

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.



FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent

A Service of Lessons & Carols

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

December 23, 2018

10:15AM

“So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.”
-Luke 2:16

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

RINGING THE BELL

PRELUDE Christmas Music (transcribed for piano—four hands) Norman Dello Joio
 O, Come All Ye Faithful
 The Holy Infant's Lullaby
 God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
 A Christmas Carol
 Silent Night
 Bright Star (Light of the World)
 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
 Emma Mistele and Jim Goldsworthy, piano

 O Holy Night Adolphe Adam
 Abby Farmer, soloist

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (*Isaiah 2:4; 11:6; 35:1; 7:14*) The Pereyra Family

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
 As the Lord has promised, in days to come...
 The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares
 and their spears into pruning hooks;
People: nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
 neither shall they learn war any more.

Leader: The wolf shall dwell with the lamb
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
People: the calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together,
 and a little child shall lead them.

Leader: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad
 the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
People: like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
 and rejoice with joy and singing.

Leader: The Lord will give you a sign.
 Look, the young woman is with child.
People: She shall bear a son,
 and name him Emmanuel: “God is with us.”

Leader: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.
People: Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

INTROIT

Sonata in E-flat Major for Flute and Keyboard, BWV 1031
Siciliano

Johann Sebastian Bach

Ivey Mistele, flute

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Jim Grubel

Leader: Wonder of wonders, God comes to us!

**People: Not as a judge, but a Savior,
not in power, but as a servant.**

Leader: Wonder of wonders, God comes to us!

**People: Not in silence, but in the Word made flesh;
not in the shadows, but bringing Light.**

Leader: Wonder of wonders!

People: God is with us!

* GATHERING HYMN 123 “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

* INVITATION TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**O God, we confess that we are forever looking for you
in all the wrong places.**

**We seek you among the learned, the powerful, the well-connected,
but you lead us to a humble place:
to the stable in Bethlehem.**

Forgive us our sin.

**Give us eyes to see the star,
ears to hear the beat of angels' wings.**

**Be patient with us, Lord,
lest we miss signs of your advent.**

**Help us to regain our perspective,
and to receive with glad and grateful hearts
your wondrous offer of forgiveness in Jesus Christ.**

**Make us aware of how much we need you:
not only at Christmas, but all through the year.**

* KYRIE (Hymn 575)

**Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

* ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** (Hymn 113, refrain)

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

HEARING THE WORD

ANTHEM

“Carol of the Children”

John Rutter

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

(Children are excused to go with their teachers to church school.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-5

Jim Grubel

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“Every Valley”

John Ness Beck

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-16

Sandi Ramsay

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Messiah, HWV 56

George Frideric Handel

Recitative: “Behold! A Virgin Shall Conceive”

Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23

Aria and Chorus: “O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion”

Isaiah 40:9

THIRD LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

John Gordon

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CAROL #145

“What Child Is This”

GREENSLEEVES

FOURTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-20

Clare Halsey

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

“GLORIA TIBI” FROM *MASS*

Leonard Bernstein

Owen Mistele, percussion

*Gloria tibi, Gloria tibi,
Gloria!*

Glory to You, Glory to You,
Glory!

*Gloria Patri,
Gloria Filio,
Et Spiritui Sancto.
Laudamus te,
Adoramus te,
Glorificamus te,
Benedicimus te.*

Glory to the Father,
Glory to the Son,
And the Holy Spirit.
We praise You,
We worship You,
We glorify You,
We bless You.

*Gloria Patri,
Gloria Filio,
Et Spiritui Sancto.
Gloria!*

Glory to the Father,
Glory to the Son,
And the Holy Spirit.
Glory!

FIFTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

Christie Whitman

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“What Sweeter Music”

John Rutter

SERMON

“A Hasty Christmas”

The Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* HYMN 146

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

“Carol of the Bells”

The Lamington Bell Choir

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

* DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

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 147

“The First Nowell”

THE FIRST NOWELL

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE West Highland’s Sojourn (Bradford Ballade)

Robert Sheldon

Ivey Mistele, flute

* POSTLUDE

Noël Suisse

Louis-Claude Daquin

** 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 is closed on Mondays and open Tuesday-Friday from 10:00AM-4:00PM. Please note that the office may sometimes need to close early due to a personal reason or an emergency—it is best to call/email the office to be sure we are in: (908) 572-7013, lamingtonchurch@gmail.com. If you have a pastoral care emergency and need assistance immediately, please contact Pastor Carl Wilton at (908) 910-5360.

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

John Burke, TENOR SECTION LEADER

Bennett Spotts, BASS SECTION LEADER

Victoria Borrelli; Yiran Zhao, SOPRANO SECTION LEADERS

Mary Ann Scott and Susan Scott, SUNDAY NURSERY CARE

Lori Larsen, CHURCH TREASURER (*volunteer*)

Today's Worship Notes

LITURGIST: Jim Grubel, Sandi Ramsay, John Gordon, Clare Halsey, Christie Whitman

DEACONS: Sallye Grubel and Julie Murray

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: David, Myles and Nancy Pereyra

COFFEE HOUR: Cindy & Scott Campbell

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...

- ✝ **Mary Ann Legako**, as she recovers over the next months from a broken leg. Mary Ann lives in Oklahoma and is the mother of Meridith Scott.
- ✝ **Gunnar Bickhardt**, was born on July 30 with heart issues. He has gone through two open heart surgeries. He recently had surgery to fix the oxygen flow to the heart. We pray for Gunnar's continued healing, strength and comfort.
- ✝ **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.

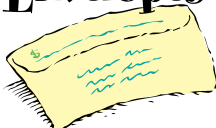
The Upcoming Week

Sunday, December 23 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	8:45AM	Choir Practice
	10:15AM	Worship—Lessons and Carols
	10:30AM	Church School
	11:30AM	Handbell Choir Practice
Monday, December 24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	5:00PM & 9:00PM	Two Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services
Sunday, December 30	8:45AM	Choir Practice
	10:15AM	Worship—Lessons and Carols
	10:30AM	Church School
	11:30AM	Handbell Choir Practice

Note: The Church Office is closed December 24-January 1 for Christmas and New Year. Pastor Carl can be reached on his cell phone (908.910.5360) for pastoral emergencies.

2019 Offering Envelopes Ready For Pick-Up

Offering Envelopes



Please pick-up your 2019 offering envelopes in the Gladish Room. Using envelopes helps the counters record the offering more quickly and efficiently. If you do not see a box of envelopes with your name on it and would like to have one, please contact Molly Falk at (908) 209-1080 or mafalk1@comcast.net.

The Officers of The Lamington Presbyterian Church

Session

Class of 2019

Lynn Carter
Patrick Palmer
Duncan Rose
Meridith Scott (*clerk*)
Immanual Thomas



Class of 2020

Valerie Fraser
Jim Grubel
Greg Halsey
Alison Paine
Georgie Schley

Deacons

Class of 2019

Sallye Grubel
Eleanor Halsey
Mary Jenkins
Joe Scott
Hunter Lewis

Class of 2020

Cindy Campbell
Monica Immanual
Sandi Ramsay
Laurel Rose