



March 27, 2022

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday in Lent
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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



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

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.*

Elder of the Month: Kathie Kueven

Scripture reader: Kathie Kueven

Coffee & Fellowship:

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

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.

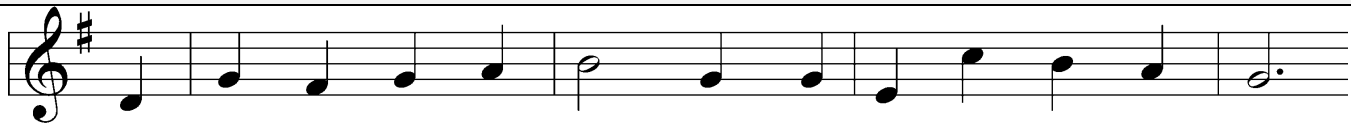
P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

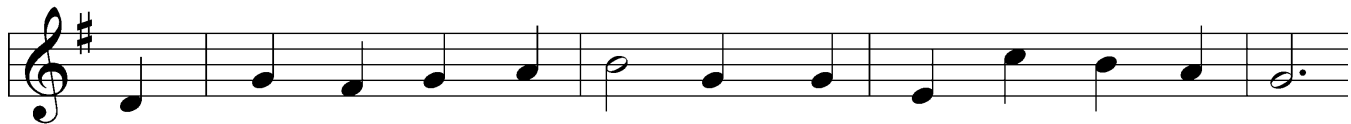
Please be seated

Congregational Hymn #915

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”



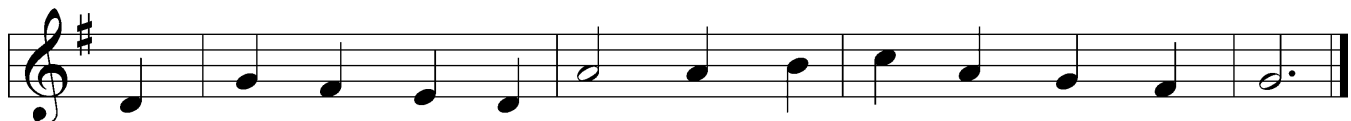
1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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: Isaiah 12:1-6

R: ¹You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me. ²"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation." ³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵"Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. ⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Epistle Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

R: ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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: Luke 15:1-3,11b-32

R: The Holy Gospel according to Luke chapter 15

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

R: ¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” ³So he told them this parable: ¹¹And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’ ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate. ²⁵“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

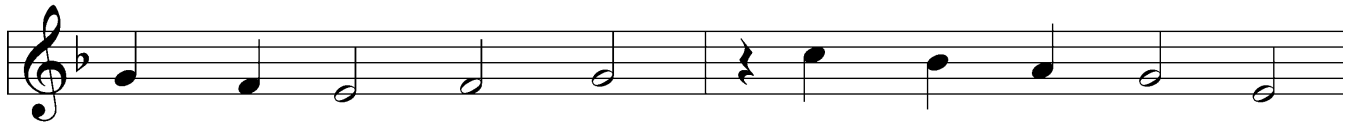
Please be seated

Sermon Hymn # 615

“When in the Hour of Deepest Need”



1 When in the hour of deep - est need We know not
2 Then is our com - fort this a - lone That we may
3 For You have prom - ised, Lord, to heed Your chil - dren's
4 And so we come, O God, to - day And all our



where to look for aid; When days and nights of
meet be - fore Your throne; To You, O faith - ful
cries in time of need Through Him whose name a -
woes be - fore You lay; For sore - ly tried, cast



anx - ious thought No help or coun - sel yet have brought,
God, we cry For res - cue in our mis - er - y.
lone is great, Our Sav - ior and our ad - vo - cate.
down, we stand, Per - plexed by fears on ev - 'ry hand.

5 O from our sins, Lord, turn Your face;
Absolve us through Your boundless grace.
Be with us in our anguish still;
Free us at last from ev'ry ill.

6 So we with all our hearts each day
To You our glad thanksgiving pay,
Then walk obedient to Your Word,
And now and ever praise You, Lord.

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.

