LAKESIDE CHURCH
Rocky Mount, NC

Changing Lives
Through Generosity



24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026 at Eleven O'Clock A.M.

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

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH — Dr. Grammer

CHORAL INTROIT: "Introit on CWM RHONDDA" — arr. James Mauk

Come and worship Christ, our Lord!

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 622: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" — CWM RHONDDA

* CALL TO WORSHIP: — Bill Hoyle

Leader: We enter worship once again this day choosing to serve you, God, and no other.
People: With waiting hearts, we come to worship.
Leader: We enter as witnesses to one another to live out our baptism and grow into the Body of Christ.
People: With waiting hearts, we come to worship.
Leader: We enter dependent on the Spirit to be with us in our thoughts and feelings.
People: With waiting hearts, we come to worship. — *UMC Discipleship*

* 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 — Dr. Grammer

Leader: Lord, you know how often we have resented our work;
People: Forgive us, Lord, for our ingratitude.
Leader: And you know how often we have neglected our abilities;
People: Forgive us, Lord, for our poor stewardship.
Leader: And you know how often we've been careless in our studies;
People: Forgive us, Lord, for not using our minds.
Leader: And you know how often we've wasted time on the job;
People: Forgive us, Lord, for our heart's insincerity.
Leader: And you've seen how shoddy some of our work has been;
People: Forgive us, Lord, for our carelessness.
Leader: And you've heard how often we've said we can't wait to get out;
People: Forgive us, Lord, for not working with all our heart.
Leader: And you know we've often worked only to please others;
People: Forgive us for failing to remember it is you we are serving.
Hear our prayer, and in the mercy of Jesus Christ,
cleanse us for his name's sake. Amen. — *Calvin Institute*

(*Pause for silent confession.*)

MEDITATION & PROCLAMATION

PSALTER LESSON: Psalm 78:1-7 — Mr. Ross

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

CHILDREN'S CHORAL ADORATION: "Rejoice in the Lord Always" — arr. Esther Jones

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice!

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 25:1-13 — Kate Barnes

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

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT — Tyler Gupton

* OFFERTORY HYMN 611: "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" — FESTAL SONG

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

* OFFERTORY PRAYER — Dr. Edwards

Our focus in this season of stewardship is "Changing Lives through Generosity," and our stewardship theme logo is on the altar. As we complete one year of generous giving and plan for another, we are reminded that the reason we do so is that Lakeside Church's ministries are changing lives and bringing heaven to earth. Join us in our life-changing work through your generosity today!

ORGAN OFFERTORY

* 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: "Teach Me, O Lord" — Thomas Attwood

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. *Psalm 119:33*

SERMON: "Faithful Action" Dr. Grammer

RESPONSE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Dr. Grammer

We believe that God is the source of every good gift we have, and we are stewards of those gifts. We affirm that our response to that grace has the power to change lives. Through our time, we promise to live intentionally, carving out time to grow our faith together in community. Through our talent, we commit to using our unique skills and abilities to heal a broken world and share the grace we have received. Through our treasure, we pledge to reject the fear of scarcity and the trap of consumerism and instead choose a life of sacrificial generosity, trusting that God will provide all we need for the ministry we are called to do. In gratitude and hope, we give generously and love expansively. Amen.

CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP Dr. Grammer

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 356: "We, Your People, God, Confessing" IN BABILONE

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

* BENEDICTION & CHORAL AMEN Dr. Grammer

* ORGAN POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of Theo Pitt, Sr. by Molly & Theo Pitt

The flowers in the narthex are given to the glory of God and in memory of Lela Chesson by her family.

