LAKESIDE CHURCH
Rocky Mount, NC

Changing Lives
Through Generosity



25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 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: "Take, O Take Me as I Am" — John Bell

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 606: "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" — NETTLETON

* CALL TO WORSHIP: — Lori Joyner

Leader: The time for harvest is close at hand.
What have you done with the gifts God has given you?
People: We have brought our gifts to the house of the Lord.
Leader: Praise God for the gifts and for opportunities for service that they represent.
People: We praise God for all the ways in which our lives have been blessed.
Leader: Generous God, accept our gifts and our lives this day.
People: Loving God, accept our praise and gratitude. *Nancy C. Townley*

* 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 — Mr. McCain

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. Edwards

Leader: Lord God, we confess to you our sin: those things which have hurt others, and which have offended you.

People: Forgive us for not investing your gifts wisely. We have been negligent with the time and energy you give us–often spending it all on ourselves while others have had to do more than their share of helping and caring.

Leader: We confess, O Lord, that through fear, greed, or ignorance, we have not always used in a faithful and responsible manner the wealth you give us.

People: Forgive us for being satisfied with sharing so little with those who are in need, while spending so much, not only on our needs, but also on our desires.

Leader: We confess, O Lord, that we are prone to forget the purpose behind what you do for us. We forget that you judge us by what we do with your gifts.

People: Forgive us for when we have buried the talents and failed to work with all the things you give us.

Leader: Gracious God–forgive us.

People: Touch us and make us whole. Amen. *Richard J. Fairchild, adapted*

(*Pause for silent confession.*)

MEDITATION, PROCLAMATION, & RESPONSE

PSALTER LESSON: Psalm 123 — Carol Lucas

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

CHORAL ADORATION: From "Savior, Teach Me Day by Day" — Raymond Weidner

Savior teach me, day by day, thine own lesson to obey; better lesson ne'er can be: loving him who first loved me. Prompt to serve and follow thee, loving him who first loved me. *J. Leeson*

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 25:14-30 — 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. Grammer

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT — Brian Lassiter

* OFFERTORY HYMN 293: "Out of Need and Out of Custom" — GATHERING

* 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: "Sweet Rivers of Mercy" — Sheldon Curry

Sweet rivers of mercy are beckoning me to leave the comforts of shore; to wade in forgiveness, wash up with grace, be cleansed forevermore. God's love like a spring in the wilderness flows; a never failing relief for ev'ry despairing, withering soul who comes to kneel and drink.

Streams of pardon, fresh and free; Healing Fountain, O taste and see! Sometimes in the desert my faith can seem weak, my spirit weary and sore; then a voice gently whispers, "Child, do not fear." God's providence is sure. Sweet rivers of mercy are beckoning me to leave the comforts of shore; come wade in forgiveness, wash up with grace, praise God forevermore!

SERMON: "Risky Business" Dr. Grammer

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 606: "Take My Life and Let It Be" HENDON

(*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 Don Stallings by Billie Stallings.

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	Catherine Cobb *Acolyte*

Lakeside Website: lakesidechurchrmt.org

Music reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-718366. All rights reserved.

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.

Lakeside Fellowship and Ministry

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Wake Medical Center, 3000 New Bern Ave., Raleigh, NC 27610
Mary Wright Thompson

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) PO Box 253, Jackson, NC 27845
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:
Ethel Hines, 125 Cobblestone Court (04)
Ester McKnight (Terry Martin's mother), Brookdale Assisted Living, 650 Goldrock Road, Room 106 (04)
David Ozment, The Lodge at Rocky Mount, 3322 Village Road (04)
Anne Chappell, 4510 Lead Mine Road, #3008, Raleigh, NC 27612

We offer our sympathy to the family of Sallie Ray Wilkerson who died on November 7. Sallie Ray was a member of Lakeside for 19 years. A celebration of life is planned for Saturday, November 21, at 2:00 p.m. in the chapel of Salem Baptist Church in Apex. The family will receive friends after the service.

On behalf of the entire Chesson family, Shelton and Harrell would like to thank the Lakeside Church family for all you have done for Lela and for us, from the beginning of her illness in April through her death on October 28 and in the days since. Your thoughts and prayers, cards, meals, gifts, and visits have meant more to us than you can know. We are deeply grateful for your love and support.

THIS WEEK AT LAKESIDE

Sunday, November 15: Annual Conference
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*

Tuesday, November 17
10:00 a.m. Coffeehouse Writers, *Parlor*
1:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive, *Robbins Hall*

Wednesday, November 18
6:00 p.m. Lakeside Ringers Rehearsal, *Music Suite*
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, *Music Suite*

Sunday, November 22: Commitment Sunday
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*
5:00 p.m. Children & Youth Activities, *Youth & Music Suites*

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.

HELP US PREPARE FOR ADVENT

Cut Greenery
November 23 – 9:30 a.m. – contact Nancy Berry

Make Wreaths
November 24 – 9:00 a.m. – Robbins Hall

Decorate Chrismon Tree
November 28 – 1:00 p.m. – Sanctuary

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Children's Party
November 29 – 5:00 p.m.

Youth Party
December 6 – following caroling