

"For God did not
send His Son into
the world to
condemn the
world, but that the
world through Him
might be saved."

-John 3:17

5:00 PM



LAKESIDE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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WELCOME TO LAKESIDE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHRISTMAS EVE - 5:00 PM - 12/24/2024

VISITORS - Thank you for worshipping with us this evening. May God bless your time here. We have three types of membership at Lakeside Lutheran Church: Full, Associate and Seasonal. Full Membership consist of those people confirmed in the LCMS faith who live fulltime in the Venice area and consider Lakeside their church home. Associate members are confirmed in the LCMS faith but maintain their membership at their home church. Seasonal members are those who attend and consider Lakeside their church home when they are in the Venice area, but have not been confirmed in an LCMS faith. Feel free to speak to Pastor Dahlke for more information. Once again, welcome in the name of Christ Jesus.

AS WE GATHER

Can you imagine a person who has never heard of Christmas? How would you explain what we are hearing on Christmas night to such a person? To fully understand what Christmas is about, that person needs to know, first, that God who created everything, including the person you are explaining this to. Then that person needs to know that, from the beginning, all people have sinned against God, with the result that "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Christmas is the discovery that God's love is so deep that, even though we have sinned, from eternity He planned a way everyone could be forgiven, return to Him, and live forever in the way He originally intended for us. People in Old Testament times were saved by faith in the promised Christ. And people are saved by faith now in that same Christ who has come in the person of the Son of God, "conceived by the Holy Spirit" and "born of the virgin Mary." He was born in our flesh so that He could satisfy those "wages of sin" before God for us and for the whole world by His sacrificial death. The proof that His payment was sufficient is His resurrection from the dead and return to the Father to live and reign over all forever.

Paul said, "My heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved." Then he asked our question, "But how are they to call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? . . . So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ" (Romans 10:1, 14-17).

It is not that difficult to imagine someone who has never heard of Christmas for one more reason. For even we who have heard still too often live as if we have never heard! Because sin continues to be our struggle until we are finally delivered from its power, we need to hear this story over and over again. Tonight we recall how Christmas and the entire Gospel of our salvation is beautiful news to hear and to believe over and over again.

Pastor: Rev. David J. Dahlke | PastorDavid@LakesideLutheran.Net

ATTENDANCE PEW PAD

Please sign the pew pad that is on the bench. If you are visiting for the first time please include your address, phone and email address. We thank you for coming to Lakeside Lutheran Church tonight!

WORSHIP and COMMUNION

If you are unable to attend church, please know that you can watch services on our website (www.lakesidelutheran.net) as well as on YouTube. Please contact the church office if you wish to receive communion at your home. An Elder will be in contact with you to make arrangements to meet at a convenient time.

HELP WANTED

As many of you learned Brenda Gustafson, our Office Administrator, is retiring after the first of the New Year. We are actively searching for her replacement and are soliciting your help in finding our next Office Administrator. We are looking for an individual with experience in office management, who knows their way around the computer, has a cheerful and positive personality, and views this position as a ministry serving God. This is a part time position with office hours Mon-Thurs 8am-2pm and Fri 8am-12pm. If you have an interest, or know of someone who might be interested, please send a current resume, three references and contact information to Tim Dell at timdell13331@gmail.com.

Thank you and God Bless!

BREAD BREAKERS

Bread Breakers offers an opportunity to be involved in living the Lakeside Vision: "Joyful Christians who inspire More and Stronger Disciples." People get together in small groups for friendship and fun. Through conversations they are encouraged and filled with the Joy of Jesus. Bread Breakers is designed so all Lakeside people will have an opportunity to create bonds with one another. We are preparing to shuffle groups around. Each group meets once monthly: Jan. - May. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for kicking off the January season. Please sign the sheet, or you may contact Linda MacDonald: craiglindamac@gmail.com

CHILDREN'S BUSY BAGS

There are bags of children's activities that are available in the narthex. You are welcome to pick up a busy bag for your child.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS BULLETIN

Lakeside provides bulletins for the children who are in attendance. These bulletins are available in the narthex. The children's bulletin includes coloring pages and puzzles. Please ask an usher for a bulletin if your child did not receive one.

CHILDREN'S BUSY BAGS

Lakeside Church continues to collect food (year-round) to give to South County Food Pantry. Non-perishable foods, toiletries, pet foods and cleaning supply donations can be placed inside the white cabinet, directly inside the Narthex (on the right) or brought to the church office.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

EPISTLE READING

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.



CHRISTMAS EVE 5:00 SERVICE, 12/24/24

PRELUDE	SONG "Away In a Manger" - Jeremy Camp
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE
HANDBELL CHOIR "Good Christian Friends"	SONG "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" - Jeremy Riddle
OPENING SONG "Noel" - Chris Tomlin	CHRISTMAS MESSAGE Luke 2:1-20
CHRISTMAS INVOCATION	"Jesus and Your Eternity" Rev. David J. Dahlke
OPENING CHRISTMAS SENTENCES	PRAYER OF THE CHURCH
CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION	THE LORD'S PRAYER
SONG "O Come All Ye Faithful" - Hillsong Worship -	SERVICE OF CANDLE LIGHT
OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 9:2-7	CANDLE LIGHTING SONG "Silent Night" - Sarah Kroger
EPISTLE READING Titus 2:11-14	BENEDICTION
ALLELUIA VERSE	CLOSING SONG "Joy to the World"
HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2:1-20	POST-SERVICE MUSIC
HANDBELL CHOIR "Kingsfold"	
THE CHRISTMAS CREED (spoken)	



Please be careful with lit candles. When the candle lighting song is complete, please extinguish the candles carefully and keep it remaining upright until the wax has hardened.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Please know - no orders were taken for Christmas Poinsettias this year. Due to the hurricane's in 2024, we were told it would be hard to fulfill orders at Christmas time; thus, it was decided to have the church purchase poinsettia plants for the church décor (if we can find them). Following the late service (on December 29th) you are welcome to take a poinsettia home with you. (First come first serve while they last).

