



LAKE SIDE CHURCH

Rocky Mount, NC

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 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.

GATHERING

ORGAN PRELUDE

Mr. Ross

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Dr. Grammer

CHORAL INTROIT: "Enter, Jesus Bids Thee Welcome"

CORINTH

Enter, Jesus bids thee welcome in the fullness of his grace; with his hand of love we give thee in our hearts the warmest place: hence together, hence together, let us run the Christian race.

Sidney Dyer

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 23: "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

LAUDA ANIMA

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Alan Clements

Leader: Come into this sacred space to worship God

People: Whose teaching is perfect; whose directions are sure.

Leader: Come into this holy place to worship God

**People: Whose standards are right; whose commandment is clear;
whose judgments are true.**

Leader: Come with holy reverence – to be given life, and made wise, to have your heart stirred and your eyes opened wide. Come – let us worship God.

**People: Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts be according
to your will, O God.**

Jeff Shrowder

* GLORIA PATRI

GREATOR EX

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

* INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Edwards

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.

** Please stand as you are able.*

CONFESSION OF SIN & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Dr. Grammer

How many times each day do you come to us, Jesus? How many quiet prophets, how many whispered warnings, are sent to catch our attention? And how many times do we pass by unaware of your calm presence, unfeeling of your beckoning gaze?

How often have we shunned your messengers, sending them away with clipped words and cold eyes? How often have we hurt the agents of your care, too busy or self-absorbed to notice your invitation in their words?

Forgive us, Lord, when through neglect, pre-occupation, or wrongfulness, we turn our backs on you. Teach us to see, to listen, and to walk with an open heart, so that we can welcome you, and answer you, when, in grace and love, you call us to follow.

(Pause for silent confession.)

John va de Laar, adapted

MEDITATION & PROCLAMATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Isaiah 5:1-7

Linda Graham

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

CHORAL ADORATION: "I Will Love Thee, Jehovah, My Strength"

Orlando Gibbons

I will love thee, Jehovah, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer, my God, my shield, in whom I will confide. In my distress I call on Jehovah. In my distress I cried unto my God. Jehovah bowed the heavens and came down.

R. Yardumian, adapted from Psalm 18

GOSPEL LESSON:

Matthew 21:33-46

Mr. McCain

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

SUNG RESPONSE:

(All are invited to join in singing.)

John S. Wilson

Write these words in our hearts, we beseech you, O God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Dr. Grammer

* OFFERTORY HYMN 463:

"Renew Your Church"

ALL IS WELL

(Children in grades K-5 are invited to depart for Children's Church during the singing of this hymn.)

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Dr. Edwards

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Mr. Ross

We give thanks for Lakeside Preschool, which has been providing education and nurture for young children in our community since 1992. Building blocks are placed on the altar to remind us of the playfulness and joys of childhood.

* DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

ANTHEM: "Forever Blest Is He"

G. F. Handel

Forever blest is he who serves the Lord. The loving God of all mankind. Joy shall be his reward, living to serve the Lord.

R. S.

SERMON:

"Rejection"

Dr. Grammer

RESPONSE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Dr. Grammer

We believe in God, who calls us to abandon our pride and to embrace people in every condition. We believe that whatever we do for one of God's children, we are doing for God. If we should turn our backs or harden our hearts to the cries of any of God's children, we have then rejected the very God who has redeemed us. But if we minister in his name, we shall receive eternal life, prepared for those who honor God with their deeds as well as their words.

CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Dr. Grammer

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 275: "Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation"

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

(Persons desiring membership in our church are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn.)

* BENEDICTION & CHORAL AMEN

Dr. Grammer

* ORGAN POSTLUDE

Mr. Ross

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Brenda Cotton by Wayne Cotton.*

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Libby Grammer
Senior Minister

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister

Zack Ross
Minister of Music

Jacob McCain
Minister to Children

The Lakeside Chancel Choir &
Gossett-Biggs Choral Scholars

Eleanor Haley
Acolyte

Lakeside Website: lakesidechurchrmt.org

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This is the season after Pentecost in the Christian year. Having celebrated the "birthday of the church" through the giving of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, we enter the Season after Pentecost for 24 weeks, to celebrate the existence of the church and recall her mission in the world. The liturgical color for the season is green, symbolic of the church's growth and mission.

Our final Summer Sermon Series is "Surprise! Parables from Jesus." We encounter deep truths when we explore the teachings of Jesus in parables, and we also are often surprised by Jesus' interpretations. We will explore these surprising stories in a six-week series as we end our summer season together.

