

**PARK LAKE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
309 East Colonial Dr., Orlando, FL 32801  
PLPC.org 407-841-6550

*A Century of Community in Christ  
1925-2025*



December 14, 2025 **Order of Worship**

Welcome and Announcements

Time of Silence

Prelude Prelude on Divinum Mysterium Fred Bock

Choral Introit Creator of the Stars of Night

Call to Worship

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height - look to the east and see your children, gathered from the west and the east at the word of the Holy One.

**Lead us, O God, with joy to walk in the light of your glory.**

Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.

**Lead us, O God, with joy to walk in the light of your glory.**

For God will lead his people with joy in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that comes from God.

**Lead us, O God, with joy to walk in the light of your glory.**

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

\*Hymn of Praise No. 82 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Scripture Reading Isaiah 35:1-10 pew Bible OT, pg. 623

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God forgive us for ignoring the joy you give to the world. We long for joy to break the weight of sadness and negativity that clothes us every day. But we make choices that deaden our lives to joy. Forgive us for dwelling on resentments and disappointments, for judging others against our own self-righteousness, for doubting your call to empty ourselves in order to be filled and transformed by the gift of your love. Open our lives to the joyful good news of Jesus Christ.**

(Time of silent prayer)

## Declaration of Forgiveness

This is the good news proclaimed so long ago and needed so much today: the Lord is near, the One who is our salvation. We give thanks to God, who forgives us in Jesus Christ and frees us from sin to live with joy.

**Thanks be to God. Let us walk in the light of Jesus Christ.**

### \*Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

\*Hymn No. 85 (v.1,2) Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

Lighting of the Advent Candles Joy

Hymn No. 85 (v.3) Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

## THE WORD

### Welcoming the Children

*Following the time on the steps, children are invited to PRAYground located in the east transept to work on an activity. A PRAYground "host teacher" will be available to help answer questions and provide needed supplies. Children may stay in PRAYground quietly working on their projects or take supplies and return to sit with their families.*

Hymn No. 114 Away in a Manger

***(v.1) Away in the manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.***

***(v3) Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.***

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:46-53

pew Bible, N.T. pg. 53

Sermon

Insistent Joy

Rev. Dan DeBevoise

\*Affirmation of Faith pg. 17

The Apostle's Creed (ecumenical)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead;  
On the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Do you Hear What I Hear?  
Chancel Choir

arr. Harry Simeone

The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

## **SENDING**

\*Hymn No. 134

Joy to the World

Charge and Benediction

Choral Benediction

This is the Savior of the World

(GTG 545)

Postlude

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen  
Will Benton, organist

Noél Goemanne

*\*Please stand as you are able in body or in spirit.*



**The Sanctuary flowers today**, are given to the glory of God, by Lauren Poore, in honor of her son Thomas Poore's 14th Birthday, on December 8 and in loving memory, of her husband, Craig Poore on his birthday, December 11.

and

by Paula Nowell, in loving memory of her son, Harold J. Cates.

**Worship Leaders today are:**

Rev. Dr. Helen DeBevoise and Rev. Dr. Dan DeBevoise, co-pastors  
Robb Ross, choir director; Will Benton, organist/pianist

**December Ushers:** Pam Coburn, Andre Davis, Aaron Hull, John Hunter, Doug Lawton, Barbara Martin, Scott Peterson, John Rogers, Cindy Schmidt, John Jenkins.

**Deacon at the Door:** Anne Vercheski

**COOKIES AND HOT CHOCOLATE**

**Sunday, December 14, after worship**

Please join us in the courtyard, after worship for cookies and hot chocolate. Hosted by the Deacons of Park Lake.



Pledged Income Y.T.D. Thru October 31, 2025		Non Pledged Income Y.T.D.	
Budget	\$279,463	Budget	\$34,869
Actual	\$275,804	Actual	\$51,402
Difference	(\$3,659)	Difference	\$16,533
Park Lake Operating Budget Thru October 31, 2025			
	Income	Expenses	Difference
Budget	\$447,416	\$472,588	(\$25,172)
Actual	\$492,833	\$461,021	\$31,812

**Church Staff**

Co-pastors	Rev. Dr. Helen DeBevoise
	Rev. Dr. Dan DeBevoise
Parish Associate	Rev. Dr. Linda Wright Simmons
Organist, Director FAVO	Will Benton
Choir Director	Robb Ross
Child Care Center Director	Karen Abell
Financial Administrator	Linda Castle
Church Secretary	Carol Bookhardt
Maintenance	Keith Bridges
Librarian	Alice Schmidt
Nursery Staff	Barbara Boyce

**Church Missionaries**

Madagascar	Dan and Elizabeth Turk
Mozambique	Sebber Banda
	Rev. Carlos Faquione

## ANGEL STOCKING TREE

During this Advent Season, Park Lake Presbyterian is sponsoring Christmas gifts for children at two nonprofits, [Grace Medical Home](#) and [Hope CommUnity Center](#).



Donations are being accepted to provide Christmas stockings and Christmas books to the pediatric patients at Grace Medical Home, one of Park Lake's mission partners. Grace reflects the heart of Christ by offering the highest level of health care to the low-income, uninsured in Orange County, including immigrant families.

