

The Worship of God

Everlasting Lovingkindness: God's Journey to Us

December 3, 2017

THE FIRST 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, share your friendship with those around you. Wireless hearing aids are available in the narthex.

The Hanging of the Greens

ORGAN PRELUDE: Prelude on *The Holly and the Ivy*

Herbert Sumsion

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: Interlude on *The Coventry Carol*

W.S. Lloyd-Webber

CHORAL INTROIT

French Melody, 15th Century

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL

(The congregation will rise when the organist begins playing.)

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Elva Hux and Sheila Whitley

* LITANY OF PREPARATION

Elizabeth Edwards

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Minister: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

People: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

Minister: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.

Minister: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

People: Glory to God in the highest!

* 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

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM:

"O Come, Divine Messiah"

James Biery

O come, Divine Messiah, the world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph, and sadness flee away. Dear Savior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dispel the night and show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, desired of nations, whom priest and prophet long foretold, will break the captive fetters, redeem the long-lost fold. O come in peace and meekness, for lowly will your cradle be: though clothed in human weakness we shall your Godhead see.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 2:4-9, 18-23, 3:8a

Rob Martin

PRAYER

Casey McAuliffe

THE BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

Chandler Lamm

ANTHEM: "People Look East"

Hal H. Hopson

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People look east and sing today: Love the guest is on the way. Furrows be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flow'r may flourish. People look east and sing today: Love the rose is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledgling time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love the bird is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today, Love the star is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way. People look east and sing today. Rejoice!

THE BLESSING OF THE GREENERY AND WREATHS

Deb Parker

CAROL MEDLEY *(Please remain seated and sing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.)*

147 (stanzas 1&3):

"Away in a Manger"

AWAY IN A MANGER

159 (stanzas 1&2):

"There's a Song in the Air"

CHRISTMAS SONG

150 (stanzas 1&3):

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

MENDELSSOHN

THE BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS

Paul Strange

ANTHEM: "In the Bleak Midwinter"

Gustav Holst/arr. Donald Moore

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long time ago. Angels and archangels o'er the stable there, cherubim and seraphim gathered in the air; But his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved, worshiped with a kiss. O what can I give him, poor though as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; what I can I give him: give him my hear. What I can I give him: give him my heart.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Marion Weathers

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Improvisation on *Veni Emmanuel*

Mark Pichowicz

* 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!

THE BLESSING OF THE CRECHE

Allison Ramsey

ANTHEM: "A Place to Keep Your Son"

Matthew H. Corl

A watching, waiting people look for signs from above. We keep awake, expecting the coming of your love. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. A voice cries out, "Get ready, prepare a way for God; be ready for his coming, the coming of our Lord." We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. Rejoicing in your spirit, our deepest joy in you; the world is ever changing, but you are ever true. We know good news shall be here soon, a blessed one shall come; prepare in us a warm heart, a place to keep your son. We hear the angel's greeting, "O hail, you blessed one, for you shall bear a Savior and he will be God's son." We know good news shall be here soon, the blessed one is near; we'll make for him a warm heart, we'll hold your own son dear.

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Dorrie Wright

ANTHEM: “O Come, Redeemer of the Earth”

Brian L. Hanson

O come, Redeemer of the earth, and manifest your virgin birth. Let ev’ry age in wonder fall: such birth befits the God of all. Begotten of no human will but of the Spirit, you are still the Word of God in flesh arrayed, the promised fruit to man displayed. O, Morning Star, come end our night. Cast out our sin and shed your light. The darkness of our mortal state with endless beams, illuminate! All praise, eternal Son, above whose advent shows your matchless love, whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.

THE GOSPEL LESSON:

Luke 1:26-38

MEDITATION:

“God’s Journey to Us: Creating Life”

Jody Wright

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Minister: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.

The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.

People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.

Minister: We believe in God.

People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.

Minister: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.

Minister: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.

People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.

Minister: We believe in the Holy Spirit.

People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.

Minister: We believe in the church.

People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.

Minister: We believe in the Word of Life.

People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.

Minister: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.

People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Minister: We believe in the resurrection.

People: Offering life everlasting!

Minister: Bursting forth with hope!

People: Hallelujah!

Minister: Let us offer our lives to God.

People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 125: “Come, O Long Expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

* ORGAN POSTLUDE: Noël Suisse, Grand Jeu et Duo

Louis-Claude Daquin

* 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. Please see the memorial brochure for a listing of these gifts.



Advent at Lakeside

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

*Advent at Lakeside
Everlasting Lovingkindness:
God's Journey to Us*

**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
God's Journey to Us: Creating Life**

December 3 - 11 o'clock a.m.
"Hanging of the Greens"
A service of carols, readings,
and decorating the sanctuary
Children's and Chancel Choirs

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
God's Journey to Us: A Calling in the World**

December 10 - 11 o'clock a.m.
Christmas Oratorio by Camille Saint-Saëns
The Chancel Choir
NC Symphony String Quartet
Guest Soloists and Harpist

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

December 10 - 5 o'clock p.m.
Taking the music of the season
to our members at home
followed by a time of food and fellowship
in Robbins Hall in the Kincheloe Building

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
God's Journey to Us: Freed for Righteousness**

December 17 - 11 o'clock a.m.
Chancel Choir and Adult Handbell Choir

SERVICE OF CAROLS AND CANDLELIGHTING

December 17 - 6 o'clock p.m.
A service of lessons and carols
telling the story of Jesus' birth
Chancel and Children's Choirs
Adult Handbell Choir

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
God's Journey to Us: Courage for the Day**

December 21 - 11 o'clock a.m.
Chancel Choir

**CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION
God's Journey to Us: Immanuel**

December 24 - 6 o'clock p.m.
Communion
Chris Ellis, violinist

WE WELCOME OUR GUESTS

We welcome our guests and would like for you to know more about Lakeside Church and its ministry. We the 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 and honor the baptism of persons coming to Lakeside from other Christian denominations. If you would like to know more about our church and its ministries, fill out a guest card or speak to one of the ministers or members.

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.

ADVENT AT LAKESIDE

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 "Everlasting Lovingkindness: God's Journey to Us." We consider the ways in which the nature of God's love sent God on a journey long ago in search of us. 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.

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright
Senior Minister
Chase Joyner
Acolyte

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister
Reynolds Cobb
Torch Bearer
Mark Pichowicz
Organist

Amy Shortt
Minister of Music
Spencer Edwards
Crucifer

