

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.



THIRD SUNDAY
OF
Advent

A Christmas Pageant

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

December 16, 2018

10:15AM

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

RINGING THE BELL

PRELUDE

Five Carol Fantasies

John Ness Beck

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (*Isaiah 2:4; 11:6; 35:1*)

The Connolly 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: 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

Carol of the Bells

Mykola Leontovych

The Lamington Bell Choir

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Valerie Fraser

Leader: In every heart there lives a Bethlehem:
**People: A place where light shines with tender memories,
A place where angelic voices sing clearly,
A place of wonder, delight and calm,**
Leader: A place where the humility of shepherds
and the wisdom of the Magi embrace.
**People: We have heard the call to come and worship,
To worship Christ, the newborn king.**

Leader: In the days to come, let us heed the call!
Let us continue our journey to Bethlehem,
Kneel in wonder, offer our gifts.
People: **Let us awaken our hearts to praise!**

* GATHERING HYMN 107 “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

REJOICE, REJOICE

* INVITATION TO CONFESSON

* PRAYER OF CONFESSON (*unison*)

**Eternal God of power and grace,
who comes to us in unexpected ways —
in prophetic calls to faithfulness,
in hints of angelic appearances,
in resurrection from the dead —
show us the face of Emmanuel in our time.**

**We have not been attentive
to signs of his coming.**

**We have put too much faith in human efforts
and have showed little patience
for your unfolding plan.**

**We have hurt others
when we could have been helping.**

**Forgive us our sin, O God of mercy.
Bring us from fear to awe, we pray:
in the name of our savior, Jesus.**

* 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

PRAAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:7-10

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

SECOND READING

John 1:1-14

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

A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

THE ANNOUNCEMENT

CAROL 99

“My Soul Gives Glory to My God”
(*all sing—stanzas 1, 2 and 5*)

MORNING SONG

THE JOURNEY

ANTHEM

“Away in a Manger”
The Lamington Children’s Choir

MUELLER

SHEPHERDS AND ANGELS

CAROL 119

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
(*congregation joins in*)

MENDELSSOHN

VISITORS FROM AFAR

ANTHEM

“One for the Star”

John Rutter

The Lamington Children’s Choir

CAROL 134

“Joy to the World”
(*congregation joins in*)

ANTIOCH

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Mary Did You Know?
Ritika Thomas, soloist

Mark Lowry

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

* CAROL 140

“Once in Royal David’s City”

IRBY

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

A Holiday Duet
Ritika and Nivita Thomas, violin and cello

James Lord Pierpont

** 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

*The flowers on the Communion Table are given to the glory of God
by Norman Faulkner and the Faulkner family in loving memory of Sally Jane Faulkner.*

LITURGIST: Valerie Fraser DEACONS: Monica Immanuel and Mary Jenkins
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: Katelin, Bill, Anna, Grace and Katie Connolly
COFFEE HOUR: Joan Lewis and Shelley Ricco

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 16 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	8:45AM 10:15AM 10:30AM 11:30AM	Choir Practice Worship—Christmas Pageant Church School Handbell Choir Practice
Tuesday, December 18	7:00PM	Common Threads Ministry
Wednesday, December 19	8:00AM	Deliver Christmas Treat bags to E'port
Friday, December 21	11:00AM	SHIP's Galley in Somerville
Sunday, December 23 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	8:45AM 10:15AM 10:30AM 11:30AM	Choir Practice Worship—Lessons and Carols Church School Handbell Choir Practice
Monday, December 24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	5:00PM & 9:00PM	Two Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services
Sunday, December 30	10:15AM	Worship

**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.**



Lamington Elves Going to Elizabethport December 19

Thank you to all the helpers who assisted with the assembly of 60 Christmas treat bags for the pre-K children of Elizabethport (E'port) this past Sunday. Now it is time for the Lamington Elves to make the delivery on Wednesday, December 19.

Making the Delivery--Calling All Elves--Here's the Schedule:

- **8:00AM** - Leave Lamington, carpool to E'port Center
- **9:15AM -11:45AM** - Visit each of the four pre-K classrooms. The Lamington Elves will read "*The Night Before Christmas*" to each class. We will then move from the reading circle to the tables to assist all of the children in decorating their own (sealed) Holiday Surprise Bag. (We supply pre-cut felt Christmas trees, gingerbread men, and snowmen, as well as stickers, cotton balls, pipe cleaners etc. for the craft project.) When complete, each child will put their decorated bag into their cubby, to take home and be opened on Christmas Day.

If you are interested in going to E'port on December 19, or have any questions—please contact Chris Smith at smitpvil@comcast.net or (908) 208-0233.

Reminder--Donations Are Needed: We will be collecting donations during coffee hour to help with the cost of this mission project. Each Christmas treat bag, including its contents and decorations, costs about \$8.00--this money is not included in the Lamington mission budget. Please consider supporting this wonderful mission by making a donation.

Thank you in advance for supporting Lamington's tradition of celebrating Christmas with the pre-K children of E'port!



Serve with Us! SHIP'S Galley Soup Kitchen

On the third Friday of each month, volunteers from Lamington Church gather to prepare meals for SHIP's. Join us next on ***Friday, December 21*** to help prepare and serve a hot meal at this local mission. Volunteers will meet at 11:00AM at St. John's Episcopal Church (158 West High Street, Somerville). If you are able to help with this project, please call Dyanne Diaz-Piedra at (908) 442-3544.

The Officers of The Lamington Presbyterian Church

Session

Class of 2019

Lynn Carter
Patrick Palmer
Duncan Rose
Meridith Scott (*clerk*)
Immanuel 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 Immanuel
Sandi *Ramsay*
Laurel Rose