

# Lake Osborne

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 13, 2009  
Third Sunday of Advent

# Welcome to Lake Osborne Presbyterian Church

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
To all who mourn and long for comfort;  
To all who sin and need a Savior;  
To all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
To all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
And to whosoever would come –  
This church opens wide her doors and offers welcome  
in the name of Jesus Christ.

We are a church committed to welcoming all those who are interested in learning more about Jesus Christ. Our desire is to provide honest answers to honest questions, no matter where you are in the spiritual spectrum – those who are convinced, those who are confused, and those who are skeptical. We hope that our service will encourage and build up those who are believers as well as challenge and help those who are spiritually seeking.

As we move through the service please note that the texts in bold are meant to be said by the congregation. The \* symbol next to a heading indicates that those who are able should stand.

Lake Osborne Presbyterian Church is a part of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA). For more information about the PCA please visit [www.pcanet.org](http://www.pcanet.org).

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

### **Quotes for Reflection**

When the Son of Man became poor, it was not by giving up his Godhood ... When he became man, he did not cease to be rich ... He did not become poor by ceasing to be what he was, but he became poor by becoming what he was not. ... He added manhood to his ... Godhood.

John Murray, *Collected Writings*, vol. 3

The Christmas message is that there is hope for ruined humanity – hope of pardon, hope of peace with God, hope of glory – because at the Father’s will Jesus Christ became poor and was born in a stable so that thirty years later he might hang on a cross.

J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

For the Christmas spirit is the spirit of those who, like their Master, live their whole lives on the principle of making themselves poor – spending and being spent – to enrich their fellow humans, giving time, trouble, care, and concern, to do good to others – and not just their own friends – in whatever way there seems need.

J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

**Prelude:** Andante con Moto  
from *Symphony No. 9* by Franz Schubert  
Arr. by Thomas Chesterton

### **Welcome and Announcements**

## CELEBRATING GOD’S GREATNESS

\***Call To Worship:** Angels from the Realms of Glory Arr. by Derric Johnson

\***Invocation**

\***Christmas Carol:** No. 214 – Angels We Have Heard on High (v. 1,2, 3)

### ***Advent Questions:***

Leader: Why do we light the Advent candles?

**People:** Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. He who follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the Light of Life."

Leader: What is the meaning of the third lighted candle?

**People:** The third lighted candle is the shepherd candle signifying the Light of Joy that unexpectedly brightened the hearts of a humble band of shepherds at the announcement of Christ's birth.

Leader: What do the gospels say concerning the shepherds?

**People:** Luke says: "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

***Lighting of the Third Candle:*** The Shepherd Candle

***Affirmation of Faith:*** Hebrews 1:1-4

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. 4 So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

### ***Advent Prayer***

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Christmas Carol:** No. 223 – While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (v. 1,2,4,6)

**DEDICATING OUR LIVES**

***Dedication of Tithes and Offerings***

**Offertory:** The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy by Lynn Trapp

***Prayer for Children's Church***

***Pastoral Prayer***

**PREACHING HIS WORD**

**Scripture:** 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

***Prayer for Understanding***

**Sermon:** He Was Made Poor

**CONFESSING OUR SINS**

***Prayer of Confession***

***Assurance of Pardon***

Our Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior, Jesus Christ, came among us in great humility and poverty, will sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

**\*Doxology:** No. 214 – Angels We Have Heard on High, refrain

Traditional French carol

GLORIA  
Traditional French melody

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written on a single line with a long slur over the first four measures. The lyrics are: "Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o," on the first staff and "glo - - - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o!" on the second staff. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half).

## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### ***Words of Institution***

### **Prayer**

#### *Prayers for Those Not Taking the Lord's Supper*

Lake Osborne Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel to receive the Lord's Supper with us. If you are not able to eat this morning, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

*Prayer for Those Searching for Truth.* Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. *Amen.*

*Prayer of Belief.* Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. *Amen.*

*Prayer of Commitment.* Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship through membership in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. *Amen.*

*Prayer for Those Overcome with Sin.* Lord Jesus Christ, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. *Amen.*

*Prayer for Covenant Children (Not Yet Confirmed).* Lord Jesus Christ, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you and to follow you as your faithful disciple. *Amen.*

## Distribution of the Elements

### GOING FORTH TO SERVE

**\*Hymn:** No. 203 – Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (v. 1, 2)

**\*Benediction**

**\*Song of Dismissal:** Song of Simeon

Para. James Quinn (b. 1919)

ST. COLUMBA C.M.

