

Lakeshore Presbyterian Church  
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Pastor William Davis  
Pastor Emeritus Diane Oswald

Pianist Lois Koon  
Choir Director Phil Larson

**Lakeshore Presbyterian Church**  
**December 21, 2025**  
**4th Sunday of Advent**  
**Pastor Bill Davis, presiding**



*God of love, You sent Jesus to shine a brightly, lighting a path for all those who walk in darkness. May the light of Your love shine in our hearts, transform us and inspire us to love more deeply.*

**WELCOME**

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

**Reader 1:** Today is the **fourth Sunday of Advent**. In Advent we await with eager expectation, the coming of God's promised Messiah. We remember how God came to us in the person of Jesus, how divine Love came down and walked among us as Emmanuel – God with us. We wait with longing for the day when Christ will come once again, and darkness will be no more.

**Congregation:** Purify us, O God, and prepare our hearts to welcome the Christ child. We thank you for this time of waiting and preparation. We await the Light of the World with joyful anticipation!

**Reader 2:** A reading from the prophet Micah: "The Lord will choose one of your people to rule the nation – someone whose family goes back to ancient times. The LORD will abandon Israel only until this ruler is born, and the rest of his family returns to Israel. Like a shepherd taking care of his sheep, this ruler will lead and care for his people by

the power and glorious name of the LORD his God. His people will live securely, and the whole earth will know his true greatness, because he will bring peace.”

**Reader 1:** We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Today, we light the fourth candle: the candle of Love. There is no greater power than the love of God in Christ. It is stronger than rulers and empires, stronger than grief or despair, stronger even than death. We love, because God loves us.

**Reader 2:** Now, all four candles burn bright with the hope, peace, joy and love of God in Christ – the Hope of our Salvation, the Prince of Peace the Light of the World.

**Congregation:** Come, O Holy One, as the beloved child, Emmanuel! Soften our hearts and open our arms for your coming, that we may make this a place worthy and warm, kindly and safe for all your children, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

### **CALL TO WORSHIP** (Micah 5: 2, 4-5)

One: But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,

**ALL: From you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.**

One: And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

**ALL: And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;**

One: And he shall be the one of peace.

**ALL: Let us worship GOD, FATHER, SON and HOLY SPIRIT.**

### **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you!**

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

*Please stand if you are able*

**HYMN** “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” #31

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Dear LORD of all creation, we have so many requests, so many problems for YOU to solve, and YOU know our concerns. We confess that our needs are like that of a young child, who has seen many ads on television. We confess that

our needs can become endless. Forgive our selfish requests. We repent. Today, we bring to YOU our desire to serve YOU and to serve our neighbors. Help us to love YOU and to love our neighbors. Help us to know how we can serve YOU, and check off the things YOU would have us accomplish for YOU this Christmas. Amen.

## **PERSONAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

### **RESPONSE OF PRAISE** Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

### **CHOIR ANTHEM** “Angels from the Realms of Glory” #22

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **SCRIPTURE** Luke 2: 1-7

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

### **SERMON** “Christmas Anxiety”

### **HYMN** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” #44

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us say what we believe:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell; On the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND PRAYER REQUESTS**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, which 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, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

### **RESPONSE "Hear Our Prayer, O LORD"**

Hear our prayer, O Lord

Hear our prayer, O Lord

Incline Thine ear to us

And grant us Thy peace

## **THE OFFERING**

### **DOXOLOGY #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.

### **HYMN "Away in a Manger" #25**

## **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

## **FELLOWSHIP**

## Prayers for Healing & Strength

Sue Dykstra  
Roger Sheldon

Lori Pollack  
Debi Singer

## Birthday Blessings



Marcia Scheurer  
Pat Moses



**Sunday Mornings**  
**9 am – 9:45 am**



**Next Meeting**  
**Thursday**  
**January 8th**  
**10:30 am**

### Next Deacon's Meeting

January 4<sup>th</sup> following Worship

Committee reports for the Annual Report are due no later than January 12<sup>th</sup>.

Email to:

[lakeshorepresby@aol.com](mailto:lakeshorepresby@aol.com)

Thank you!

**You are all welcome to gather together at Pastors Bill & Roxie's home**



**December 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**2-5pm**  
**Dinner served at**  
**3pm**

**Please let Pastor Bill know if you will be able to attend**



**December 24<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm**

*Join with us as we  
welcome the birth of  
our Savior, Jesus,  
bringing light and  
hope to a world filled  
with darkness.*