



LAKESIDE CHURCH

Rocky Mount, NC

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 20, 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: *Élévation*

William Faulkes

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Dr. Grammer

Sam Johnson

CHORAL INTROIT: "This is the House of the Lord"

Donald Moore

This is the house of the Lord; come before his presence with thanksgiving.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 27: "Come, Thou Almighty King"

ITALIAN HYMN

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Ginger Maynard

Leader: We come to hear the Word.

People: We come to do the Word.

Leader: We come to experience Comfort.

People: We come to experience Challenge.

Leader: We come to find Cost.

People: We come to find Joy.

Leader: We come to find Humanity.

People: We come to find community.

Leader: We come to find Church.

People: We come to find Kingdom.

Katherine Hawker, adapted

* GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

**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 & 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.

** Please stand as you are able.*

CONFESSION OF SIN & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Mr. McCain

We would want to be fountains of hope for others, God of glory, but people find only hardened hearts. We would like to be transformed people, but our stubborn pride prevents us from bending a knee to you. We long to stand with those who are in need, but our selfishness keeps our backs rigid in judgment. Forgive us, God, who came down to us. Humble us, that we might be true servants to the broken and lost. Split open our frozen hearts, that compassion might flow freely to those who are hurting. Fill our minds with the presence of your Spirit, that we might learn how to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, into that kingdom of grace and hope.

(Pause for silent confession.)

Leader: This is the good news: in Christ, God's plan for salvation was accomplished.
You are forgiven; you are made new.

**People: We will complete God's joy by sharing compassion, forgiveness, hope,
with everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Thom Shuman

MEDITATION & PROCLAMATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON:

Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16

Will Lucas

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

CHORAL ADORATION: "O Thou Who Hearest Every Heartfelt Prayer"

Frederick C. Atkinson

O thou who hearest ev'ry heartfelt prayer, with thy rich grace, Lord, all our hearts prepare;
thou art our life, thou art our love and light, O let this sabbath hour with thee be bright. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON:

Matthew 21:23-32

Dr. Edwards

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. Edwards

* OFFERTORY HYMN 354:

"Seek Ye First"

SEEK YE FIRST

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Dr. Grammer

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Praise God the Lord, ye sons of men (BWV 609)

J. S. Bach

*Today we give thanks for Backpack Buddies, a ministry that provides weekend meals and snacks for
Benvenue Elementary School children who are at risk for hunger. Cans of food are on the altar to remind
us of the gifts we are able to provide to these children and their families.*

* 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: "Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing"

Gordon Young

Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise; That we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise. Sing Alleluia, sing alleluia, sing alleluia, sing alleluia! All ye servants of the Lord, praise Him forever, sing Jehovah's mighty pow'r, praise Him forever. Sing of His righteousness, praise Him forever. So let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise; That we may all with one accord our joyful voices raise. Sing alleluia, sing alleluia, sing alleluia, sing alleluia! Sing alleluia!

SERMON:

“The Will of God”

Dr. Grammer

RESPONSE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Dr. Grammer

We believe that we are called to live the Kingdom of God in our lives, following the will of God as lived through the life, witness, and teachings of Jesus Christ our Lord: Loving the unlovable, Caring for the vulnerable, Welcoming the stranger, Giving Generously, and Following Jesus wherever he may lead.

CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Dr. Grammer

* RECESSIONAL HYMN (*see insert*): “Sing a New World into Being”

HYMN TO JOY

(*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 gratitude for the life & ministry of Gaylord & Faith Lehman by Carol & Will Lucas.

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

Dyson Ponte
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. The triangle and trefoil on the paraments are symbols of the Trinity, reminding us that God is revealed to us as Father, Son, and Spirit. In the center is the cross, the key symbol of the Christian faith, summarizing the life and ministry, death and resurrection, incarnation and coming in glory of Jesus the Christ.

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)

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)

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)

Kate Thomas (Jaye and James Biggs's granddaughter),
904 Shepard St., Morehead City, NC 28557

George Ward (Witten & Travis Ward's son), 332 Iron Horse Road (04)

Ziggy Zalzneck, 324 Piedmont Avenue (03)

Our Members at Home:

Jackie Allsbrook, 113 Old Colony Way (04)

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

Sallie Ray Wilkerson, HeartFields at Cary, 1050 Crescent Green Drive,
Cary, NC 27518

Thanks be to all of the team that helped to put my house together. I can truly say that God is still in the Blessing Business. May God forever bless and keep you. Love, Alma Grant

THIS WEEK AT LAKESIDE

Sunday, September 20

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

Tuesday, September 22

7:00 p.m. Study Group, *Zoom*

Wednesday, September 23

10:00 a.m. Study Group, *Conference Room*

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

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

Sunday, September 27

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

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

11:00 a.m. Worship, with Children's Church,
Sanctuary

12:15 p.m. Endowment Recognition Luncheon,
Robbins Hall

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

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



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Rocky Mount, NC

RSVP TODAY!

Lakeside's Endowment Fund Committee

Invites You to Attend an
Endowment Recognition Luncheon

In Robbins Hall

Sunday, September 27, 2026

At Noon, Following Morning Worship

Please RSVP by September 23.

Lunch is by reservation only.



Sign up TODAY on our Event
Registration Page using the QR code
here, or sign up on the clipboard in
the Narthex.



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.



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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