

THE LAMINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*We are a family of faith wrapping our arms around God's world
and making Jesus Christ a way of life*

through **worship**, as we praise and glorify God;
through **study**, as we listen for God's Word in body, mind and spirit;
through **mission**, as we embody God's love in service to the world;
through **giving**, as we express gratitude to God;
through **fellowship**, as we love and care for one another.



"Girl Holding the Lamp of Wisdom"
bronze sculpture by Nathan David
Waterperry Gardens, Oxfordshire, England

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 16, 2018

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 16, 2018

10:15AM

*“Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice....
‘How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?
How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?’”
-Proverbs 1:20, 22*

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

RINGING THE BELL

PRELUDE Prelude and Allemande in a minor Jean-Philippe Rameau

WELCOME

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

INTROIT “Breathe on Me, Breath of God” TRENTHAM

* CALL TO WORSHIP Nivita Thomas

Leader: Rejoice, people of God!
Celebrate the life within you,
and Christ’s presence in your midst!
People: **The present will have new meaning,
and the future shall be bright with hope.**

Leader: Rejoice, people of God!
Bow your heads before the one
who is our wisdom and our strength.
People: **We place ourselves before our God,
that we may be touched and cleansed
by the power of the Holy Spirit!**

* GATHERING HYMN 162 “O Lord, Our God, How Excellent” WINCHESTER OLD

* INVITATION TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**We submit ourselves to you, O God,
admitting that we have not always sought or valued your wisdom.
We have given ourselves over to bitter envy and selfish ambition.
We have been boastful and false to the truth.
So often we are at war within ourselves,
yearning for the best but surrendering to the worst.
We draw near to you, God,
praying that, by the mercy of Christ,
you will cleanse us from sin and purify our hearts.**

* KYRIE

**You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!**

* ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn 576)

Jacques Berthier

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!**

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Proverbs 1:20-33

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(Children through 7th Grade are excused to go with their teachers to church school.)

ANTHEM

Lead Me Lord from *Praise the Lord, O My Soul*

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

SECOND READING

Mark 8:27-38

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"The Heart's Wisdom"

The Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* HYMN 339

"Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,

and binds us together with all believers

in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit

who inspired the prophets and apostles

rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,

engages us through the Word proclaimed,

claims us in the waters of baptism,

feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,

and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world

the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

**to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Our prayers this morning include intercessions for victims of hurricanes, in the form of a hymn: "O God, We've Prayed in Wind and Rain," text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, tune: St. Anne ("O God, Our Help in Ages Past"))

O God, we've prayed in wind and rain
And now we pray once more
For those who felt the hurricane
And heard the waters roar.

We pray for those who watched the storm
Destroy the life they knew,
Who wait in shelters, tired and worn,
And wonder what to do.

We thank you, God, for acts of love
Not bound by race or creed,
For hands that reach across the flood
To all who are in need.

We pray for others far away
Who've seen destruction, too;
We look beyond ourselves, for they
Are also loved by you.

Where rains flood cities, homes and towns
May we go out to be
A witness that your love abounds
In each community.

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Sarabande in A Major

Jean-Philippe Rameau

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

* DOXOLOGY (Hymn 592)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING

* SENDING HYMN 420

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

CWM RHONDDA

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

"A Gaelic Blessing"

John Rutter

* POSTLUDE

Sonata in A Major, K. 181

Domenico Scarlatti

** All who are able please stand*

Welcome to Lamington: If you are a guest, please fill out the information card in the pew and return it in the offering plate or to the pastor or usher at the end of the service. The church office hours are Monday-Friday from 10:00AM-3:00PM, phone: (908) 572-7013, email: lamingtonchurch@gmail.com. If you have a pastoral care emergency and need assistance immediately, please contact Pastor Carl Wilton at (908) 910-5360.

Today’s Worship Notes

Hymn Note: “O God, We’ve Prayed in Wind and Rain,” copyright © 2017 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, was written in response to severe storms — Hurricane Harvey in Texas and Louisiana and even more devastating flooding in Nepal, India, and Bangladesh. The hymn has also been used to support relief efforts in Florida, Georgia and South Carolina after Hurricane Irma and in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean after Hurricane Maria. This morning we use it to pray for those recovering from Hurricane Florence. We pray for those who are suffering, give thanks to the many who have responded, and pray for continuing efforts to help in comforting and rebuilding.

LITURGIST: Nivita Thomas DEACON: Eleanor Halsey & Hunter Lewis
 COFFEE HOUR: Debby Johnson

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton, PASTOR
 James Goldsworthy, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
 Regina Morris, OFFICE MANAGER
 Bess Ploener, DIRECTOR OF HANDBELLS & ALTO SECTION LEADER
 Katie Cloys, SOPRANO SECTION LEADER
 John Cloys, TENOR SECTION LEADER
 Mary Ann Scott and Susan Scott, SUNDAY NURSERY CARE
 Lori Larsen, CHURCH TREASURER (*volunteer*)

The Upcoming Week

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|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Sunday, September 16 | 8:30AM 10:15AM | IHN Set-Up Worship |
| Monday, September 17 | 6:00PM | Finance Meeting—Gladish Room |
| Sunday, September 23 | 8:30AM 10:15AM | IHN Pack-Up Worship |

Note: Our guests from IHN will be at LPC from September 16 to September 23.

Prayer Requests, Joys, and Concerns

Prayer Request Cards can be found in the pews. Please place your request(s) in the offertory plate, or email/phone the church office at lamingtonchurch@gmail.com / (908) 572-7013. Please remember to keep the church office updated on prayer requests submitted.

