

# *The Worship of God*

December 29, 2013

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: Joy to the World  
Away in a Manger  
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
Gordon Young

## WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Stille Nacht  
John Leavitt

CHORAL INTROIT  
Johann Georg Ebeling  
Come, then, let us hasten yonder! Here let all, great and small, kneel in awe and wonder! Love him who with love is yearning! Hail the star that from far bright with hope is burning!

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 170: "How Great Our Joy!"  
*(The congregation rises as the organist begins the hymn.)*  
JUNGST

\* CALL TO WORSHIP  
from Martin Luther

Minister: Little Child of God, laid in a manger, we adore your coming!

**People: Now God is of our image, God is of our flesh and blood.**

Minister: Now there is no difference at all between your body and ours. You are our Savior and our brother lying in a cot.

**People: You join our human frailty, share our needs, and assure us of utter glory. Hallelujah!**

\* THE GLORIA PATRI  
GLORIA

**Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

\* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL ADORATION  
Joan Collier Fogg  
Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright. When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

### THE CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgive us, O Lord, for we have sinned. We confess that the activities and trappings of the Christmas season wear us out. We are glad to put up the decorations and clear away the clutter. We admit that the way we celebrate Jesus' birth is a long way from the stable in Bethlehem, but have patience with us, O God, and shine your light upon us once again. Help us not to spend all our energies on Christmas alone but to rejoice in Christ with us now and forever.**

### THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## MEDITATION

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6; 19-22

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

\* HYMN 151: "The First Noel" THE FIRST NOEL

\* OFFERTORY PRAYER

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella David M. Cherwien

\* THE DOXOLOGY GREENSLEEVES

**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.  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

## PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM: "Light Everlasting" Olaf C. Christiansen

O Light everlasting, O Love never failing. Illumine our darkness, and draw us to thee; may we from thy Spirit receive inspiration that all thy creation thy wisdom may see. Make known to all nations! Thy salvation! Make known to all nations, thy peace, thy peace and salvation, and help us, O Father, thy temple to be.

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:1-12

HOMILY: "Why Do You Follow?" Rev. Edwards

\* HYMN 167: "Go Tell It on the Mountain" GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

## AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in Jesus Christ and the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.**

**We believe in the One whose Spirit glorified a little town, and whose Spirit still brings joy to people all over the world in towns both large and small.**

**We believe in the One for whom the crowded inn could find no room, whom the rulers of the earth ignored, the proud could never understand, whose life was among common people, and whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts.**

**We believe in the One who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible, whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home had love for its only wealth, who looked at people and made them see what God's love saw in them.**

**We believe in the One who, by love, brings sinners back to purity and lifts human weakness up to meet the strength of God.**

## THE CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\* RECESSIONAL HYMN 172: "We Three Kings" KINGS OF ORIENT  
*(Persons desiring membership in our church are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn.)*

\* THE BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

\* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Joy to the World J. Wayne Kerr

\* Congregation stands.

*The white poinsettias on the chancel are given to the glory of God and in memory of  
The Reverend Dr. Gaylord L. Lehman, Pastor of Lakeside Church from 1966-1998.*

*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 MINISTRY OF WORSHIP**

Jody C. Wright  
*Senior Minister*  
Anira Morris  
*Acolyte*

Elizabeth Edwards  
*Associate Minister*  
Mark Gansor  
*Organist*  
Shawn Crumley  
*Lay Reader*

Amy Shortt  
*Minister of Music*  
Charlie Lane  
*Crucifer*

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*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.*

#### **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 worshippers 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 Wednesday, January 1.

*The artwork on the cover is "The Adoration of the Magi" by Fray Nicolas, 1570s.*

#### **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

# *Christmas at Lakeside*



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