

Lakeshore Presbyterian Church  
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Fort Gratiot, MI 48059  
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Pastor William Davis  
Pastor Emeritus Diane Oswald

Pianist Lois Koon  
Choir Director Phil Larson

Lakeshore Presbyterian Church  
December 7, 2025  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Pastor Bill Davis, presiding



*May the Lord fill us with inner Peace so we may be  
channels of peace to our brothers and sisters.*

## **WELCOME**

### **ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

**Reader 1:** Today is the second 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:** "Merciful God, give us grace to heed the warnings of the prophets and forsake our sins, so that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer."

**Reader 2:** A reading from the prophet Malachi: "See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts."

**Reader 1:** We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Last Sunday, we began in the dark, and lit one candle: the candle of Hope. Today we light the second candle: the candle of Peace.

**Reader 2:** We light it knowing full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is almost completely absent. Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us.

**Congregation:** And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries, within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, leading us in hope and offering us His peace.

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Isaiah 11:1-4)

One: A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

**ALL:** The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—

One: And he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears;

**ALL:** But with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

One: 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** “Joy to the World” #40

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**We are filled with joy because the LORD has come to earth. We will prepare room for the LORD in our hearts. In the midst of our joy, we confess that we still have bouts of sadness. We still put our own needs ahead of the needs of our neighbors. We confess that we try to hold onto our time, talents and treasure. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to share all the gifts YOU have given to us. We feel the joy of CHRIST’S birth when we share our time, talents and treasure with others. Forgive this and all our sin. Amen.**

**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**      **“The Snow Lay on the Ground” #57**

### **SCRIPTURE** Matthew 3:1-11

<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup> ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’<sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.”

<sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup> But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?’ <sup>8</sup> Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup> Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup> ‘I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

### **SERMON** “Christmas Preparations”

#### **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

**CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE**

**HYMN “Let Us Break Bread Together” #513**

1 Let us break bread together on our knees;  
Let us break bread together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees,  
With my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
Let us drink wine together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees,  
With my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;  
Let us praise God together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees,  
With my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise...

...Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord... ..Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died.  
Christ is Risen.  
Christ will come again.**

The power of the Holy Spirit fills our Holy Communion with God's presence and joins us with saints throughout the ages who have trusted the Holy Spirit for sharing the truth about Jesus Christ...

We gratefully thank the Father, Son and Holy Spirit for calling us, strengthening us, and granting us salvation. Amen.

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

### **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      "Good Christian Friends Rejoice" #28**

*Please stand if you are able*

### **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

### **FELLOWSHIP**

*Prayers for Healing*

**Lori Pollack**

**Roger Sheldon**



**Patricia Martin**



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



**Thursday**  
**10:30 am**

Please note the new time

Committee Chairs please start thinking  
about the Annual Reports for your  
committees.

Reports are due January 15<sup>th</sup>. Email to:  
[lakeshorepresby@aol.com](mailto:lakeshorepresby@aol.com)  
Thank you.

12/9 2:00pm Stewardship & Mgt

12/11 12:30 pm Worship  
1:30pm Session

12/13 1-3:00pm Craft Day

12/17 6:00pm Potluck



*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.*