We Pray For...

- ✠ **Gunnar Bickhardt**, was born on June 30 with heart issues. He has gone through two open heart surgeries and will have another in November. After a month in NYC Presbyterian Hospital, Gunnar is home. He has a feeding tube and continues to grow and get stronger. We pray for his continued healing, strength and comfort as he awaits his next surgery.
- ✠ **Peter Nicoletti**, who continues to battle cancer. We pray for strength and comfort as he undergoes treatment. Peter is the brother-in-law of Katina and Ivan Medina.
- ✠ **Cynthia Pereyra Noonan**, as she deals with her paralysis. It is 11 years this month. We give thanks for her husband Trevor, for his ongoing care and love. We pray for strength and comfort for both Cynthia and Trevor.



IHN at LPC
September 16 – 23

Thank you to all who have volunteered to make our three IHN families feel welcomed during **September 16–22**. Meridith Scott, coordinator, has some “slots” or opportunities available for you to be part of this wonderful mission. It’s especially meaningful for children and youth to participate (from 5:00-7:00PM or 7:00-9:00PM) since it helps them better understand how we, as a congregation, can show God’s love to those in need. Please contact Meridith Scott (meridith1027@gmail.com or (908)236-0206) if you are able and willing to help during any of these times:

- Sunday, September 16, 7:00-9:00PM and overnight
- Monday, September 17, 7:00-9:00PM
- Wednesday, September 19, overnight
- Thursday, September 20, overnight
- Friday, September 21, 7:00-9:00PM and overnight

Togo Clothing Drive

We are collecting clothing donations for Sylvie Ayedze and her three sons—Etiam 23; Nola, an American citizen born to the Ayedzes while living in Princeton, 18; and Nanu, nine years old.

Although IRS regulations prevent us from receiving monetary donations earmarked for the Ayedze Family, we are happy to accept clothing donations that, through the generosity of a church member, will be shipped directly to them in Togo—a West African nation on the Gulf of Guinea.

Gently used and new items would be greatly appreciated. **Lightweight summer clothing only please!** A collection bin (labeled "Togo Clothing Drive") is located in the church entranceway between the manse.

Sizes: *Sylvie*—shoes 9M, Dresses and Blouses size 12-14; *Etiam*—XL shirts, slacks 46x32; *Nanu*—M shirts, slacks 30x19; (*Nola*—is fine—he is in school in Maryland with Sylvie’s cousin.)

A black and white illustration of a person standing on a ladder, reaching up to hold a large sign. The sign has the text "Here's what's happening!" written on it in a stylized, bold font. The person is wearing a short-sleeved shirt and pants.

We're Looking for Sunday School Teachers! We need teachers for Sunday morning Church School. If you love children and enjoy teaching--we need you! If you always wanted to teach, but didn't have the courage to try--teaching Church School is a good place to start. Please contact Dorita at doritapawlikowski@yahoo.com if you have questions or want to sign-up to be a teacher.

We Need Liturgists! A wonderful way to participate in Sunday worship is by volunteering to read scripture. We have many open Sundays to lead worship. Please consider giving to the church with your time & talents. Interested? A sign-up sheet is hanging on the bulletin board outside the church office. Questions? Please contact the church office at (908) 572-7013, or lamingtonchurch@gmail.com. *Come share with us!*

Flowers for the Sanctuary: Please consider donating flowers for Sunday worship--there are many Sundays available. You may bring your own, have a florist deliver them or we can order them for you. We welcome an arrangement of just greens, a potted plant, or a vase of cut flowers. You may want to remember or recognize a special event, a family member, or a friend. If you have questions or want to reserve a Sunday, please call Nancy Hance at (908) 439-3755, or email at chance3@comcast.net. (*You may also fill out the flower order form found in the bulletin—please return the completed form to the church.*)

Adult Choir: The choir is back! The Lamington Adult Choir practices Sunday mornings before worship at 8:45AM in the choir loft. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Jim Goldsworthy at goldsworthy@rider.edu. *Come sing with us!*

Children's Choir: We are so excited to start another year of Children's Choir! Please keep an eye out for additional information in the following weeks! Contact Bess with any questions: ploenerb@gmail.com. *Come sing with us!*

Handbell Choir will begin on Sunday, September 30th! If you are interested in joining this year's handbell choir, please reach out to Bess at ploenerb@gmail.com. No matter your experience level, all are welcome to come on Sunday, September 30th to give handbells a try! We will meet at 11:30AM in the choir loft. *Come ring with us!*

SHIP's Galley—Friday, September 21: Members and friends of Lamington Church will meet on Friday, September 21 at 10:00AM in the Church kitchen to prepare bag lunches for SHIP's Galley. The bagged lunches will be taken to St. John's Episcopal Church in Somerville and distributed to the homeless, unemployed, hungry and poor. Please call Mary Jenkins at (908) 704-9197 if you can assist with this mission project.

Common Threads Ministry: We need people to make prayer shawls. If you knit or crochet or would like to learn, we would enjoy your fellowship and could use your help. Common Threads Ministry gathers twice a month on Tuesday evenings at 7:00PM in the Gladish Room. Are you interested or have questions? Please contact Dyanne Diaz-Piedra at (908) 439-2689 or Debby Johnson at (908) 832-7230. **Upcoming meeting dates: October 9 & 23, November 13 & 27, December 4 & 18.** *Come create with us!*