Old Irish hymn melody, alt. 1990

1. Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace, Your word is now ful - filled.  
2. This is the Sav - ior of the world, The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light,  
— These eyes have seen sal - va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.  
— God's glo - ry dwell - ing in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.

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**\*Postlude:** Blessed Assurance

*in the setting of Rachmeninoff's Rhapsody  
on a Theme of Paganini (18<sup>th</sup> variation) Arr. by Marilyn Ham*

## **ABOUT ADVENT**

Advent is a season of preparation. For centuries Christians have used the month prior to the celebration of Christ's incarnation to ready their hearts and their homes for the great festival. While we moderns tend to do a good bit of bustling about in the crowded hours between Thanksgiving and Christmas that hardly constitutes the kind of preparation Advent calls for. Indeed, traditionally Advent has been a time of quiet introspection, personal examination, and repentance. It is a time to slow down, to take stock of the things that matter the most, and to do a thorough inner housecleaning. Advent is, as the ancient teaching of the church asserts, a time of fasting, prayer, confession, and reconciliation. All the great Advent stories, hymns, customs, and rituals—from the medieval liturgical antiphons and Scrooge's Christmas Carol to the lighting of Advent candles are attuned to this notion: that the best way to prepare for the coming of the Lord is to make straight His pathway in our hearts.

—from *Christmas Spirit: The Joyous Carols, Stories, Feasts and Traditions of the Season* by George Grant and Gregory Wilbur

## **SERMON NOTES**

### ***Participants in the Worship Service***

Rev. Omar Ortiz – Senior Pastor  
Rev. Jay Forester – Assistant Pastor  
Dr. Carl Ashley – Music Director  
Mr. Michael A. Harris – Accompanist  
The Amouzou Family – Advent Readers

**Flowers** - The flowers on the alter today are presented to the Glory of God  
by Naila Nandlal to honor her mother, Shirley on her birthday.

Flower dates open: Jan 3, 10, 24, 31

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### ***Church Wide Events***

**Welcome!** We are glad to have you as our guest today. Please fill out one of the blue cards in the pews and place it in the offering plate. This Sunday's sermon is available on our website: [www.lopca.org](http://www.lopca.org).

**Weekly Prayer Request-** available at the outreach table in the Narthex.

**Nursery** - The nursery (3 and under) is located on the first floor of the Sanctuary Building. Please pick up your children immediately after the service is over.

**Wednesday Night** activities begin with the catered dinner at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Menu: Bowtie Chicken Pasta in cream sauce, Caesar salad, rolls and dessert. (last dinner for the month of Dec.) Dinner price: \$5 adult/teens; \$2.50 child 3-12 yrs; family \$15 maximum. Please reserve a dinner by signing up on the blue attendance card found in your pew or call the church office at 582-5686 by Tues., 12:00 pm. **Wednesday dinners and activities are cancelled for Dec. 23 and Dec. 30. The choir will have practice on December 23 at 7:00 pm.**

### ***Adult Ministries***

**Sunday School** - Class 1 - John Brandt is teaching a class on the life of David using the book *The Shepherd King* by Roger Ellsworth. Class 2 - Stephen Van Roekel is teaching from the book of *Galatians*. These classes meet on the first floor of the Education Building.

**Adult Thursday Night Home Bible Studies** - If you are interested in having or joining a home Bible study please contact the office at 582-5686 for information.

**Women's Wednesday Night Bible Study** – We are using the workbook *Job: Lessons in Comfort* by Frances Bennett. All women are welcome to join us at 7 pm for this study located in the Parlor. Suggestions/ideas are welcomed for the next study topic. Please use the blue card located in the pew to write down your suggestions or see Maria Osso.

**Men's Wednesday Night Bible Study** - We will meet as a group on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. Our study will be an open discussion about Sunday morning sermons. After our discussion we will separate into small groups of 4 or 5 for prayer and support.

**The Ladies Ruth Circle and Tuesday Morning Bible Studies** will join together at 11:30 am for a Christmas luncheon at the home of Aletha Shepley on Tuesday, December 15. Please bring a dish to share. If you would like to car pool please meet at the church at 11:00 am. Aletha's address is: 212 Dyer Rd., WPB – Ph. 833-2640.

**Bridal Shower** - Ladies please join hostesses Mary Downing Forester and Anna Forester for a bridal shower honoring Alecia Koerner, January 2, at 2:00 pm in the Parlor. Alicia is engaged to Justin Forester and their wedding is planned for late February. Please RSVP to Anna Forester at 968-2806.

