LAKESIDE CHURCH
Rocky Mount, NC

Advent & Christmas



A THRILL of HOPE

First Sunday of Advent with Hanging of the Greens

November 29, 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.

ORGAN PRELUDE — Mr. Ross

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

CHORAL INTROIT

* PROCESSIONAL CAROL 119: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" — VENI EMMANUEL

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH — Liz, Phil, & Lauren Broomell

* LITANY OF PREPARATION — Will Lucas

Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?
People: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.
Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?
People: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.
Leader: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?
People: With wreathes of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.
Leader: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?
People: By hearing again the words of the Scriptures foretelling the saving work of God.
Leader: For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.
People: Glory to God in the highest!

* GLORIA PATRI — GLORIA

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit, Ever three and ever one.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

* INVOCATION & 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.*

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM: "Away in a Manger" attr. James R. Murray

The text of the anthem is Hymn 147.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 64:1-9 Jason Schodt

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

BLESSING OF THE HOLLY AND THE IVY Ramsey Ward

ANTHEM: "The Holly and the Ivy" arr. Richard Shephard

The holly and the ivy, now both are full well grown, Of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown. *Oh, the rising of the sun and the running of the deer, The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.* The holly bears a blossom as white as lily flower, And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet savior. The holly bears a berry as red as any blood, And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good. The holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall, And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to redeem us all. *Traditional*

BLESSING OF THE GREENERY & WREATHS Angela Allen

CAROL MEDLEY (*Please remain seated and join in singing while the greenery and poinsettias are being placed.*)

147 (stanzas 1 & 3)	"Away in a Manger"	AWAY IN A MANGER
159 (stanzas 1 & 2)	"There's a Song in the Air"	CHRISTMAS SONG
150 (stanzas 1 & 3)	"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"	MENDELSSOHN

BLESSING OF THE POINSETTIAS Brenda Hurdle

ANTHEM: "King Jesus Hath a Garden" Dutch Tune

King Jesus hath a garden, full of divers flow'rs, Where I go culling posies gay, all times and hours. *There naught is heard but Paradise bird, Harp, dulcimer, lute, With cymbal, trump and tymbal, and the tender, soothing flute.* The Lily, white in blossom there, is Chastity: The Violet, with sweet perfume, Humility. The bonny Damask-rose is known as Patience: The blithe and thrifty Marygold, Obedience. The Crown Imperial bloometh too in yonder place, 'Tis Charity, of stock divine, the flower of grace. Yet, 'mid the brave, the bravest prize of all may claim The Star of Bethlem—Jesus—blessed be his Name! Ah! Jesu Lord, my heal and weal, my bliss complete, Make thou my heart thy garden-plot, fair, trim and neat. That I may hear this musick clear. *Tr. G. R. Woodward*

OFFERTORY PRAYER Mr. McCain

ORGAN OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

BLESSING OF THE CRÉCHE Don Bulluck

ANTHEM: "O Little One Sweet" Old German Tune, harm. J. S. Bach

O Little one sweet, O little one mild, Thy Father's purpose thou hast fulfilled; Thou cam'st from heav'n to mortal ken, Equal to be with us poor men, O Little one sweet, O little one mild. O Little one sweet, O little one mild, With joy thou hast the whole world filled; Thou camest here from heav'n's domain, To bring men comfort in their pain, O Little one sweet, O little one mild. O Little one sweet, O little one mild, In thee Love's beauties are all distilled; Then light in us love's bright flame, That we may give thee back the same, O Little one sweet, O little one mild. O Little one sweet, O little one mild, Help us to do as thou hast willed. Lo, all we have belongs to thee! Ah, keep us in our fealty! O Little one sweet, O little one mild. *Tr. Percy Dearmer*

BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE — Lisa Meadows

DUET: "O Holy Night" — arr. Duda Oriontte

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining; It is the night of the dear Savior's birth! Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till he appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope, the weary soul rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn. Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born! O night, O holy night, O night divine! Truly he taught us to love one another; his law is love and his Gospel is peace. Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother and in his name all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise his holy name! Christ is the Lord! O praise his name forever! His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim! His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

