



**THE FOURTH SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY**
February 1, 2026
Eleven O'Clock A.M.

Although Lakeside Church is Baptist by tradition and heritage, 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 and care 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 from other Christian denominations.

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 worshiping and serving community where the gospel of Jesus Christ is modeled and proclaimed.

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.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ. Use this time for meditation and reflection and please refrain from conversation which would disturb others. Please turn off or silence all electronic devices.

Following worship, share your friendship with those around you.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Mr. Ross

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Dr. Grammer

CHORAL INTROIT: From "O Morning Star," Hymn 105

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET

O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's own truth and light, aglow with grace and mercy! Come shine on us, O Heaven's sun; our only Savior, you have won our hearts to serve you only!

Philip Nicolai

* HYMN 101:

"Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts"

QUEBEC

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Grammer

Leader: To those who sit in darkness, light has dawned.

People: **To those who dwell in gloom and despair,
God's glorious presence has appeared.**

Leader: God is indeed our light and our salvation.

People: **We will follow, unafeard, where God and Jesus lead us.**

Leader: Let us worship our God of light and promise.

People: **Let us celebrate the hope and joy of our salvation.**

Joanne Carlson Brown

* INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Grammer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

* CONFESSON OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Dr. Edwards

God of our light and our salvation, sometimes we prefer to live in darkness, embracing the safety and anonymity of the shadows; sometimes we delight in our divisions, believing we are better than others; sometimes the yoke of our calling feels too heavy, and we seek to slip out from under the bar across our shoulders.

Forgive our fear. Forgive our aversion to the light. Forgive our unresponsiveness to your call. Forgive our willful blindness and deafness to the Way. Help us know deep in our souls that you are our light and our salvation, our joy and our wonder, our very life. Hear us as we cry aloud in our need. Amen.

Joanne Carlson Brown

(Pause for silent confession.)

MEDITATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 9:1-4

Mr. Ross

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

CHORAL ADORATION: From “A Light Shines in the Darkness”

Michael John Trotta

You will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. Arise, shine.

GOSPEL LESSON:

Matthew 4:12-23

Mr. Mauk

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Dr. Edwards

COMMITMENT

* HYMN 540:

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

ST. MARGARET

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Dr. Grammer

Today we give thanks for our local mission partner, the Christian Men’s Fellowship Home, a halfway house for men recovering from addiction and restoring their lives. Their logo is on the altar.

PROCLAMATION

SOLO: “The People That Walked in Darkness” from *Messiah*

G. F. Handel

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

Isaiah 9:2

SERMON:

“Light Changes Everything”

Dr. Grammer

RESPONSE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

As God’s children, we are unsettled by the harsh realities of life and long for the salvation that has been promised to us. As people of faith, we yearn for our darkness to be dispelled by the light of hope and bring us liberation from all oppression. As sisters and brothers, we choose to follow Jesus, who disturbs our assumptions about one another and teaches us to live together in peace. As disciples of Jesus, we believe the story of incarnation, teach one another his love and mercy, and follow his light, confident that he dwells among us.

CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* HYMN:

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

HOUSTON

* BENEDICTION AND CHORAL AMEN

Dr. Grammer

* POSTLUDE

Mr. Ross

HYMNS

“JESUS, THOU JOY OF LOVING HEARTS” (HYMN 101)

Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, thou fount of life, thou light of light,
greater than pleasure earth imparts, thy love is true and pure delight.

Thy gracious word hath ever stood: thou savest those that on thee call;
to them that seek thee, thou art good; to them that find thee, all in all.

We taste thee, O thou living bread, and long to feast upon thee still;
we drink of thee, the fountainhead, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for thee, where'er our changeful lot is cast:
glad then thy gracious smile we see; blest when our faith can hold thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay; make all our moments calm and bright;
banish the sin of earth, we pray; shed o'er the world thy holy light.

*Words: Latin (12th century); tr. Ray Palmer, 1858, alt.
Music: Henry Baker, 1854*

“O LOVE THAT WILT NOT LET ME GO” (HYMN 540)

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red life that shall endless be.

*Words: George Matheson, 1882
Music: Albert L. Peace, 1884*

“I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT”

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

*In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.