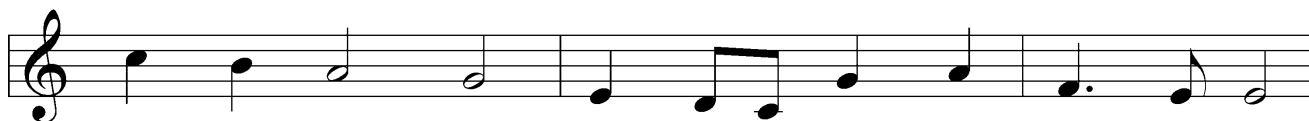
Please be seated

Congregational Hymn # 773

"Hear Us, Father, when we Pray"



1 Hear us, Fa - ther, when we pray, Through Your Son and
2 When we know not what to say And our wound - ed
3 Je - sus, ad - vo - cate on high, Sac - ri - ficed on
4 By Your Spir - it now at - tend To our prayers and



in Your Spir - it. By Your Spir - it's Word con - vey
souls are plead - ing, May Your Spir - it, night and day,
Cal - v'ry's al - tar, Through Your priest - ly blood we cry:
sup - pli - ca - tions, As like in - cense they as - cend



All that we through Christ in - her - it,
Groan with - in us in - ter - ced - ing;
Hear our prayers, though they may fal - ter;
To Your heav'n - ly hab - i - ta - tions.



That as bap - tized heirs we may Tru - ly pray.
By His sighs, too deep for words, We are heard.
Place them on Your Fa - ther's throne As Your own.
May their fra - grance waft a - bove, God of love.

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:

- Mar 28 Si-Si Petrea
- Mar 30 Barney Ross

and anniversaries

- Apr 3 Barney & Sharon Ross

Best wishes!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Tuesday	Women's Bible Class	10am
Tuesday	Community Center Meeting	2pm
Wednesday	ZOOM Bible Class	10: 30 am
Wednesday	Lenten Service	7 pm
Saturday	Episcopal Church worship	5 pm
Sunday	Bible Class (In Person)	9 am
Sunday	Choir Rehearsal	9 am
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am
Sunday	Elders Meeting	After Worship

Sunday Morning Bible Class Are you up for a challenge? Last year Lake Oconee Lutheran did the Red Letter Challenge. This year, during Lent, we will be challenged to be like Jesus in the Being Challenge. We will focus on the ways in which Jesus spent time being in a relationship with God to help *us* be in a close

relationship with God. During this challenge, we will focus on 5 key habits that Jesus practiced in His relationship with God and see how they can help shape our lives as well. We will join together during Lent in worship, in Bible class, and in daily devotions for daily devotions that will lead us to a deeper relationship with God and help us make a big difference in the world. Join us every **Sunday morning at 9 am**, either in person in the Sanctuary or live-streamed on Facebook.

Wednesday Zoom Bible Class In the Letter to the Hebrews, God gives us hope and courage in our discipleship so that we “will not grow weary and lose heart.” He directs us to Jesus “who for the joy set before Him endured the cross” on our behalf. The Letter to the Hebrews is filled with all kinds of practical applications for Christian life today. But above all, it points us to the Fulfillment of Faith—Jesus Christ—the one who saves us and empowers us to live our new life. **Join us Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am on Zoom for our Bible Class on Hebrews.**

Women’s Bible Study. We will be reading the book *Keep It Shut* by Karen Ehman. This humorous and encouraging six-week study will help us learn the essential practice of using our words more effectively--alleviating heartache and regret, reducing relational tension and conflict, lessening our stress levels, and growing our relationship with God. If this speaks to you, please plan to join us on the 29th. **Women's Bible Study meets Tuesday mornings at 10am in the choir room.**

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.

Lenten Soup Suppers begin **at 6 pm** (please note the time change) See the blue table in the entry way to sign up to provide soup and or desserts.

Lenten Season Traditionally during Lent flowers are not placed on the Altar. This year the first Sunday in Lent is March 6th. If you have an occasion to celebrate during Lent, please, consider providing flowers after Easter or placing them in the Narthex where visitors and all can enjoy them.

We have several blood drives scheduled for the next few months and 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. The blood drive dates are as follows **April 7th, May 12th, and June 2nd** Times will be from **1pm to 6pm**.

New Portals of Prayer are available on the blue table in the entryway.

Save the date LOLC will be having a fish fry on **May 14th from 5pm-7pm** at the church.

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.