



June 11, 2023

# LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Second Sunday after Pentecost  
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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



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*Elder of the Month: Ed Fritch*

*Scripture reader: Virginia Daley*

*Coffee & Fellowship: Evelyn Crockett*

*Altar Flowers: Ed Blosser*

***To Celebrate Ed & Lillian's 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary***

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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**

**Dr. Lev Ryabinin**

**Welcome**

**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.**

## Congregational Hymn #803

### “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,  
△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.  
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash-ing sea,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.  
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.  
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt.  
Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Almighty and most merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear His call and to follow Him by faith that we may feast with Him forever in His kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**The First Lesson: Hosea 5:15—6:6**

R: <sup>15</sup>I will return again to my place, until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face, and in their distress earnestly seek me. <sup>1</sup>“Come, let us

return to the LORD; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. <sup>2</sup>After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. <sup>3</sup>Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.” <sup>4</sup>What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away.<sup>5</sup>Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. <sup>6</sup>For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

**The Epistle Lesson:           Romans 4:13–25**

R: <sup>13</sup>The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.<sup>16</sup>That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith

as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup>But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, <sup>25</sup>who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

### Alleluia

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 9:9–13

R: The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew chapter 9

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

R: <sup>9</sup>As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him. <sup>10</sup>And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>12</sup>But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup>Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon Hymn # 689

### “Let Me Be Thine Forever”



1 Let me be Thine for - ev - er, My faith - ful God and Lord;  
2 Lord Je - sus, my sal - va - tion, My light, my life di - vine,  
3 And Thou, O Ho - ly Spir - it, My com - fort - er and guide,



Let me for-sake Thee nev - er Nor wan - der from Thy Word.  
My on - ly con - so - la - tion, O make me whol - ly Thine!  
Grant that in Je - sus' mer - it I al - ways may con - fide,



Lord, do not let me wa - ver, But give me stead-fast-ness,  
For Thou hast dear - ly bought me With blood and bit - ter pain.  
Him to the end con-fess - ing Whom I have known by faith.



And for such grace for - ev - er Thy ho - ly name I'll bless.  
Let me, since Thou hast sought me, E - ter - nal life ob - tain.  
Give me Thy con-stant bless - ing And grant a Chris - tian death.

Text: tr. Matthias Loy, 1828-1915, alt.; (st. 1): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532-92; (sts. 2-3): Gesang-Büchlein, 1688, Rudolstadt  
Tune: Musika Teutsch, 1532, Nürnberg  
Text and tune: Public domain

## The Message

Pastor Steven Hayden

## 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.**



## Congregational Hymn # 611 v 1-3

### “Chief of Sinners Though I Be”



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His  
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the  
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,  
heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,  
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is  
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—  
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.  
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.  
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.  
Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Announcements

### 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:

- June 11 Ed Fritch
- June 12 Rosalyn Carson
- June 12 Don Menke
- June 13 David Heimer
- June 17 Joan Lucas

## and anniversaries

- June 11 Jim & Kathie Kueven
- June 12 Pastor Steve & Linda Hayden
- June 12 Tom & Connie Saner
- June 14 Ed & Lillian Blosser

Best wishes!

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today	Council Meeting	After Worship
Monday	Lake Country Choir Rehearsal	5pm
Tuesday	Women's Bible Class	10 am
Wednesday	ZOOM Bible Class	10:30 am
Saturday	Episcopal service	5 pm
Sunday	Bible Class (In Person)	9 am
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am

**Sunday Morning Bible Class** Nearly 500 years ago, an unknown monk from a backwater town in Germany, set in motion a movement that would literally transform Western civilization. The impact Martin Luther had on the growth and development of Christianity is enormous. But how did this unknown miner's son change the world? How much about Martin do we still know and understand today? In this Lutheran Hour Ministries' Bible study, we will examine the life and times of this religious reformer. The details of Luther's early life and work-- his childhood with his parents Hans and Margaret, his university pursuits, his decision to become a monk, his protest of then-current church practices, his writings, his life in hiding, and his roles as husband and father -- are all considered in this study. Join us on **Sunday mornings at 9 am** in church and on Facebook Live for **A Man Called Martin**.

**Wednesday Bible Class** Even in our increasingly irreligious society, people continue to talk about God, often in terms of His Fatherhood. The general public recognizes the name, person, and work of Jesus Christ. But what do those outside the church know of the third person of the Trinity? What do those inside the

church know about the Holy Spirit? Where Christ is preached, Lutherans rejoice to believe, teach, and confess that the Spirit is always present and active. Far from neglecting the Spirit, Lutherans praise, honor, and glorify Him as God. This occurs not only when they speak about Him, but especially when in humble silence they allow Him to speak to them, to reveal the Savior and proclaim His salvation. Join us online on Zoom in Bible Class every **Wednesday morning at 10:30am** as we study **The Holy Spirit**.

**Women's Bible Study.** Over the summer, we will meet each **Tuesday** in the Choir Room beginning at **10:00 am** where we will discuss how scripture impacts our lives. It will be more informal with no book or preparation needed. Just come and have a lively discussion with other women at LOLC. We will continue with our focus on Acts in the fall.

**Upcoming Blood Drive dates** are scheduled for **July 13, Aug 3 & Sept 14** and we will need volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering email Pam Kunz at [Kunzpd3@outlook.com](mailto:Kunzpd3@outlook.com). To sign up to donate blood go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and use code LOLC.

**Volunteer Opportunity** Greene County Senior Center is in need of drivers for their home delivered meals in Greensboro and Union Point. Volunteer one or two days per month on their regular monthly schedule or as a substitute. Call Deanne Holcomb 706-453-7463 at the Greene County Senior Center or contact Margaret Pedersen 404-295-0331 or [margaretped@gmail.com](mailto:margaretped@gmail.com) for more information.

**Operation Christmas Child** This year our Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Ministry will look a little different. We have shoeboxes with instructions for you to **pack your own boxes**. Drop off your filled shoebox gifts throughout the year at the church before **November 10**.

Another option that you may find more convenient is to **build a shoebox online**. Online boxes are carefully prepared, abiding by strict customs regulations to safeguard partners who will deliver the gifts, as well as the boys and girls who receive them. The suggested donation is \$25 per shoebox.

*(see weekly Thursday email for clickable link to instructions for online shoe boxes)*

You can also scan this QR code below with your cell phone camera:



Our “faith goal” this year is **200 boxes**. Let us **pray and rejoice** as God works through us to reach children with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**Our Mission remains the same**, living as Christ’s witnesses the Florida Georgia district is celebrating 75 years. Their goal is to raise \$1.5 million by September 2023. The funds will enable them to provide 150,000 in grants to start ten congregations over the next 5 years. We will be holding a door offering **Today & June 18**.

## **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.