

The Worship of God

“COMPLETELY FOREVER”

December 25, 2016

CHRISTMAS DAY

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: Christmas

Everett Titcomb

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Prelude on *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Gordon Phillips

INTROIT: Medieval Gloria

Vijay Singh

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Et in terra pax, pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te, Glorificamus te. Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloria tu am. Glory to God in the highest! And on earth, peace to men of good will. We praise you. Thank you. We glorify you. Glory to God in the highest! We give thanks to thee for thy great glory.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 150: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

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

* LIGHTING AND UNISON BLESSING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Hazel and Alfred Ayscue

Source of all Illumination, we celebrate today the coming of your Word made flesh, your Light of life to dwell among us. Bless these holy flames that in their glow we may be blessed by your grace and abiding love. May these candles remind us of your steadfast presence. May they give us hope in times of darkness. Bless us, that we might reflect the Light of Christ in our daily lives. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the world! Amen.

* THE GLORIA PATRI

ADESTE FIDELES

**Glory to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;
Praise we the Trinity – Three in one;
Sing alleluia! Welcome the Messiah;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

* LITANY OF ADORATION

The congregation will sing the response to the tune Regent Square.

Choir: Come and worship, come and worship. Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Minister: Blessed are you, O Christ, our God; you were before time began, and came to the world to save us. Blessed are you, Sun of Righteousness; you shine with the Father's love and illumine the whole universe.

People: Come and worship, come and worship. Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Minister: Blessed are you, Son of Mary; born a child, you shared our humanity. Blessed are you, son of David; born to rule, you received gifts from the wise men.

People: Come and worship, come and worship. Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Minister: Blessed are you, Son of Man; baptized by John, you saved us from ourselves. Blessed are you, Heavenly King; teaching and preaching, healing and comforting, you proclaimed the kingdom.

People: Come and worship, come and worship. Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Minister: With all the voices of heaven we celebrate the coming of our Savior. Let heaven and earth shout their praise. With all the creatures on earth we sing and dance at your birth.

Praise and glory to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Come and worship, come and worship. Worship Christ, the newborn King!

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

THE CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess that there are many things that stand in the way of a true celebration of God's love and that cause us to be separated from God, our neighbors, and ourselves. We confess our ever-lasting need of God, the need of forgiveness for selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

MEDITATION

THE GOSPEL LESSON: John 1:1-14

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

* HYMN 162: “What Child Is This?” GREENSLEEVES

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation

Mark Pichowicz

* THE DOXOLOGY

THE FIRST NOEL

**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.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

PROCLAMATION

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Hebrews 1:1-4

HOMILY: “God With Us!”

Dr. Wright

SOLO: “Little Lamb, Who Made Thee?”

W.B. Caldwell

Little lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee, gave thee life, and bade thee feed by the stream and o'er the mead; gave thee clothing of delight, softest clothing, woolly, bright; gave thee such a tender voice, making all the vales rejoice? Little lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Little lamb, I'll tell thee; Little lamb, I'll tell thee: He is called by thy name, for he calls himself a lamb, he is meek, and he is mild, he became a little child; I a child, and thou a lamb, We are called by his name. Little lamb, God bless thee! Little lamb, God bless thee!

William Blake
Catherine Cobb, soloist

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

As people of faith we believe in God's promises,

But with the coming of Christ we sing a triumphal song of hope.

We believe God has always watched over his people with love,

But with the coming of Christ we discover the mystery of redeeming love.

We believe God intends for his people to know happiness,

But with the coming of Christ we receive a joy unknown before.

We believe God desires wholeness for all his people,

But with the coming of Christ we experience the gift of God's peace.

We believe that when we open our hearts and lives to Immanuel, God-with-us,

The coming of Christ changes us forever . . . completely forever.

THE CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

- * RECESSIONAL HYMN 143: “Joy to the World” Antioch
(Persons desiring membership in our church are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn.)
- * THE BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE
- * ORGAN POSTLUDE: Fantasia on *In dulci jubilo* (BWV 729) J. S. Bach
- * 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.*

*We are grateful for the Memorial Poinsettias that adorn the sanctuary, remembrances of those persons
who have filled our lives with love and joy. You may take your poinsettias following the service today.*

The artwork on the cover is “The Adoration” by Dante Gabriel Rossetti (1858-64).

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright
Senior Minister
Anna Adkins
Acolyte

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister
Mark Pichowicz
Organist
Spencer Edwards
Torch Bearer

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.

*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 Christmas season is white, symbolic of purity and light. The Celtic
Cross with its circle reminds us of the sacrificial love and eternal nature of God. The Acolyte brings light to
the altar as a reminder of Christ, the Light of life. In the same way, we begin 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.

***In order to allow our staff their Christmas holidays,
the church office will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 26 and 27.
It will be open on Wednesday, December 28.***

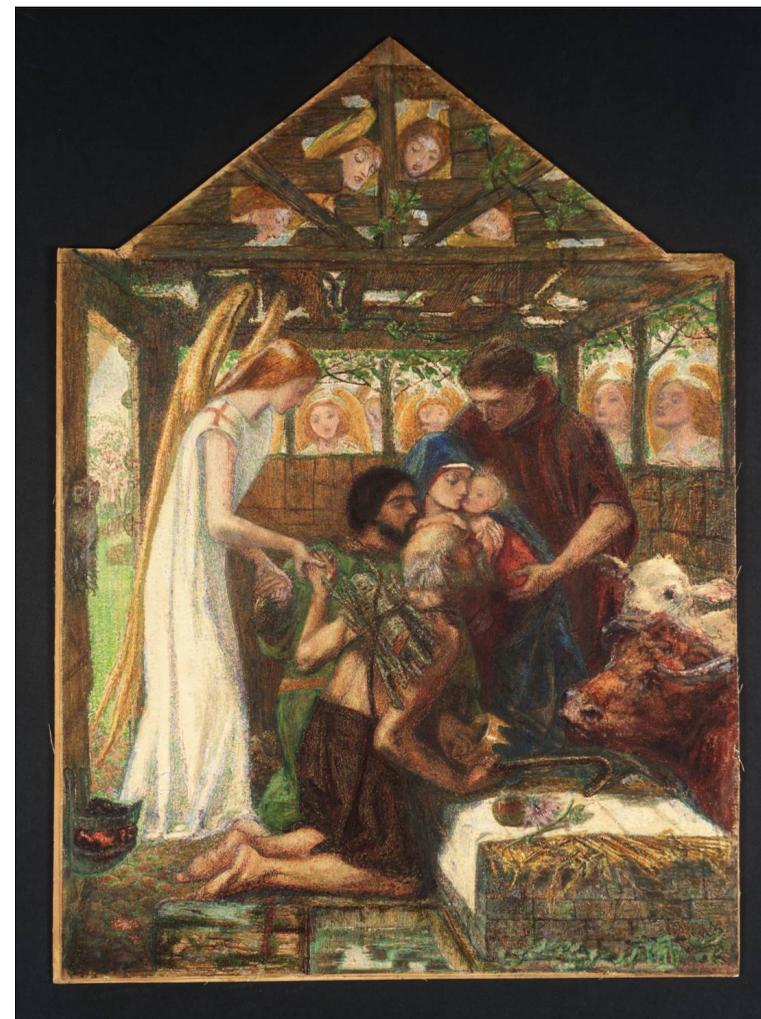
WE WELCOME OUR GUESTS

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.

Christmas at Lakeside



Lakeside Baptist Church
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, North Carolina