

The Worship of God

Perfect Peace in an Imperfect World

December 8, 2013

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ and offers 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 guests and share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

ORGAN PRELUDE: Choral Prelude on *Sleepers Wake* J. S. Bach
Fantasia on *In dulci jubilo*

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

HANDBELL MEDITATION: Coventry Carol arr. Keith Burt

CHORAL INTROIT J.S. Bach

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light and usher in the morning; ye shepherds, shrink not with affright, but hear the angel's warning. This child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be, the power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 148: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ADESTE FIDELIS
(The congregation rises as the organist begins the hymn.)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: As our Advent pilgrimage begins, we look for a miracle that will prove God's love.

People: We hope for a miracle that will bring wholeness to the ones we love.

Minister: We pray for a miracle that will bring peace to the world.

People: We cry out for a miracle that will bring salvation to all people.

Minister: Then we realize that Christ's coming is more than a miracle. It is love.

People: Love for the unexpected challenges in our lives,

Minister: Love for the vulnerable ones in our midst.

People: Love for the presence of God in all creation.

All: God, grant us the courage to receive and share your love.

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Rebecca, Brent, and Jacob Watkins

* THE GLORIA PATRI MENDELSSOHN

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,

Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.

Mighty kings bow down before him, Hail the long awaited birth.

Shepherds worship and adore him, King of heaven and Lord of earth.

With the angels let us sing, "Glory to the coming King."

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL ADORATION Old German Tune, arr. R. L. Pearsall

In dulci jubilo let us our homage shew; our heart's joy reclineth in praesepio and like a bright star shineth, Matris in gremio. Alpha es et O, Alpha es et O.

MEDITATION

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 3:1-12

YOUTH ANTHEM: "Dona Nobis Pacem" arr. Margaret R. Tucker

Dona nobis pacem Grant us your peace.

Cornelia Singletary, accompanist

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

* CAROL 140: "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" SHEFFIELD

Children in grades K-5 will leave for Children's Church.

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

HANDBELL OFFERTORY: I Saw Three Ships

arr. Sandra Eithun

* THE DOXOLOGY

VENI EMMANUEL

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.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM: "Creation Will Be at Peace"

Anna Laura Page

In the holy mountain of the Lord all war and strife will cease; in the holy mountain of the Lord creation will be at peace. The wolf will lie down with the lamb, the cow and bear will feed, their young will play together; a little child will lead. The leopard and goat will graze, the lion will feed on straw. They will war no more; a child will lead them all.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10

SERMON: "From Foes to Friends"

Dr. Wright

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that when angry words inflict bruised feelings,

When broken promises result in broken hearts,

And when pride blocks reconciliation,

Love comes home at Christmas.

We believe that when poor choices yield unpleasant results,

When failure and defeat shadow our every move,

And when the future appears bleak and unkind,

Hope comes home at Christmas.

We believe that when sorrow absorbs all of the happiness from life,

When living is a chore with no pleasant reward,

And when laughter is a gift we have all but forgotten,

Joy comes home at Christmas.

We believe that when discord becomes the melody of our days,

When anxiety stalks us, stealing our sleep at night,

And when war is the pattern of all human interaction,

Peace comes home at Christmas.

We believe that when we no longer know who we are,

When we do not feel at home in familiar places,

And when our spirits cry out to God for help,

Christ comes home at Christmas. Thanks be to God! Amen!

THE CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 153: "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" Carol

(Persons desiring membership in our church are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn.)

* THE BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: O Come, All Ye Faithful

David M. Cherwien

* Congregation stands.

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and the doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. Memorial brochures listing these gifts are available in the narthex.

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright
Senior Minister
Spencer Edwards
Acolyte

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister
Mark Gansor
Organist

Amy Shortt
Minister of Music
Andersen Cobb
Crucifer

Lakeside website: lakesidechurchrmt.org
Children's worship aids are available in the narthex.
Childcare is available in the Preschool Building.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children in kindergarten through grade 5 are invited to participate in Children's Church with Nancy Parker today. The children will leave from the sanctuary during the second hymn by the south door to the right of the chancel area. Parents may meet their children in the Youth Building following worship.

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.

The season of Advent is a time of preparation when we celebrate the coming of Christ as a babe many years ago and anticipate his return sometime in our future. The theme of our Advent worship this year is "Perfect Peace in an Imperfect World." We consider the different ways in which the Light of Christ's coming brings us hope, love, joy, and peace. The paraments on the pulpit and lectern, 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. 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.

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 worshiping 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.



Advent at Lakeside

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