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 & Lakeside Children's Choirs	Finlee Reynolds *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 Second Fall Sermon Series is "Changing Lives through Generosity." *We are called as a church not to simply exist in the world but to change it for the better. As we read along in the Gospel of Matthew, we see that we have been entrusted with a call to love one another, to serve one another, to give generously, to invest our gifts wisely, and to treat others with dignity.*

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:

The Lodge at Rocky Mount, 3322 Village Road (04)
Martha Bulluck, Room 207
Connie Griffin, Room 202

At Home:
Janice Bobbitt (Chuck Taylor's sister), 4204 Whitehurst Drive, Wilmington, NC 28409
Marie Butner (Angie Hunter's mother), Priddy Manor, 1294 Priddy Road, King, NC 27021
Robyn Edwards Chapman (Jeannette Pittman's cousin), 1481 Richardson Road, Apartment C406, Apex, NC 27523
Wayne Cotton, 112 Sherwood Drive (04)
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
Kathy Graves-Price (Jim Graves' sister), Durham, NC
Bill Haley (Will Haley's father), Gainesville, GA
Katie Hand, 4752 Honeysuckle Lane (04)
Bill Jones (Dorrie Wright's brother)
Brian Lassiter, 104 Killian Court (04)
Caroline Martin (Ginny & Ricky Cobb's granddaughter)
C. B. Morris, 1930 Northern Boulevard (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
Gus Tulloss, 209 Cobblestone Court (04)
Ziggy Zalzneck, 324 Piedmont Avenue (03)

Our Members at Home:
John Cappiello, Brookridge Retirement Community, 1199 Hayes Forest Dr., Room 534, Winston-Salem, NC 27106
Daisy Howell, The Landings of Rocky Mount Mills, 1365 River Drive, Room 512 (04)
Betsy Waters, 401 E. Rhode Island Avenue, Room 275, Southern Pines, NC 28387

CHURCHYARD LANDSCAPING AND CLEANUP DAY

Volunteers are needed to assist with our churchyard landscaping and cleanup day on Saturday, November 14, from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Please bring your yard tools for trimming, raking, and cleaning up debris. Sign up in the Narthex or on the church website.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

On Sunday, November 15, we will call ourselves into conference following worship to vote on our 2027 Ministry Plan and Deacon and Committee Nominees. More information about the ministry plan and nominees is available electronically or printed in the church office.

THIS WEEK AT LAKESIDE

Sunday, November 8
11:00 a.m. Worship with Children's Church, *Sanctuary*
5:00 p.m. Children & Youth Activities, *Youth & Music Suites*

Monday, November 9
11:00 a.m. Circle 10, *Lecture Room*

Tuesday, November 10
4:00 p.m. Lakeside Ladie's Book Club, *Lecture Room*
5:30 p.m. Facilities Committee, *Conference Room*

Wednesday, November 11
10:30 a.m. At the Table, *Benvenue Country Club*
6:00 p.m. Lakeside Ringers Rehearsal, *Music Suite*
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, *Music Suite*

Thursday, November 12
5:30 p.m. Board of Finance, *Conference Room*

Saturday, November 14
8:00 a.m. Churchyard Cleanup

Sunday, November 15: Annual Conference
9:45 a.m. Growing Together Groups, *Education Building*
10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, *Sanctuary*
11:00 a.m. Worship, *Sanctuary*
12:00 p.m. Annual Church Conference, *Sanctuary*
12:15 p.m. Diaconate, *Conference Room*
5:00 p.m. Children & Youth Activities, *Youth & Music Suites*

SECURITY POLICY TRAINING

If you were unable to make it to one of the previous training sessions, join us on Wednesday, November 11, at 11:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. The session will last about 45 minutes.

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

In the next few weeks, Lakeside's kids will begin collecting winter clothing to share with local missions partners. As you clear out the old to make room for the new this season, please hang on to gently used items. If you need to move them right away, please place them in the collection box in the hallway of the Youth Building.

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

Many families in our community struggle, especially during the holiday season. We need your help to make Christmas a little brighter for families in need. If you would like to help a family celebrate Christmas, please send monetary donations marked for "Christmas Families" by December 14. Donations will be shared with a local charity to distribute to families in need.