

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.

**Go therefore into the main streets,
and invite everyone you find**



**to the wedding banquet.
Matthew 22:9**

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 6, 2018

10:15AM

*“The kingdom of heaven may be compared
to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son.”*

Matthew 22:2

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

RINGING THE BELL

PRELUDE

Sonata in e minor, K. 402

Domenico Scarlatti

WELCOME

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you.

INTROIT

Thomas Tallis' Canon
The Lamington Bell Choir

Arranged by Kevin McChesney

* CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Isaiah 12:2)

Leader: Surely God is our salvation;

People: We will trust, and will not be afraid.

Leader: For the Lord God is our strength and our might,

People: And has become our salvation.

Leader: Let us worship God!

* GATHERING HYMN 455 “All Creatures of Our God and King”
(verses 1, 2, 4 and 6)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

* INVITATION TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Before the world began,

O Lord, when everything was shapeless,

you were there: hovering over chaos,

planning the texture, the taste, the sight and sound of things;

balancing the opposites, weaving the rainbow,

turning the random into the real.

Yet we confess

that we have lived as though the world were aimless,

disordered, a hate-scarred battleground of soulless competition.

Forgive us when we cannot see your hand at work, O God —

**when we live as though grasping and striving
were the height of living.**

Help us to be truly grateful,

for the sake of Christ our Lord.

* 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 Song of Solomon 1:1-4, 2:1-7

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

Messiah, HWV 56
No. 53 Chorus "Worthy Is the Lamb That Was Slain"

George Frideric Handel

Revelation 5:12, 13

SECOND READING Matthew 22:1-14

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Pleasure of Your Company"

The Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

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

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick**

**and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY Menuet in a minor
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Jean-Philippe Rameau

* 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

* HYMN 507

“I Come with Joy”

DOVE OF PEACE

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

Picardy, #5

**Holy, holy, Lord most holy,
God of power and God of might.
Heaven and earth reveal your glory.
Hail! Hosanna, Lord of light.
Blessed is the coming savior,
Hail! Hosanna, Lord most high.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

BREAKING OF BREAD AND COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(You are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. Please remain seated. The communion elements will be served to you. Gluten and casein free elements are available.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

**God of new life,
with joy we have received this sacrament
of bread and wine,
giving you thanks for Jesus Christ,
our peace and our hope.
Unite your church throughout the world
in continuing Christ's ministry
of love and servanthood,
that your name may be praised in all the earth.**

THE SENDING

* SENDING HYMN 145 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!"

MARION

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Messiah, HWV 56
"Amen" of the conclusion of
No. 53 Chorus "Worthy Is the Lamb That Was Slain"

G. F. Handel

** 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 emergency and need assistance immediately, please contact Pastor Carl Wilton at (908) 910-5360.

Today's Worship Notes

"His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales... requests the pleasure of the company of _____ at the Marriage of His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Wales with Ms. Meghan Markle..."
Should your name appear in the blank, congratulations: you've just received the most coveted wedding invitation of the year! Guest lists are a big deal at any wedding. Much thought goes into who receives an invitation and who does not. But what if nobody came to Prince Harry's and Meghan Markle's wedding? It's inconceivable! It was just as inconceivable in Jesus' day, which is why he chose to tell a parable about no-shows at a royal wedding. So, who's invited to Jesus' banquet? At the table of the Lord, we find out.

DEACONS: Eleanor Halsey

LITURGIST: Valerie Fraser

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
Andrew Stack, BASS SECTION LEADER
Mary Ann Scott and Susan Scott, SUNDAY NURSERY CARE
Lori Larsen, CHURCH TREASURER (*volunteer*)

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.

The Upcoming Week

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| Sunday, May 6 | 8:45AM 10:15AM 10:30AM after worship 11:45AM | Choir Practice Worship Church School Basket Day Set-Up Lamington Bell Choir |
| Tuesday, May 8 | 7:00PM | Common Threads Ministry |
| Friday, May 11 | 6:00PM | Preview Night |
| Saturday, May 12 | 9:30AM | Basket Day |
| Sunday, May 13 * Mother's Day * | 8:45AM 10:15AM 10:30AM 11:45AM | Choir Practice Worship Church School Lamington Bell Choir |

Note: Next Session Meeting is on Monday, May 14 at 6:00PM.