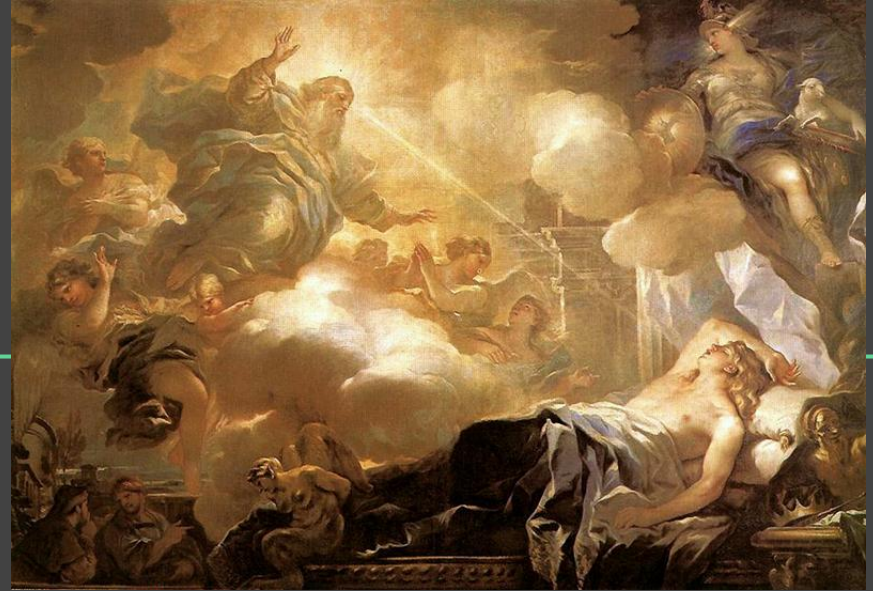


# Welcome to Lake Avenue Baptist Church

July 26, 2026



“Dream of Solomon” - Luca Giordano

## Centering Words

- *“To love is surely to support and to encourage—but not necessarily to approve. Quite the contrary! If we love one another we will help one another fight against our evil dreams.”*

- William Sloane Coffin

# Good Mornings

**Ma gwa na ni** (Shona), **Ming galaba** (Burmese), **Mwah be you ay** (Bembe), **Mbote** (Lingala), **Jam bo** (Swahili), **Na Dam Ma** (Chin), **Gaw Ler Gay** (Karen), **Buenos Dias** (Spanish), **Bonjour** (French), **Zǎoshang hǎo** (Chinese), **Kaja Na Ai Ee** (Jinghpaw Kachin), **Te Rya Beh Tee** (Karenni), **Mauri** (Kiribati), **Oo-ya Morgen** (Flemish)

## Announcements

- July is “Kindness Month” - fill out more stars
- August will be “Summer Activities” Month - Send pictures of your summer activities to the church office at [lakeavebaptistchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:lakeavebaptistchurchoffice@gmail.com)
- One Great Hour of Sharing this month
- Sunday School needs teachers
- August Newsletter deadline this Wednesday, July 29

## Call to Worship -

One: I am your servant; give me understanding, so that I may know your decrees.

*Two: It is time for the Holy One to act, for your law has been broken.*

**All: Truly I love your commandments more than gold, more than fine gold. Truly I direct my steps by all your precepts; I hate every false way.**

Call to Worship -

One: Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.

*Two: The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts  
understanding to the simple.*

**All: With open mouth I pant, because I long for your  
commandment.**

## Call to Worship -

One: Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name.

*Two: Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me.*

**All: Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts.**

## Call to Worship -

One: Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.

*Two: My eyes shed streams of tears because your law is not kept.*

**All: You are righteous, O Lord, and your judgments are right. You have appointed your decrees in righteousness and in all faithfulness.**

## Opening Hymn - God of Grace and God of Glory

God of grace and God of glory,  
On thy people pour thy power;  
Crown thine ancient church's story;  
Bring her bud to glorious flower.

# Opening Hymn - God of Grace and God of Glory

Grant us wisdom,

Grant us courage,

For the facing of this hour,

For the facing of this hour.

# Opening Hymn - God of Grace and God of Glory

Lo! The hosts of evil round us

Scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!

