise thee for ever;
for on the holy cross hast thou the world from sin redeemed.

MEDITATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Numbers 21:4-9

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

* HYMN 619: "My Life Flows On"

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Grand Jeu et Trio

Jacques Boyvin

* THE DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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

ANTHEM: "My Eternal King"

Jane Marshall

My God, I love thee; not because I hope for heav'n thereby, nor yet because who love thee not must die eternally. Thou, O my Jesus, thou didst me upon the cross embrace; for me didst bear the nails and spear and manifold disgrace. Why, then, why, O blessed Jesus Christ, should I not love thee well? Not for the hope of winning heav'n, or of escaping hell; not with the hope of gaining aught, not seeking a reward; but as thyself hast loved me, O ever-loving Lord! E'en so I love thee, and will love, and in thy praise will sing, solely because thou art my God, and my eternal King.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 3:14-21

SERMON: "Driven Into the Wilderness: For Life"

Dr. Wright

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Psalm 51

Minister: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

People: O God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Forgive us our sin and enable us to forgive ourselves.

Silent confession.

Minister: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

People: Do not only forgive, O God, but change me. Refocus my heart, my mind, my hands, and my spirit.

Minister: Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.

People: Hold me close in your loving arms and protect me from temptation's power by the strength of your Spirit.

Minister: Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

People: Bring joy into my life, O God, the joy of your love and grace. Amen.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ANTHEM: "God So Loved the World"

John Stainer

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Eternal God, we believe that you are the light of the minds that know you,
the joy of the hearts that love you, and the strength of the wills that serve you.**

**As we walk through this wilderness of resurrection hope,
grant us so to know you that we may truly love you,
and so to love you that we may fully serve you,
whom to serve is perfect freedom and life everlasting. Amen.**

Augustine of Hippo adapted

THE CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

- * RECESSIONAL HYMN 200: "What Wondrous Love Is This" WONDROUS LOVE
(Persons desiring membership in our church are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn.)
- * THE BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN
- * ORGAN POSTLUDE: Praeludium in b J. S. Bach
- * Congregation stands.

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Mark Edwards by a friend.

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright <i>Senior Minister</i>	Elizabeth Edwards <i>Associate Minister</i>	Amy Shortt <i>Minister of Music</i>
Jimmy Brantley <i>Acolyte</i>	Mark Gansor <i>Organist</i>	Wes Collins <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 is purple, used to indicate royalty and suffering alike, a reminder of Christ's kingship and the suffering he endured for us all. Throughout Lent we undertake a journey of self-discovery leading to repentance and renewal. The symbol is comprised of the two Greek letters, chi and rho, the first two letters in the Greek word Christos, meaning Christ. 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.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BAGS

Worship bags are available in the Narthex and have a variety of items that will help to make worship more meaningful for our children. Please return them to the Narthex following worship.

TODAY AT LAKESIDE

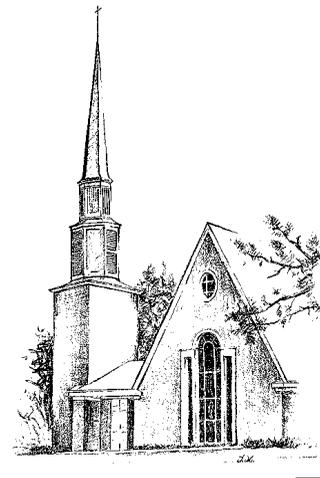
- 5:00 p.m. Children's Activity, Preschool Music and Storytime
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Choir and Handbells
- 5:45 p.m. Preschool and Children's Dinner
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. Preschool Bible and Missions Activities, Children's Choir
- 6:30 p.m. SNL for Youth
- 7:00 p.m. Diaconate, Conference Room

WE WELCOME OUR GUESTS

We welcome our guests and would like for you to know more about Lakeside Church and its ministry. We the 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 and honor the baptism of persons coming to Lakeside from other Christian denominations. If you would like to know more about our church and its ministries, fill out a guest card or speak to one of the ministers or members.



Lenten Worship
at Lakeside

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