

# The Worship of God

December 27, 2015

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

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: Sonata IV Allegretto

Felix Mendelssohn

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Puer Natus in Bethlehem

J.S. Bach

CHORAL INTROIT

Silesian Melody

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine!

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

\* CALL TO WORSHIP Mary Frances Raper

Minister: Advent calls us to believe that the Messiah comes to us and for us.

**People: We believe. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Minister: Advent calls us to recognize that the Messiah brings light to dispel darkness and hope to those who do not know peace.

**People: We behold him. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Minister: Advent calls us to experience the Messiah in our midst and to see in him the face of God.

**People: We welcome him. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Minister: Advent calls us to proclaim that the Messiah has come.

**All: Arise, shine; for our light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon us!**

\* 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

Bill Snedden

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

THE CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgive us, O God, for we have sinned. We call you the Alpha and The Omega, the beginning and the end, King of kings, and Lord of lords; yet, our hearts are often far from you. We confess that we turn aside from your path, shut our ears to your voice, and close our eyes to the things you would have us see. Too often we seek good things without recognizing that you are the source of all that is good and true and lasting. Forgive us our willingness to claim for ourselves what is yours and our unwillingness to notice your glory in the world. Have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
*Richard Fairchild, adapted*

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## MEDITATION

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7 Spencer Bulluck

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

\* CAROL 147: "Away in a Manger" AWAY IN A MANGER

\* OFFERTORY PRAYER Elizabeth Lane

ORGAN OFFERTORY: In Dulci jubilo J.S. Bach

\* 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

ANTHEM: "Thou Shalt Know Him" Mark Burrows

Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by any din of drums, nor the manner of his airs, nor by anything he wears. Thou shalt know him when he comes, not by his crown or his gown, but his coming known shall be by his holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 2:41-52

HOMILY: "Looking for Jesus" Rev. Edwards

\* CAROL 167: "Go, Tell It On the Mountain" GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God the Father who created the world out of love, fashioned humanity with the artistry of his hands, and breathed into us the very essence of life.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ who was born into our world, brought hope to life through his compassion and grace, and restored joy to life through his gift of salvation.**

**We believe in the Spirit of God who is always present with us, reminds us of the peace that is ours, and beckons us to trust the power of God's love.**

**We believe that life is more than miracle, that it is born in the heart of God, held in the hands of God, and will one day be received back by the mercy of God.**

THE CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\* RECESSIONAL CAROL 155: "Angels We Have Heard on High" GLORIA  
*(Persons desiring membership in our church are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn.)*

\* THE BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

\* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Noel Suisse Louis Claude D'aquin

\* Congregation stands.

*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.*

# Christmas at Lakeside

## THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright  
*Senior Minister*  
Daniel Edwards  
*Acolyte*

Elizabeth Edwards  
*Associate Minister*  
Katherine Johnson  
*Guest Organist*

Amy Shortt  
*Minister of Music*  
Barkley Browder  
*Crucifer*

*Children's worship aids are available in the narthex.  
Wireless hearing 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.*

## WE WELCOME OUR GUEST ORGANIST

We are pleased to welcome Katherine Johnson to Lakeside as our guest organist. Miss Johnson is a high school student in Wilson, North Carolina, and a student of Andrew Scanlon, Organist-Choirmaster at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Greenville, and a member of the keyboard faculty at East Carolina University.

## 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.

## LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AVAILABLE

Several large print hymnals are available for the convenience of any worshipers who have trouble reading the pew hymnals. Please ask an usher for a copy 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.

## YEAR END GIVING

With your continued generosity and abundant support of our ministry, we will meet our budget obligations this year. If you have not yet completed your giving for the year, please do so as soon as possible. If you are able, consider an additional gift before the end of the year. All financial gifts must be received by noon on December 31 to be counted toward this year's giving.

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

There will be no evening activities tonight. The church office will be closed Monday, December 28 and Friday, January 1.

*The artwork on the cover is "Nativity and Annunciation to the Shepherds,"  
by Bernardino Luini, 1520-25, Musée du Louvre, Paris.*

## 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.



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