



February 12, 2023

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

*God writes His Word on our Lives, building us into a Family engaged
in Spirit-filled Service.*



LAKE OCONEE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1089 Lake Oconee Parkway
Eatonton, GA 31024

Church Office: 706-485-4600

Sonya Plunkett Church Secretary

www.lakeoconeelutheran.org

Office email: officelolc@gmail.com

Pastor Steven Hayden

Pastor's Cell: 515-360-5081

Pastor's email: revshayden@gmail.com



Elder of the Month: Kathie Kueven
Scripture reader: Sandy Mathson
Coffee & Fellowship:

Pre-Service Music: This is time to turn our hearts & minds toward God in preparation of worship.

Instrumental Prelude

Dr. Lev Ryabinin

Choir Anthem

Dr. Youngmi Kim Director

Welcome

Please Stand

(You are invited to wish those around you God's peace. Please remain standing for the invocation.)

Invocation

Confession and Absolution

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

Congregational Hymn #698

“May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fullfill”



1 May we Thy pre - cepts, Lord, ful - fill And do on
2 So may we join Thy name to bless, Thy grace a -
3 Spir - it of life, of love and peace, U - nite our



earth our Fa - ther's will As an - gels do a - bove;
dore, Thy pow'r con - fess, From sin and strife to flee.
hearts, our joy in - crease, Thy gra - cious help sup - ply.



Still walk in Christ, the liv - ing way, With all Thy
One is our call - ing, one our name, The end of
To each of us the bless - ing give In Chris - tian



chil - dren and o - bey The law of Chris - tian love.
all our hopes the same, A crown of life with Thee.
fel - low - ship to live, In joy - ful hope to die.

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Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:15–20

R: ¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by

keeping his commandments and his statutes and his just decrees then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 3:1–9

R: ¹But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? ⁴For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human? ⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. ⁹For we are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Please Stand

Common Alleluia and Verse

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:21–37

R: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew chapter 5

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

R: ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. ²⁶Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. ²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell. ³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that

everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. ³³“Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

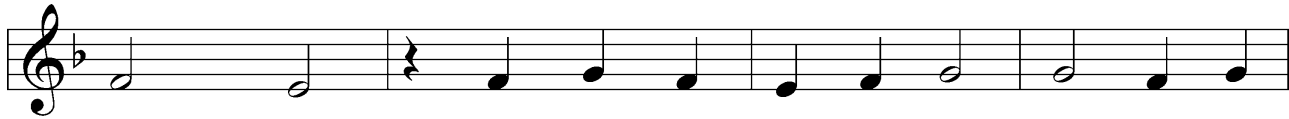
Please be seated

Sermon Hymn # 396 v 1-4

“Arise and Shine in Splendor”



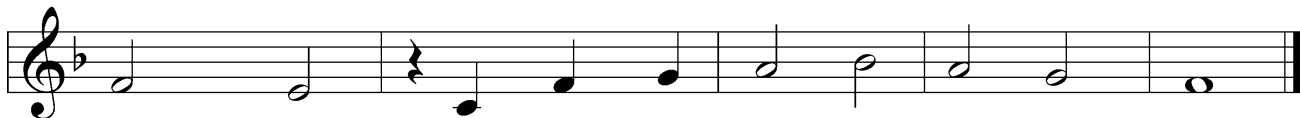
1 A - rise and shine in splen - dor; Let night to day sur -
2 See earth in dark - ness ly - ing, The hea - then na - tions
3 The world's re - mot - est rac - es, Up - on whose wea - ry
4 Lift up your eyes in won - der— See, na - tions gath - er



ren - der. Your light is draw - ing near. A - bove, the
dy - ing In hope - less gloom and night. To you the
fac - es The sun looks from the sky, Shall run with
yon - der From sin to be set free. The world has



day is beam - ing, In match - less beau - ty
Lord of heav - en— Your life, your hope— has
zeal un - tir - ing, With joy Your light de -
heard Your sto - ry; Her sons come to Your



gleam - ing; The glo - ry of the Lord is here.
giv - en Great glo - ry, hon - or, and de - light.
sir - ing That breaks up - on them from on high.
glo - ry; Her daugh - ters haste Your light to see.