Restrooms, including a wheelchair-accessible family restroom, are located in the hallway behind the sanctuary. Please ask an usher if you need directions. **Childcare** is available in the preschool building. If you have a young child who becomes restless during worship, you are welcome to utilize our **Kids' Corner** in the back of the sanctuary by the audio booth. **Children's 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 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 aides** 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. **We are grateful for our choral scholars**, Jackson Baldwin, Allison Benoit, Esther Keller, and Jacob McCain, who enrich our music ministry in many ways. Choral Scholars and guest singers are supported by the **Gossett-Biggs Music Fund**. Anyone interested in supporting the fund is invited to designate a contribution.

Lakeside Fellowship and Ministry

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

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

At Home:

Keith Abbott, 3413 Brookview Drive (04)

Ann Bishop, 2600 Croasdaile Farm Parkway., Apartment S210,
Durham, NC 27705

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

Robyn Edwards Chapman (Jeannette Pittman's cousin),
1481 Richardson Road, Apartment C406, Apex, NC 27523

Lela Chesson, 53 Whispering Pines Drive (04)

Shelton Chesson, 53 Whispering Pines Drive (04)

Jennifer Cobb, 1506 West Haven Boulevard (03)

Andrea Cuthrell, 3517 Mansfield Drive (03)

Doug Edwards, 4699 Moreland Drive, Battleboro, NC 27809

Mike Evans, 1151 Falls Road, Apartment 218 (04)

Michele Costa Foster, 105 Gloucester Court (03)

Charlotte Gilliam, 3794 Loblolly Drive (04)

Leland Goslen (Linda & Cameron Graham's great-nephew),
1021 Oakgate Court, Apex NC 27502

Linda Hoyle, 210 Gravely Drive (04)

Bill Jones (Dorrie Wright's brother)

Brian Lassiter, 104 Killian Court (04)

Sheila Martin, 116 Cobblestone Court (04)

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

Howard Phykitt, 106 Whispering Pines Drive (04)

Grady Pittman, 313 Englewood Drive (04)

Jeannette Pittman, 313 Englewood Drive (04)

Billie Stallings, 404 Wildwood Avenue (03)

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

Ziggy Zalzneck, 324 Piedmont Avenue (03)

Our Members at Home:

Stan Ford, 700 Duck Pond Road, Nashville, NC 27856

Robert Kincheloe, 3704 Hawthorne Road (04)

Sheila Whitley, Barclay House, 200 Trade Street, Room 107A, Tarboro,
NC 27886

We offer our sympathy to Betty Lane Winslow, Joan & Jim Ashby, and their family, upon the death of Ted "Lee" Bissett on September 10. Funeral arrangements will be announced as they become available.

THIS WEEK AT LAKESIDE

Sunday, September 13: Kick-Off Sunday

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

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

5:00 p.m. Youth & Children's Family Night,
Robbins Hall

Tuesday, September 15

10:00 a.m. Coffeehouse Writers, *Parlor*

Wednesday, September 16

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

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

Thursday, September 17

5:30 p.m. Board of Finance, *Conference Room*

Sunday, September 20

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. Diaconate, *Conference Room*

3:30 p.m. Discipleship Class, *Conference Room*

5:00 p.m. Children & Youth Activities,
Music & Youth Building

Volunteers Still Needed!

We are currently looking for volunteers willing to help our children grow in their faith.

We need help with:

*Sunday Morning Children's Church from 11:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. (2nd and 4th Sundays).

2 Volunteers. Lessons provided

*Sunday Evening Children's Activities, 4:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

1 Volunteer. Assist Jacob as he teaches

If you are willing to volunteer this year, please scan the QR Code below.



Activities will resume:
September 13



More information:

contact Jacob McCain,
Minister to Children:

jacob@lakesidechurchrmt.org



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PLEASE RSVP

Lakeside's Endowment Fund Committee invites you to attend an Endowment Recognition Luncheon in Robbins Hall on Sunday, September 27, following worship. Your presence is important to us. Please RSVP by September 23. Lunch is by reservation only.



Join us for a six-week study of **CALLED TO Community:**

The Life Jesus Wants for His People

A collection of writings and essays by practitioners of Christian community from across the centuries.
Edited by Charles E. Moore

- With so many ways to communicate, how have we become so disconnected?
- How can Christ's followers reclaim a call to community as vital for our life of faith?
- What does scripture have to say about the importance of living in community?

Join us as we explore these and other important questions related to the joys and challenges of our life together.



LAKESIDE CHURCH
Rocky Mount, NC

Choose between a Tuesday Zoom group at 7:00 p.m. which begins on September 22 or a Wednesday in-person group at 10:00 a.m. which begins on September 23. Sign-up through the church office or on the website, and be sure to indicate which group you prefer. Please purchase your own book, which includes discussion questions and related scriptures in the back of the book.

www.lakesidechurchrmt.org