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

- Monday Bible Study
6:00 - Ladies Bible Study - *Matthew (Sanct.)*
- Wednesday Bible Studies
9:00 - Romans (*Online*)
10:30 - Luke Study (*Meyer Hall*)
~~7:00 - Luke Study (Cancelled until 1/8/25)~~
- Saturday Men's Study
8:30 - God's Word Today: 2 Cor. (*Meyer H.*)
Feel free to contact the church office to be included in a online zoom class (941) 493 -5102 or llc@lakesidelutheran.net

LAKESIDE GROUPS

We have a variety of groups that meet at Lakeside through the week.

- Monday: Quilters (beginning in January)
Tuesday: 9:30 Stitch-n-Chatter
Wednesday: 11:30 Handbell Practice
Thursday: (monthly LWML)
Friday: 9:00 Bulletin Buddies
Saturday: 8:30 Men's Band of Brothers
Feel welcome to join any activity. Watch the Sunday bulletin for more information.

DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Christmas-Eve Services: 7:00 PM
Christmas Day Service is **only** at 10:30 AM
Sunday Worship, Dec. 29, 9:00 and 10:30
New Year's-Eve is at 5:00 PM

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

Altar flowers cost \$35 per each bouquet. Simply sign the flower book in the narthex (sign one line per bouquet). Write "Altar Flowers" on your check memo or use an envelope with your donation. The flowers may be taken home after late service.

THOSE WHO SERVE

Tonight we thank Sandy Boos for coming to this service and reading.

THIS WEEK AT LAKESIDE

- WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25**
- MERRY CHRISTMAS -
10:30 Christmas Day Service
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26**
Office Closed
- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27**
9:00 Bulletin Buddies (*Conference Room*)
- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28**
8:30 Men's Group (*Meyer Hall*)
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29**
9:00 - Live Praise Band -
9:00 Worship Service (*Contemporary*)
10:30 Children's Sunday School
10:30 Worship Service (*Traditional*)



PRAYER REQUEST

CHAIRMAN: Elnor Miller
Phone: (941) 221-1473
Email: emiller304@comcast.net

PRAYER LIST: Jane Harring, Mark Law, John Bolger, Walden Swenson, Evalynn Zurek, James Schultz, Jose Rocha, Kathie Keppler, Jane Hillwig, Cynthia Holmes and Howard Mack.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHL

Lakeside Church offers Sunday School Class during the 10:30 Sunday service. The Class is located in the parlor (behind the narthex). Ms. Carole is the teacher. She welcomes toddlers through children age 10.

DECEMBER SERVICE CALENDAR

Wednesday Dec. 25 Christmas Day Service (10:30 only)
Sunday Dec. 29 Sunday Services (9:00 and 10:30)
Tuesday Dec. 31 New Years Eve Service (5:00)

Joyfully inspiring more and stronger disciples.



THE BOOK OF ACTS - STUDY GUIDE

The 2025 readings at Lakeside Lutheran Church will be focusing on the Book of Acts. There are Study Guides for the 2025 Acts series. The guides are available in the Narthex. Pick up a copy and take it home for self-study of the readings that are being used each week.

WORLD RENEW: Lakeside Lutheran Church is partnering with World Renew once again. Teams of skilled workers (15-20 people) will come from up North to do outreach and serve our larger community by restoring their homes to livable conditions.

World Renew Construction teams are scheduled as follows:

- Team 5: January 4 - January 25
- Team 6: January 25 - February 15
- Team 7: February 15 - March 8
- Team 8: March 8 - March 29
- Team 9: March 29 - April 19

The World Renew teams will be using the Youth Room, the Christian-Ed Room, the Music Room and Meyer Hall. World Renew also has trailers, RV's, trucks and cars parked on the back portion of the campus. Current groups using the above areas will need to change to other locations on the campus. Pastor Dahlke will develop teams and schedules that will help connect us with World Renew.

SERMON NOTES

(This area is reserved for sermon notes...)



LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) JANUARY MEETING

Ladies - The theme for our January LWML meeting will be Purses and Prayers. It will be held on the **2nd Thursday, January 9th**, at 11:30. We will be playing a purse game and offering special handmade purses for sale as a fundraiser. We will be enjoying a Macaroni and Cheese bar at lunch. All Lakeside ladies and their guests are welcome. Please sign-up on the sheet in the narthex. We hope you can join us for a fun time together!

LWML BAKELESS CAKE SALE

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League will be holding a Bakeless Cake Sale Fundraiser on January 12th and January 19th. Look for the flyer/envelope that you will receive in your bulletins on those Sundays - then place the envelope in the cake in the narthex. Money received will go towards LWML mission projects. Thank you for your support!

LWML MITE SUNDAY

The 1st Sunday of each month is LWML Mite Sunday. Lakeside LWML supports the Florida-Georgia LWML with our mites. Your mites support Rebecca's Garden of Hope which is Christ-centered support for college-bound students in educational advising ministry. Please bring your mite box on the 1st Sunday of every month and put it on the purple table in the narthex - and take a new box! Also, EVERYONE is welcome to add their spare change to the Mighty Mites Bucket! Thank you for your generosity and support.