### ***Children's Ministry***

**Children's Church (4yrs. – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade)** - We encourage parents to take the time to talk to their kids about what they are learning. Today: December 13- *Luke 3:7-18*- John prepares Jesus for His coming. For more information please contact Lisa Lennon, l.lennon@live.com. Please pick up your children after the service in the Education Building.

**Awana (3yrs. – 6<sup>th</sup> grade)** - Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:15 pm. We have memory verse time, games, and snacks. Catechism question for December 16 #59- How do you repent of your sin? If you would like more information please contact Lisa Lennon. Awana meets on the first floor of the Education Building.

### **Nursery Volunteers**

#### **During Sunday School**

Dec. 13 - Hazel B.; Rita C.  
Dec. 20 – Vicki B.; Annette M.

#### **During Worship (0-2 yrs)**

Dec. 13 – Olga D.; Nancy L.  
Dec. 20 – Barbie E.; Melissa M.

#### **During Worship (2-3 yrs)**

Dec. 13 - Maria O.; Babe R.  
Dec. 20 - Ann S. - TBA

#### **Children's Church: (4 yrs-3rd grade)**

Dec. 13 - Teacher – Lisa L.; Helper – Christy G.  
Dec. 20 - Teacher – Carol. B.; Helper – Hazel B.

## **Youth Ministry**

**Sunday School** - We are using the book *The Enemy Within* by Kris Lundgaard. Youth Sunday School meets on the second floor in the Education Building. See Charlie or Jay if you need a book.

**Sunday Nights** - Join us in the youth room at 6 pm on the second floor in the Education Building as we explore our identity as "reformed Christians."

**Wednesday Nights** - After dinner the youth meet in the youth room for a game and to learn about being "in the world, but not of the world."

## **Outreach/Service Opportunities**

**Habitat for Humanity** - is a non-profit organization dedicated to the elimination of sub-standard housing by building simple, safe, and affordable homes for working families. Please sign up today for the last work day of this year. You will find the volunteer sign-up sheet for the Dec.19 (W.P.B.) work day at the outreach table in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed to provide lunch for workers and will need to be brought to the church before 5 pm on Fri., Dec. 18. Volunteers meet at the church Sat., Dec. 19 at 7 am to carpool to the work site.

**"English-as-a-Second Language" Program** - We need volunteers for program organizers, teachers, and enablers. Please submit your name to Maria Osso on the blue card. A general planning meeting is set after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.

### **THIS WEEK AT LOPC: December 13 - December 19**

Today	9:00 am - 10:00 am	Sunday School; Nursery
	10:00 am -10:25 am	Fellowship; Library Open
	10:30 am -11:30 am	Worship; Children's Church; Communion
	6:00 pm- 7:15 pm	Youth "Plugged In"
Mon.	11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Ladies Encouragement Group Study/Visits (Parlor)
Tues.	11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Ladies Tues. Morning & Ruth Circle Study Combined Christmas Luncheon (car-pool to Shepley home-11 am)
Wed.	3:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Ladies "Knit-Wits" (Parlor)
	6:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Catered dinner/ activities (Fellowship Hall)
Thurs.	6:00 am - 7:30 am	Men's Sunrise Study and Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Thursday Night Home Bible Studies: Hair/Livanec (Hair home); Tate (Kullmar home)
Sat.	7:00 am - 8:00 am	Sat. Prayer Group (Education Building)
	7:00 am - 3:00 pm	Habitat for Humanity Work Day (WPB/car pool from church)

## OFFICERS

### **Elders**

Omar Ortiz, *moderator*  
Jay Myers, *clerk*  
John Brandt  
Joe Brown  
Jim Forester  
David Livanec  
Babe Ruth  
John Stelter  
Buddy Tate  
David Wade  
Tom Doyle  
Don Hair, *emeritus*

### **Deacons**

Charles Gauger, *chairman*  
Pascal Amouzou, *church treasurer*  
Chris Kibben, *secretary*  
Bob Lee, *treasurer*  
Ron Backus  
Bryan Backus  
Troy Bailes  
Thomas Kauper  
Henri Dietlin

### **Women in the Church**

*WIC Council:*  
Becky Forester  
Melissa Backus  
Anna May Kinser  
Maria Osso  
Denise Brown

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Rev. Omar Ortiz - *Senior Pastor* Rev. Jay Forester – *Assistant Pastor*