Esther Keller & Jacob McCain, soloists — *J. S. Dwight*

GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 13:24-37 — Mr. Ross

MEDITATION: "A Thrill of Hope" — Dr. Grammer

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Leader: Let us decorate this tree with symbols of our faith.
The Chrismons we use represent the life and inspiration of the church in times past, the witness of the church today, and the hope of the church for generations to come.
People: As we share these symbols, let us confess what we believe.
Leader: We believe in God.
People: Father, Creator, Sustainer.
Leader: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
People: Alpha and Omega, Light of light, Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords. Immanuel: God with us.
Leader: Jesus! Born of the virgin Mary, born in Bethlehem, cradled in a manger. Heralded by shepherds, Magi, and angelic hosts.
People: Glory to God in the highest and on earth . . . peace.
Leader: We believe in the Holy Spirit.
People: Comforter, Heavenly Dove, Spirit of Love.
Leader: We believe in the church.
People: The Body of Christ, the communion of the saints, the people of God.
Leader: We believe in the Word of Life.
People: Sent from God: living, transforming, and challenging.
Leader: We believe that Christ has conquered life and death.
People: That he was crucified, dead, and buried: the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Leader: We believe in the resurrection.
People: Offering life everlasting!
Leader: Bursting forth with hope!
People: Hallelujah!
Leader: Let us offer our lives to God.
People: In gratitude for the gift of love and life, we offer ourselves to God. Amen.

* RECESSIONAL CAROL 142: "People Look East" — BESANÇON

* BENEDICTION & CHORAL AMEN — Dr. Grammer

* ORGAN POSTLUDE

The poinsettias and wreaths that adorn the sanctuary and doors of the church are given to the glory of God and in memory or in honor of loved ones. The créche and scenery were given to the glory of God and in memory of Maggie Brown Branch and Glenda Branch Murray

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Libby Grammer	Elizabeth Edwards	Zack Ross
Senior Minister	*Associate Minister*	*Minister of Music*
Jacob McCain	The Lakeside Chancel Choir &	Dyson Ponte
Minister to Children	The Lakeside Children's Choirs	*Acolyte*

Lakeside Website: lakesidechurchrmt.org

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Today is the First Sunday of Advent, *the inaugural season of the Christian year. Advent is a time of spiritual preparation for the coming of Christ; thus, it is a season of both joyous and solemn expectation. The liturgical color is purple, symbolic of a spirit of preparation.*

Our Theme this Advent is "A Thrill of Hope." *Remembering that line of the carol "O Holy Night," we recognize that we live in a weary world, fractured by division and despair. Yet across generations and cultures, humanity clings to the hope of restoration, and God continues to draw near. Advent reminds us that suffering is not the final word. The Messiah has saved us. The Messiah is saving us. The Messiah will save us. On this journey toward Christmas, we watch for God's saving work unfolding all around us, bringing healing where there is hurt, courage where there is fear, and hope where there is despair. The miracle of Immanuel did not end in Bethlehem. The thrill of hope persists.*

Restrooms are located in the hallway behind the sanctuary. **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. **Children's worship bags** are available in the narthex. **Wireless hearing aides, Bibles, and large print hymnals** are available for your convenience and are located in the Prayer Room off the Narthex. **Please see an usher if you have any questions.**

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

The Lodge at Rocky Mount, 3322 Village Road (04)
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)
Duff Freeman (Carol & Chuck Taylor's friend)
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
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 & 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
Mary Wright Thompson, 107 Mayfield Dr., Apex, NC 27539
Gus Tulloss, 209 Cobblestone Court (04)
Ziggy Zalzneck, 324 Piedmont Avenue (03)

Our Members at Home:
Jackie Allsbrook, 113 Old Colony Way (04)
Ann Bishop, 2600 Croasdaile Farm Pkwy, Apt. S210, Durham
Martha Bulluck, The Lodge, 3322 Village Rd, Room 223 (04)
Cody Richardson, 1518 Fountain Branch Road (03)

THIS WEEK AT LAKESIDE

Sunday, November 29: Hanging of the Greens
11:00 a.m. Worship with Hanging of the Greens, *Sanctuary*
5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Party, *Youth & Music Suites*
NO EVENING ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH

Tuesday, December 1
4:00 p.m. Lakeside Ladies' Book Club

Wednesday, December 2
10:00 a.m. Dove Notes, *Godwin Library*
6:00 p.m. Lakeside Ringers Rehearsal, *Music Suite*
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, *Music Suite*

Thursday, December 3
10:30 a.m. Needles & Prayers, *Parlor*

Sunday, December 6: 2nd Sunday of Advent
9:45 a.m. Growing Together Groups, *Education Building*
10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, *Sanctuary*
11:00 a.m. Worship with Baptism & Communion, *Sanctuary*
12:15 p.m. Continue the Communion, *Mario's Pizza*
4:00 p.m. Caroling
6:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party, *Youth Suite*
NO EVENING ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

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.