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The Message

Pastor Matthew Boarts

Please Stand

Apostles' Creed

**C: 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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence**

He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Offering

To Our Guests: We do not charge for any of our services. All our services, programs, and expenses are freely supported by the gifts and offerings of our members. As our guests, you have not been invited for what you can give, but for what God can give you. The Offering is collected at the door when you enter.

Prayer of the Church

** Prayer of The Church*

(After the pastor ends each petition with, "Lord in Your Mercy, the congregation responds with, "Hear our prayer.")

The Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father who 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

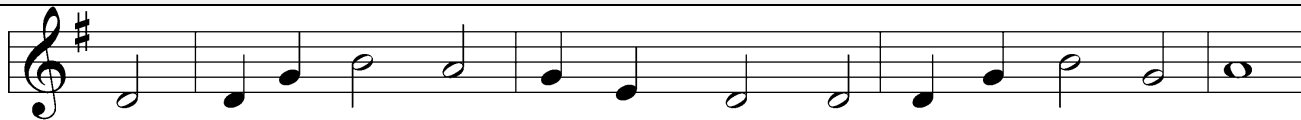
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

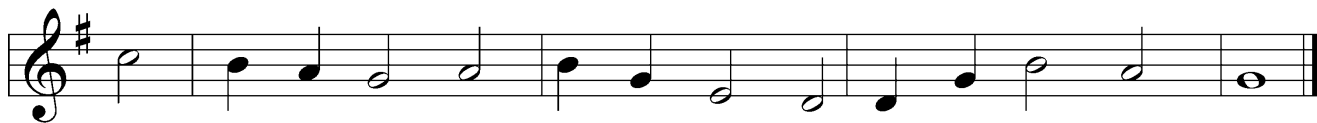
Please be seated

Congregational Hymn # 707

"Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot - steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in Thy com - mands—'Tis a de - light - ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!
Let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.
And should I e'er for - get Thy way, Re - store Thy wan - d'ring sheep.
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

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Announcements

The Dismissal

P: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

+

Post-service Music

+

GOD'S BLESSINGS to all those celebrating birthdays this week:

- February 12 Mark Ketchie
- February 13 Jerry Pailer
- February 16 Connie Saner

and anniversaries

- February 13 Lance & Jerry Pailer

Best wishes!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today	Council Meeting	After Worship
Tuesday	Women's Bible Class	10 am
Wednesday	ZOOM Bible Class	No Bible Class
Saturday	Episcopal service	5 pm
Sunday	Bible Class (In Person)	9 am
Sunday	Choir Rehearsal	9 am
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am

Sunday Morning Bible Class The Good Samaritan. The Prodigal Son. The Pharisee and the Tax Collector. These stories from Jesus—recorded exclusively by St. Luke—are some of the most beloved in Holy Scripture. But despite the popularity of these passages, many students of Scripture would find it hard to describe what's unique about Luke's account of Jesus' life. They could not tell you what concerns drove Luke to take up his pen and write. Luke's Gospel is a careful history of Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension. But Luke's history, and Jesus' story, does not end with Jesus rising above the clouds. Prior to ascending into heaven, Jesus opened the minds of the apostles so that they could understand the Scriptures. He then commissioned them to preach the Good News about Him to all the nations (Luke 24:45–47). Thus, Christ's work continues today as He applies the benefits of His life, death, and resurrection—through His Word and Sacraments—personally and individually through the ministry of His Church. Luke is indeed a narrative about Christ, but it is even more. Through His means of grace Christ includes our story into His own. **Join us on Sunday mornings @9am for The Gospel of Luke** in person at church or live streamed on Facebook.

