

# RED LETTER

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# CHALLENGE

March 21, 2021

## LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Going

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](http://www.lakeoconeelutheran.org)

Office email: [officelolc@gmail.com](mailto:officelolc@gmail.com)

Pastor Steven Hayden

Pastor's Cell: 515-360-5081

Pastor's email: [revshayden@gmail.com](mailto:revshayden@gmail.com)

Aids for hearing, children's activity bulletins, and large print bulletins are  
available from the ushers



WE OFFER NURSERY & CHILDCARE

*If you need childcare, please see one of the ushers  
and we will happily accommodate you.*

*In Preparation of Holy Communion*

**The Lord's Supper** is celebrated at this congregation in the confession that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us.

For further study, see **Matthew 5:23f, 10:32f, 18:15-35, 26:26-29, 1 Cor. 11:17-34**

We welcome to the Lord's Supper all Christians who are baptized, who have communed in a Christian church, and who share our understanding that, along with the bread and wine, we receive the very body and blood of our living Lord Jesus—for the strengthening of our faith and witness.

The glasses in the very center of each tray contain non-alcoholic wine for the use of those receiving communion who are unable to drink alcohol. Communicants may choose to receive the wine in an individual cup, from the Chalice (the Common Cup) or by immersing the wafer in the Chalice (also called intinction). It is very helpful to keep your empty glass visible so Pastor can see if you desire the Common Cup.

Children who do not commune are invited to come to the rail for a blessing.

If you need communion brought to your seat, please let an usher know.

Elder of the Month: Virginia Daley

Scripture Reader: Cindy Helms

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

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**Instrumental Prelude**  
**Welcome**

**Lev Ryabinin**

*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 #423

## "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"



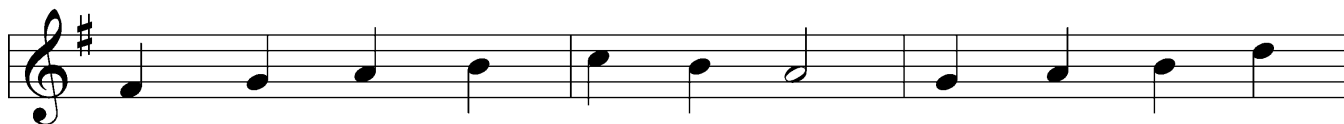
1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,  
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -  
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



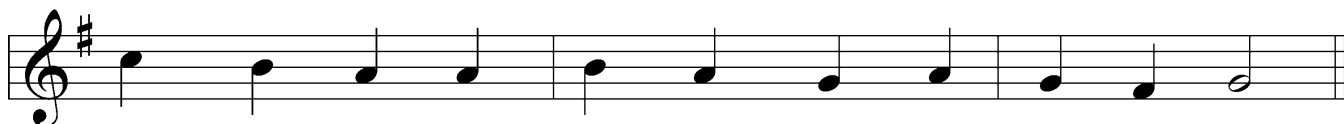
whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior  
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your  
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,  
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us  
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the  
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your  
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.  
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.  
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

## Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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 Old Testament Lesson: 1 Peter 4:7-11

R: <sup>7</sup>The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. <sup>8</sup>Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup>Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup>As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: <sup>11</sup>whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

R: This is the word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

*Please Stand*

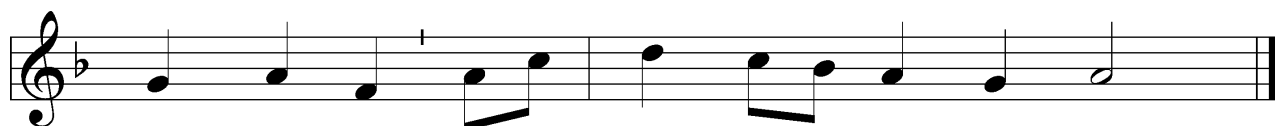
## Verse for Lent



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in



stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 4:18-22**

R: The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew chapter 4

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

R: <sup>18</sup>While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

R: This is the word of the Lord

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

## Sermon Hymn #835 V 1-4

### “On Galilee’s High Mountain”



1 On Gal - i - lee’s high moun-tain Christ gave the great com - mand  
2 The Lord who, born of Mar - y, Came down as man and died,  
3 His strength with - in my weak-ness Will make me bold to say  
4 And not a - lone to na - tions In far - a - way re - treats,