*Words and Music: Kathleen Thomerson, 1966
© 1970, 1975 Celebration*

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Libby Grammer
Senior Minister

Lisa Meadows
Minister to Children

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister

The Lakeside Chancel Choir

James Mauk
Minister of Music

Zack Ross
Organist

Lakeside Website: lakesidechurchrmt.org

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OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember the following persons who need our prayers and support:

The Lodge at Rocky Mount, 3322 Village Road (04)

Sheila Whitley, Room 243

The Carrollton of Nash, 7369 Hunter Hill Road (04)

Pat Judge, Room 809

At Home

Carol Barker, 6313 Saponi Trail, Elm City, NC 27822

Janice Bobbitt (Chuck Taylor's sister), 4204 Whitehurst Dr, Wilmington 28409

Robyn Edwards Chapman (Jeannette Pittman's cousin)

Bob Davis (Dan Davis' brother), 427 McIver Street, Greenville, SC 29601

Michelle Costa Foster, 105 Gloucester Court (03)

Charlotte Gilliam, 3794 Loblolly Drive (04)

Ethel Hines, 125 Cobblestone Court (04)

Linda Hoyle, 210 Gravely Drive (04)

Bill Jones (Dorrie Wright's brother)

C.B. Morris, 1930 Northern Boulevard (04)

Jeannette and Grady Pittman, 313 Englewood Drive (04)

Cornelia Singletary, 15 Weatherstone Drive (04)

Patricia Taylor (Napoleon Taylor's wife), 514 Hammond Street (04)

Richard Wrenn (Chuck Taylor's brother-in-law)

Our Members-at-Home

Ester McKnight (Terry Martin's mother), Brookdale Assisted Living, 650 Goldrock Road, Room 106 (04)

David Ozment, 1249 Green Tee Lane (04)

THIS WEEK AT LAKESIDE

Sunday, February 1

NO IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE OR ACTIVITIES.

Tuesday, February 3

3:30 p.m. VBS Planning Meeting, *Youth Room*

4:00 p.m. Lakeside Ladies Book Club, *Parlor*

Wednesday, February 4

10:30 a.m. Dove Notes, *Godwin Library*

4:00 p.m. Turnage Lecture Series Committee, *Conference Room*

6:00 p.m. Lakeside Ringers Rehearsal, *Music Suite*

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, *Music Suite*

Thursday, February 5

10:00 a.m. Needles & Prayers, *Parlor*

Sunday, February 8

9:45 a.m. Growing Together Groups, *Education Building*

10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, *Sanctuary*

11:00 a.m. Worship, *Sanctuary*

12:15 p.m. Missions Committee, *Conference Room*

12:15 p.m. Music Committee, *Music Suite*

NO PRESCHOOL, CHILDREN, & YOUTH ACTIVITIES.

NAVIGATING GRIEFLAND

No matter who you are, no matter what you've lost, join us in *Navigating GriefLand*. This 8-week study and support group will meet on Wednesdays from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. beginning February 11.

Participants will need to order their own workbook. Please invite friends from the community who could benefit from this small group experience. Contact Katie Hand, Elizabeth Edwards, or the church office for more information as soon as possible if you would like to participate.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: LAKESIDE YOUTH YARD SALE 2026

If you are starting off the new year by cleaning out closets and decluttering your home, consider hanging on to those unwanted items for a few more weeks. This year's Lakeside Youth Casserole & Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, March 7. Donations can include: furniture, décor, linens, kitchen items, sports & outdoor equipment, and more (no clothes or books, except cookbooks & children's books, please).

ANNOUNCING OUR LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Our next small group Bible study will be guided by Will Willimon's new book *The Last Supper: Conversations That Led to the Cross*. The book looks at the parables Jesus told along the road from Palm Sunday to the cross and helps us better to understand the Last Supper, "where the Host becomes the meal and God's relentless love transforms betrayers into beloved."

This six-week discussion group will meet on Tuesdays by Zoom at 7:00 p.m. beginning February 17. There will not be an in-person option for this study. Participants may order their own book in print or digital format. Please contact Elizabeth or the church office to sign up.

RESCHEDULED GET TO KNOW LAKESIDE LUNCHEON

Sunday, March 8 - Following Worship - Robbins Hall

For new members, visitors, and anyone who would like to know more about Lakeside. After lunch, we will share information about our ministries and offer tours of the campus. Childcare is available. Please sign up today!