Wednesday Bible Class Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:30am for our Zoom Bible study. No Bible class February 15th or 22nd.

Women's Bible Study. The Women's Bible Study will be taking an in-depth look at what Jesus was trying to communicate to us when we spoke the Lord's Prayer. This eight-week study is designed to help us look carefully at the Lord's Prayer studying it line by line not just to know more about the prayer, but so we can begin to pray as Jesus instructed us to pray and cultivating in us a passion to pray.

This study will **begin on Tuesday, February 21**. We meet each week at **10:00 am in the Choir Room**. We'd love to have you join us.

Don't forget to Volunteer. There are several Volunteer positions we are looking to and excited to fill. If you are interested in serving, please check out the table in the entryway to see all of the ways to serve.

Upcoming Blood Drive dates are scheduled for, **Mar 9, Apr 6 & May 11** and we will need volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering email Pam Kunz at Kunzpd3@outlook.com. To sign up to donate blood go to redcrossblood.org and use code LOLC.

Rock of Ages Lutheran Church is a suburban church serving an urban community. Lake Oconee Lutheran Church will help them again This February by posting a sign up sheet asking each person who signs up to bring sandwiches to church on **February 19th**, and the sandwiches will be delivered to Rock of Ages following the church service. Each sandwich will contain one slice of cheese and one slice of meat (turkey, ham, bologna or roast beef). Do not put any condiments on the bread because sandwiches are served for up to 6 days. Pack each individual sandwich in a sealed plastic bag. The more volunteers, the fewer sandwiches each person will have to make. One loaf of square sandwich bread will make 10 sandwiches.

Lenten Wednesday Services for this year is:

Ash Wednesday 2/22 Supper at 6pm and Worship at 7pm

3/1 Lunch at 12pm and Worship at 1 pm,

3/8 Supper at 6pm and Worship at 7pm,

3/15 Lunch at 12pm and Worship at 1 pm.

3/22 Supper at 6pm and Worship at 7pm,

3/29 Lunch at 12pm and Worship at 1 pm

The Church Council has voted to form a Milledgeville Ministry Task Force to research the possibilities and recommend action in expanding our ministry to Milledgeville in light of the closing of Hope Lutheran Church. Will you be, as Jesus called, *"the light of the world...letting your light shine before others"* (Mt 5:14, 16) and be a part of this group? We need you!! Talk to Pastor Steve.

Sunday School for our Children will begin next month. We are planning an all-teacher meeting after coffee fellowship on Sunday, February 25th and classes will

begin on Sunday, March 5th. There is still room if you would like to volunteer and join us. Talk to Pastor Steve or Marcia Elkins if you have any questions.

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are Built for a Purpose

Built Through Word and Sacrament –

...believing in and making faithful and frequent use of the Bible, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper as the means by which God gives and sustains faith and empowers and strengthens us for Christian living.

Built Through Ongoing Learning –

...providing quality, Bible based instruction to foster greater understanding of God's Word and to better equip members for their discipleship.

Built For Service –

...reaching out to others by word and deed to join in the sharing of God's blessings and grace, which is free to all believers.

Built For Discipleship –

...utilizing fully our time, talents, and resources to serve and love the Lord, furthering our commission of discipleship.

Built For Fellowship –

...caring for and sharing with our church family; fostering greater love, understanding, and concern for the physical and spiritual well-being of all brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ.

The window behind the altar is our EASTER SUNRISE WINDOW.

The cross hanging in front of the window is an empty cross, reminding us that Jesus rose from the dead and is alive now to be with us here and always. Every Sunday is a celebration of Easter. The symbol on the front of the ALTAR is a combination of two Greek letters: the "chi," which looks like our English "x," and the "rho," which looks like our "p." In the Greek, these letters are the first two of "Christ." Combined as they are, they suggest the cross. Superimposed on the cross is a heart, the reminder that God's love for us is the reason Jesus died on the cross. God's love for us empowers us to share his love with others.