Donations are also being accepted to sponsor toys for the children served at the Hope CommUnity Center in Apopka. Hope is a service learning community dedicated to the empowerment of Central Florida's immigrant and working poor communities through education, advocacy, and spiritual growth.

Please find the "Angel Tree" in the west transept and choose how you can help bless a child this Christmas. We hope you feel led to help as the stockings cost \$60 this year, a good \$10 more than last year, and we depend on your donations, **which we'll accept through December 14**. Donations may be sent to the church office, placed in the collection plate, made online at the [plpc.org Giving Page](http://plpc.org/GivingPage), see the Angel Tree option, or given to Anne Vercheski or Leesa Bainbridge.

***Thank you for helping make a child's Christmas special and giving them the blessing of feeling Christian care.***



### **Holiday Hours**

#### Church Holiday Office Hours

- ◆ Wednesday, December 24 - 9:00 am—12noon
- ◆ Thursday, December 25 - Church office closed
- ◆ Wednesday, December 31 - 9:00 am—12noon
- ◆ Thursday, January 1 - Church office closed

#### Park Lake Child Care Center

- ◆ Closed December 23, 2025 - January 2, 2026

# UPCOMING *Events* IN DECEMBER

## Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 14, 5:30 pm

Meet for pizza dinner at 5:30 pm in Struble Fellowship Hall, then we will caravan/carpool to carol to homebound members. Please R.S.V.P. to **Erin Cook** at [erincook987@gmail.com](mailto:erincook987@gmail.com) so we know how much pizza to order and if you need gluten free pizza.



## THE LONGEST NIGHT PRAYER AND REFLECTION:

Prayer and Readings Service

Sunday, December 21, 5:00 pm (Sanctuary)

**When Christmas feels heavy, the church can offer a place to rest.**

For many, Advent and Christmas are seasons of joy — family gatherings, celebrations, carols, and feasting. But for those experiencing grief, illness, loneliness, anxiety, or major life transitions, this time of year can stir up feelings that don't fit the season's script.



## WEEK OF CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

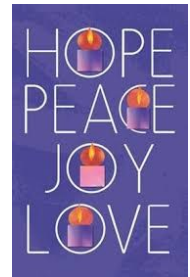
◆ **Sunday, December 21 - Poinsettia Sunday**

10:30 am Children's Nativity Christmas Pageant (Sanctuary)

5:00 pm Longest Night Prayer service (Sanctuary)

◆ **Wednesday, December 24, Christmas Eve**

5:30 pm – Christmas Eve Carols and Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)



### BIRTHDAYS

- 14 Elle Hardy
- 15 Roger Choquette
- 15 Melahn Murphy
- 15 Linda Shrieves
- 16 Ron Hummert
- 17 Gayle Sherrod
- 17 Kyle Butler
- 19 Stacia Hujik

### ANNIVERSARIES

- 11 Maria and Robert Larr—43 years



## WASHINGTON SHORES PRESBYTERIAN FOOD PANTRY

### *Update from the Park Lake Mission Committee*



Washington Shores Presbyterian is in need of food and hygiene items for their food pantry. We've been very faithful at Park Lake over the years, and the Mission Committee reminds everyone to please continue giving. Canned items such as tuna, corn, fruit, and sweet peas are needed, also cereal, peanut butter, jelly, and crackers. Don't limit it to just those, however! And hygiene items: bar soap, toothpaste and brushes, deodorant, etc. Their goal is 40 bags of food items and 40 of hygiene items once a month, every third Wednesday.

If you wish to make a monetary donation, you can place your check in the offering plate on Sundays, mail a check to Park Lake, or give the check or cash to Leesa Bainbridge or John Bowers. **Please make your check out to Washington Shores Presbyterian Church.**

---

### STOCK THE NIGHT FOOD DRIVE

Please continue to support **The Christian Service Center**. Their "**Stock The Night**" food drive continues now until **December 31<sup>st</sup>**. We will have a large box or two in the west transept for donations. The needs continue to grow.



### FOOD DRIVE NEEDS

**Canned or Boxed Goods:** Chicken, Tuna, Soups, Fruits, Vegetables, Beans, Powdered or Boxed Milk.

**Dry Goods:** Instant Potatoes, Pasta and Pasta Sauce, Rice, Oatmeal, Bottled Water, Juice, Cereal.

***Thank you to everyone who continues to support Washington Shores Presbyterian Church and the Christian Service Center through your pantry donations.***

*Thank You for your Support!!*



## Poinsettia Dedications

To dedicate a Poinsettia plant(s), please complete the form below, **place check and form in Sunday Offering plate**. You may also mail your check with the form, to the church office by **Monday, December 15th** at 309 E. Colonial Dr., Orlando, FL 32801.

**You may also email your dedication to [carolparklake@gmail.com](mailto:carolparklake@gmail.com)**

**Cost - \$10.00 per plant**

I/We will give \_\_\_\_\_ plants

( ) I will pick them up following Christmas Eve worship.

( ) I will not pick up plants.

**Please word memorial or honorarium as you would like it to appear in the bulletin.**  
**Dedications will be printed in the December 21st bulletin.**

**PLEASE PRINT:**

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

OR IN LIEU OF PLANTS,

I make a memorial designated for one of the following:

( ) Building Fund ( ) PATH (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger)

MY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

***Plants will be in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 21, through Christmas Eve, and can be picked up following the 5:30 pm Christmas Eve service.***