Fears and doubts too long have bound us;

Free our hearts to work and praise.

# Opening Hymn - God of Grace and God of Glory

Grant us wisdom,

Grant us courage,

For the living of these days,

For the living of these days.

## Opening Hymn - God of Grace and God of Glory

Cure thy children's warring madness,

Bend our pride to thy control;

Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,

Rich in things and poor in soul.

# Opening Hymn - God of Grace and God of Glory

Grant us wisdom,

Grant us courage,

Lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,

Lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

# Opening Hymn - God of Grace and God of Glory

Save us from weak resignation

To the evils we deplore;

Let the search for thy salvation

Be our glory evermore.

# Opening Hymn - God of Grace and God of Glory

Grant us wisdom,

Grant us courage,

Serving thee whom we adore,

Serving thee whom we adore.

# Children's Message



Section of “Life of Christ” Thangka, Himalayan

Song of Blessing for Children

**Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the  
love of God surround you everywhere,  
everywhere you may go. X2**

One Great  
**HOUR**  
OF SHARING



One Great  
**HOUR**  
OF SHARING

## Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

- Invitation to Offering
- Ministry of Music
- Doxology
  - **Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**
- Blessing

# Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

- Sharing of Joys and Concerns
- Pastoral Prayer
- Lord's Prayer
  - **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## Ancient Word: 1 Kings 3:5-12

5 At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.”

6 And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today.

## Ancient Word: 1 Kings 3:5-12

7 And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.

8 And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted.

9 Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

## Ancient Word: 1 Kings 3:5-12

10 It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this.

11 God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right,

12 I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.

## Closing Hymn - Teach Me Thy Truth

Teach me thy truth, O mighty One,

From sin, O set me free.

Prepare my life to fill its place

In service, God, for thee.

## Closing Hymn - Teach Me Thy Truth

Accept my talents, great or small,

Choose thou the path for me,

Where I shall labor joyously

In service, God, for thee.

## Closing Hymn - Teach Me Thy Truth

Help me to show thy glorious way

That leads in hope to thee,

Till other souls their joy shall find

In service, God, for thee.

## Closing Hymn - Teach Me Thy Truth

Grant me thy grace for ev'ry task

Until thy face I see,

Then ever new shall be that joy

In service, God, for thee.

# Reflection on the Word - “On Leadership



“Jesus washing Peter's feet” - Ford Maddox Brown

## Closing Hymn - God the Spirit, Guide, and Guardian

God the Spirit, guide and guardian,  
Wind-sped flame and hovering dove,  
Breath of life and voice of prophets,  
Sign of blessing, power of love:

# Closing Hymn - God the Spirit, Guide, and Guardian

Give to those who lead your people,

Fresh anointing of your grace;

Send them forth as bold apostles

To your church in every place.

Closing Hymn - God the Spirit, Guide, and Guardian

Christ our Savior, sovereign, shepherd,

Word made flesh, love crucified,

Teacher, healer, suffering servant,

Friend of sinners, foe of pride:

# Closing Hymn - God the Spirit, Guide, and Guardian

In your tending may all pastors

Learn and live a shepherd's care;

Grant them courage and compassion

Shown through word and deed and prayer.

# Closing Hymn - God the Spirit, Guide, and Guardian

Great Creator, life-bestower,

Truth beyond all thought's recall,

Fount of wisdom, womb of mercy,

Giving and forgiving all:

# Closing Hymn - God the Spirit, Guide, and Guardian

As you know our strength and weakness,

So may those the church exalts

Oversee its life steadfastly

Yet not overlook its faults.

# Closing Hymn - God the Spirit, Guide, and Guardian

Triune God, mysterious being,

Undivided and diverse,

Deeper than our minds can fathom,

Greater than our creeds rehearse:

# Closing Hymn - God the Spirit, Guide, and Guardian

Help us in our varied callings

Your full image to proclaim,

That our ministries uniting

May give glory to your name.

Sung Blessing - Here I Am, Lord (Refrain)

Here I am, Lord

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord,

If you lead me,

I will hold your people in my heart.

# Thank You for Joining Us!

Thanks to Guest Organist Carol  
Manuel



"Solomon Praying to the Holy Spirit" -  
Guillaume Vrelant