

Regular Sunday Service Times: 8:40, 9:50, and 11 AM

- **Watch Online:** at laurelridgechurch.org/watch
- **Nursery/Preschool:** At all service times
- **Kids Church (K-6th) Services:** At all service times
- **THE RIDGE (MS and HS) (7-8th grades, 9-12th grades) Community Group:** Now at all service times.
- **Wednesdays, Kids and Preteen Adventure**
(K-4th grades, 5-6th grades) 6:15-8:00 PM
- **Wednesdays, THE RIDGE (MS and HS)**
(7-8th grades, 9-12th grades) 6:15-8:00 PM
- **Tuesdays: Celebrate Recovery:** 6:00 PM, Oakley Campus
- **Thursdays Prayer Team:** 5:30 PM, Room 104

For all Nursery-12th Grade programs, contact brandon@laurelridgechurch.org

For other opportunities and Community Group info, visit laurelridgechurch.org

Oakley Campus Planner

<p>12/14-12/21: One Warm Coat Drive</p> <p>*12/14: Community Group Leader Signups</p> <p>12/16: SALT 60+, Christmas Potluck, 11:30am, Gym</p> <p>12/22-1/1: Office Closed for Christmas</p> <p>12/24: Christmas Eve Service Times, 3, 4:30 & 6pm</p> <p>12/24, 31: No K-12 Wednesday Evening Programs</p> <p>*1/4: Community Group Signups Begin</p> <p>*1/11/2026: Summer Camps \$100 First Deposit Due, 2-6th & 7-12th Gr</p> <p>1/12: Mommy Meet Up, 9-11:30am, Gym</p> <p>*1/18: Secret Sister's Lunch, 1pm, Gym</p> <p>*1/25/2026: Winter Camp, 7/12th Gr, \$100 Deposit Due, Camp dates: 2/20-22, \$289</p> <p>1/25: Winter Season Community Groups Begin</p>	<p>1/25: Contribution Statements Available</p> <p>*1/26: Divorce Care Community Group Begins, 6:30pm</p> <p>*1/31: Men's Breakfast, 8-9:45am, Gym</p> <p>*2/1: Growth Pathway-9-10:45 am, Rm 301 1st Base, Connect with Jesus and the Church</p> <p>*2/8: Growth Pathway- 9-10:45 am. Rm 301 2nd Base, Developing Daily Habits with Jesus</p> <p>*2/15: Child/Teen Baptism Class, 12:10pm, Rm 301</p> <p>*2/15: Growth Pathway- 9-10:45 am. Rm 301 3rd Base, Living Faithfully for Jesus</p> <p>3/1: Baptism Sunday, 11am</p> <p>*6/28-7/3: Kids Camp, 2-6th Gr, Camp Sugar Pine, \$499</p> <p>*7/6-7/11: CentriFuge, 7-12th Gr, Jenness Park, \$499</p> <p>*Register at laurelridgechurch.org/register</p>
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The Coming
Joy
December 14, 2025

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- It's not an emotion, it's a choice.
 - Don't let your "one day" rob your today.

It means you have strength from God to face anything. It means you know you are blessed in everything. No matter what the circumstance, God's blessings are still there. It means you are less stressed in everything because you know God's love.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - Be joyful **always**; ¹⁷ pray continually; ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Romans 15:4 - For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Four truths that bring you joy:

1. Joy is _____ and it's not about your circumstances.

Luke 2:8-9 - And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord **appeared** to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

Luke 2:13-14 - **Suddenly** a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

2. Joy is _____ to us.

Luke 2:10-12 - But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you **good news** of **great joy** that will be for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

- Joy is recognizing the reality that Jesus is here.
- Joy is not created from within. Joy is sent from above.

Luke 2:17-18 - When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were **amazed** at what the shepherds said to them.

3. Joy is _____ because you have to let go of what you thought would bring you joy.

Luke 2:34 - Simeon blessed them but then said to Mary, "A sword shall pierce your soul, for this child shall be rejected by many in Israel, and this to their undoing. But he will be **the greatest joy** of many others. TLB

Luke 2:34 - Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the **falling** and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ...

- The joy is found in connecting with Jesus and your relationship with Him.

4. Joy is a difficult _____ because you have to trust in God, not yourself.

Luke 1:46-48 - And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ...

Luke 1:29-30 - Mary was greatly **troubled** at his words and **wondered** what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God.

Hebrews 12:2 - Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

John 15:11 - I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

How can I cooperate with him?

I can do what these people of the first Christmas taught us. I can stop chasing after what God has already sent. I can take the first step on the journey, the step of realizing that God is with me. I can let go of the branch, that things I thought would bring me joy. I can make the difficult decision to trust God instead of trusting myself.

Free Wi-Fi: LRCC-GuestWifi Password: lrccguest

Five Easy Ways to Give:

1. In Person: Place your offering in an offering box at either exit.
2. Our App: Search for "Laurel Ridge Community Church" on iOS and Android.
3. Online: laurelridgechurch.org/give
4. Bill Pay: Setup LRCC on your bank's Bill Pay. Your name is your account number.
5. Mail a check to the church: 2459 Laurel Road, Oakley, CA 94561

Questions? Call 925-625-9500