

The Worship of God

May 12, 2013

ASCENSION 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. 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: Alla Breve in G J.S. Bach

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Sing We Triumphant Hymns of Praise Gerald Near

CHORAL INTROIT Johann Michael Haydn

Ascended on high, almighty to save, yet still he is nigh, his presence we have. The great congregation his triumph shall sing, ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king. Then let us adore, and give him his right, all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might, all honor and blessing, with angels above, and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 23: "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" LAUDA ANIMA
(The congregation rises as the organist begins the hymn.)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: We are gathered for worship.

People: There is much to do in this world, for the hungry cry to be fed, the homeless to be housed. We live in a world in need of peace and among a people in need of hope.

Minister: We are gathered for worship.

People: The problems of this world call for energy and vision.

Minister: In worship we seek God's vision of hope and wholeness and meet the Spirit who gives strength to the weary.

People: In worship our spirits are renewed by God's grace and our hearts are made wide by God's love.

Minister: We have gathered for worship.

All: Come, let us worship God in this hour that we may live as God's people in the days to come.

* THE GLORIA PATRI 35 GREATOREX

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL ADORATION Eric Thiman

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, even lift them up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of Hosts, he is the King of glory.
(Ushers will seat those waiting.)

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

THE CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive, O God, for we have sinned. The busyness of our lives has eroded the intentions of our hearts; our personal agendas have taken precedence over reaching out to others; we have become quite skilled at listening, but we are hesitant to become "doers of the word." Gracious and merciful God, forgive and help us to make ourselves more available to the hurting world that surrounds us. Equip us to be patient and compassionate listeners, proclaiming the gospel with sensitivity and love. Strengthen us with the Holy Spirit to be fruitful and active witnesses in all we do and say.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

MEDITATION

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 24:44-53

ANTHEM: "God of Grace and God of Glory" Paul T. Langston

God of Grace and God of Glory on thy people pour thy pow'r; crown thine ancient church's story bring her bud to glorious flow'r. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour! Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail His ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us, free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, for the living of these days! Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be armored with all Christlike graces in the fight to set men free. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not man nor thee, that we fail not man nor thee! Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

* HYMN 683: "O for a World" AZMON

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

ORGAN OFFERTORY: God Is Here! arr. Benjamin M. Culli

* THE DOXOLOGY LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

We give thanks for Meals on Wheels which enhances the quality of life of individuals at home by providing nutritious meals and personal contact. The acolyte brings forward a meal box and places it on the altar.

PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM: "Thy Perfect Love" John Rutter

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest, thy perfect love close in my breast. That I thee love and never rest; and make me love thee all things best, and wound my heart in thy love free, that I may reign in joy evermore with thee.

THE HISTORY LESSON: Acts 1:1-11

SERMON: "Left Behind . . . for Good" Dr. Wright

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, Father to all who trust him, who has called us to work together, to build a world wherein the unity, peace, and joy of his kingdom shall prevail.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and our brother, who suffered, died, and rose again for us, that we might learn to live for others, and find hope in his victory over death.

We believe in the Spirit, in the power of truth, in the triumph of love, in the reality of God's sustaining presence with us now.

We believe in the Church, the unity and fellowship to which all are called, that we may heal the brokenness of life, and find everlasting joy in fellowship with Christ our Lord.

THE CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 459: "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" ABBOT'S LEIGH
(Persons desiring membership in our church are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn.)

* THE BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Noël Nouvelet Mark Sedio

* Congregation stands.

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and in honor of Corrinne Willcox by Jan, Jaye, Dianne, John and Ami.*

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright
Senior Minister
Reynolds Cobb
Acolyte

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister
Mark Gansor
Organist

Amy Shortt
Minister of Music
Spencer Bulluck
Crucifer

*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. Today is Ascension Sunday when we celebrate Christ's return to heaven and resumption of his unity with God. The color of the day is white, symbolic of Christ's sovereignty and his compassionate rule over our lives. 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 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.

BIBLES AND LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AVAILABLE

Bibles and several large print hymnals are available for your convenience and are located in the Prayer Room off the Narthex. Please ask an usher as you enter the sanctuary.

WIRELESS HEARING AIDS

Wireless hearing aids are available in the Prayer Room off the narthex. Please ask an usher to assist you with a set. You may return the hearing aid to the Prayer Room following worship.

GRADUATE SUNDAY

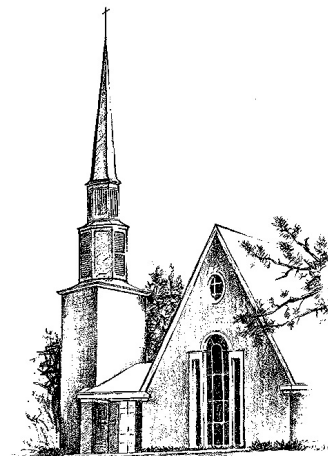
Next Sunday, May 19, we will celebrate Graduate Sunday during morning worship. If a family member graduated from college in December or will graduate from high school or college this spring, please contact the church office by May 14 so that we may recognize them in *The Link* and during our Graduate Recognition Service next week. We need full names, school, degree, and future plans. The Graduate luncheon following the service is open to all youth and their families. Graduates and their immediate family members are invited as our guests. Others may sign up to join us for \$7 per person.

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.



*Ascension
at
Lakeside*

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