In words of strength and prom - ise Which all can un - der-stand:  
Who preached to all who lis-tened, For us was cru - ci - fied—  
How His re - deem - ing pow - er Trans-forms my stub-born clay;  
But ev - ’ry-where I broad-cast His love through crowd-ed streets:



“All pow’r to Me is giv - en To do what I shall choose;  
This Lord, our liv - ing broth - er, In pow’r at God’s right hand,  
His touch of fire ig - nites me, With cour-age I am sent,  
The lives that my life touch - es, How - ev - er great or small—



There - fore I send My chil-dren, Their wit - ness I will use.”  
Has cho - sen us to car - ry His truth to ev - ’ry land.  
My tongue - tied si - lence bro - ken, With grace made el - o - quent.  
Let them through me see Je - sus, Who served and saved us all.

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**The Message**

**Pastor Steve Hayden**

*Please Stand*

**Nicene Creed**

**C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance**

**with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **The 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 either when you enter or when you exit.*

## **Prayer of the Church**

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

## **Lord's Prayer**

**P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:**

**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.**

## **The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

### **Preface**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### **The Words of Our Lord**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

*You may be seated*

### **The Distribution**

#### **Post-Communion Collect**

P: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## **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.

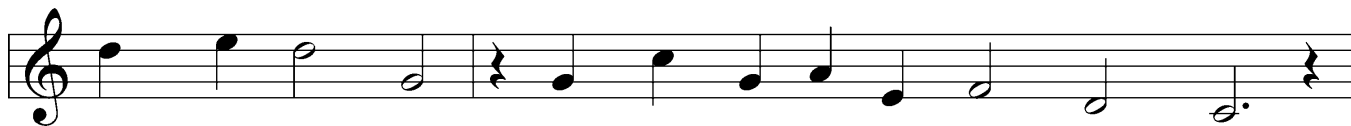
**C: Amen.**

# Congregational Hymn #668

## “Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You”



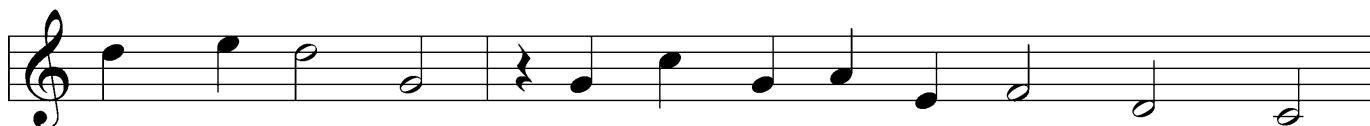
1 Rise! To arms! With prayer em-ploy you, O Chris-tians, lest the  
2 Cast a - far this world's vain plea - sure And bold - ly strive for  
3 Wise - ly fight, for time is fleet - ing; The hours of grace are



foe de-destroy you; For Sa - tan has de-signed your fall.  
heav'n-ly trea - sure. Be stead-fast in the Sav - ior's might.  
fast re - treat - ing; Short, short is this our earth - ly way.



Wield God's Word, the weap - on glo - rious; A - gainst all foes be  
Trust the Lord, who stands be - side you, For Je - sus from all  
When the Lord the dead will wak - en And sin - ners all by



thus vic - to - rious, For God pro-protects you from them all.  
harm will hide you. By faith you con-quer in the fight.  
fear are shak - en, The saints with joy will greet that day.



Fear not the hordes of hell, Here is Em - man - u - el.  
Take cour - age, wea - ry soul! Look for - ward to the goal!  
Praise God, our tri - umph's sure. We need not long en - dure



Hail the Sav - ior! The strong foes yield To Christ, our shield,  
Joy a - waits you. The race well run, Your long war won,  
Scorn and tri - al. Our Sav - ior King His own will bring



And we, the vic - tors, hold the field.  
Your crown shines splen - did as the sun.  
To that great glo - ry which we sing.

## Announcements Birthdays/Anniversaries

### The Dismissal

P: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

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### Post-service Music

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

March 21	Linda Andersen
March 21	Pastor Steve Hayden
March 23	Jack Carson
March 25	Robert Dukes
March 26	Dorothy Johnson

### and anniversaries:

March 22	Roger & Elizabeth Fleming
March 26	Don & Pam Menke

Best wishes!

### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Sunday	Council Meeting	After Worship
Tuesday	Women's Bible Class	10 am
Wednesday	Zoom Bible Class	10:30 am
Wednesday	Lenten Online Service	
Sunday	Adult Bible School	9 am
Sunday	Children's Sunday School	10 am
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am

**Sunday Morning Bible Class Red Letter Challenge** as we continue our journey together in Bible Class. "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock." Matthew 7:24 Here's the big idea. Taking Jesus' words, the only ones that are written in red letters in your Bibles, and putting them into practice. Literally. That's the very unoriginal yet revolutionary idea that's going to change not just the

followers of Jesus but the world in which we live. **Join us every Sunday morning at 9 am.** You may also watch the Bible class live each week on Lake Oconee Lutheran Church's Facebook page.

**Tuesday Women's Bible Class** Many women know Psalm 23 by heart but haven't experienced its power in their lives. This beloved psalm can breathe new life into women who are weary and unsure of their next steps. It's more than a psalm that comforts in death; it gives confidence in life. In this 7-session study by Jennifer Rothschild, gain fresh insight and encouragement from Psalm 23. Explore the depths of God's compassionate care while debunking the self-reliance myth. Learn how your vulnerability is not a liability because you can trust the Shepherd's goodness throughout each season of life.

**Wednesday Zoom Bible Class** The study of the Old Testament is nothing less than an exploration into the thoughts of God and His desires for ordinary people like you and me. And what makes more sense than to "begin at the beginning"? As the history of sinful humanity finds its beginning, so also does the unfolding of God's plan to redeem fallen humanity through the sending of a Savior. **Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am on Zoom** as we look at old familiar stories and clearly see the new life that God gives to us in Jesus Christ.

**Children's Sunday Bible School** will be held at 10am in the children's Sunday school room.

**Little Free Pantry** Is in need again of all items on the lists located on the table in the church entrance on the wall next to the black cart and on the table near the piano as you exit the sanctuary. We are blessed to report that the pantry is being utilized regularly by the community.

**We Need Volunteers for Altar care.** There is a sign up sheet on the table next to the piano in the front of the sanctuary. Please sign up if you would like to volunteer. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Crouch.

**We need volunteers** for Sunday service camera operator. It will be controlled with an iPad and we will provide training on how to manage it.

Sign up sheet can be found in the sanctuary or you can call/email the church office.

**We are looking for Sunday school teacher volunteers.** There will be 2 teachers in the classroom every Sunday. You will be asked to volunteer for a 2-week shift. Contact Pastor Steve if you would be interested or have any questions.

**Red Cross Blood Drive** Our next blood drive is scheduled for **March 24<sup>th</sup> 1-6pm.** We will need volunteers to help you can email Pam Kunz at [Kunzpd3@outlook.com](mailto:Kunzpd3@outlook.com) if you are interested in volunteering. you can signup to donate at [Redcross.org](http://Redcross.org) and use code **lolc**.

**Texas Relief** As we know, Texas residents and churches have been impacted by the record cold weather. President Mike Newman writes that losses are mounting in ministries and among church workers. Texas District is partnering with LCMS to provide grants that help offset insurance deductibles-some very high- for churches and church workers and to help with clean up costs for workers, schools and ministries. Lake Oconee Lutheran will receive free will offerings that will go entirely to the Texas District LCMS for this disaster relief. 100% of all funds donated goes directly to help churches, schools, and church workers. Thank you.

**The Easter flower sign up sheet** can be found on the table as you exit the sanctuary near the piano. We are currently looking for easter lilies but are having trouble finding a supplier so it will be an assortment of Easter flowers. They are \$10 each. You can leave a check or cash marked in an envelope as Easter flowers and place them in the offering plate or on the desk in the church office. Money is due by **March 28<sup>th</sup>**. On the sign up sheet please put your name and the in memory of or dedication to name as well.

## **WORSHIP UPDATE**

Remember, we are now live-streaming our worship. This means worship services will be broadcast live as they happen on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am on Facebook. Join us as we all come together in worship. If you are unable to be online at 10:30 am, do not worry. The recorded service will remain available for you to watch later as well. You may find it on the [@lakeoconeelutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/lakeoconeelutheranchurch) page on Facebook. God's blessings to each of you!

## **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.