

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.



MOTHER'S DAY
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
MOTHER'S DAY—SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 13, 2018 10:15AM

*“For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted
me the petition that I made to him.
Therefore I have lent him to the Lord...”*
1 Samuel 1:27-28a

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

RINGING THE BELL

PRELUDE Serenade, D 957 Franz Schubert
Ritika and Nivita Thomas, piano

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 (*from Psalm 1*) Nivita Thomas

Leader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
People: Or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
Leader: But their delight is in the law of the Lord,
People: And on that law they meditate day and night.
Leader: Let us worship God!

* GATHERING HYMN 376 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” HYFRYDOL

* INVITATION TO CONFESSON

* PRAYER OF CONFESSON (*unison*)

Gracious and loving God,
as we approach you in worship,
we confess that all is not right with our lives.
We are burdened with unfinished business—
words left unsaid, or said without thinking;
deeds left undone, or done without caring.
You have called, O God, but we have not listened;
you have instructed, but we have not obeyed.
At times we have failed to remember
that we are your people,
pledged to follow where your son leads.
Come to us, O Lord, in our brokenness;
forgive us, heal us, and make us whole,
for the sake of Christ.

* 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

1 Samuel 1:9-28

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

“If ye love me”

Thomas Tallis

SECOND READING

John 17:6-19

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Releasing the Love”

The Rev. Dr. Carl Wilton

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* HYMN

“God of the Women”

by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

SLANE, Hymn 339, “Be Thou My Vision”

God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
Giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —
May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test,
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb,
Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —
May we so gladly proclaim you today.

O God of Phoebe and ministers all,
May we be joyful in answering your call.
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near
That we may share in your ministry here.

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

We trust in God,
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments.
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage. Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY Concerto No. 5 in D major, Op. 22
I. Allegro moderato
Ritika Thomas, violin

Friedrich Seitz

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 531	“Not for Tongues of Heaven’s Angels”	BRIDEGROOM
* BENEDICTION		
* CHORAL RESPONSE	“A Gaelic Blessing”	John Rutter

* POSTLUDE	Sonata in A Major, K. 405	Domenico Scarlatti
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* *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

The flowers on the communion table have been given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bob Tucker from Lauren and the Tucker Family.

It's Mother's Day: a day for honoring - or honoring the memory of - those women who brought us into the world. We remember those who have cared for and nurtured us when we were young: in most cases they were our natural mothers, but for some of us, others stepped forward to fulfill that vital role. It's been said that the task of all who take on the nurture of children is to give them "roots and wings." This Sunday we focus on the "wings" part: the poignant truth that children need, one day, to be released to live their own lives. That's part of motherhood too - maybe the hardest part. But it's part of God's loving plan.

Our second hymn is "God of the Women," Copyright © 1998. All rights reserved. It is from *Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship* by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Geneva Press, 2000). Used by permission.

DEACONS: Eleanor Halsey

LITURGIST: Nivita Thomas

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*)