



July 9, 2023

## LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sixth 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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Eatonton, GA 31024  
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Pastor Steven Hayden  
Pastor's Cell: 515-360-5081  
Pastor's email: [revshayden@gmail.com](mailto:revshayden@gmail.com)



*Elder of the Month: Barney Ross*

*Scripture reader: Ed Fritch*

*Coffee & Fellowship: Keith Mulford & Connie Piepenbrink*

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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 # 832

### “Jesus Shall Reign”



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -  
2 To Him shall end - less prayer be made, And end - less  
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on His  
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns: The pris - 'ners  
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring Hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from  
prais - es crown His head; His name like sweet per -  
love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es  
leap, un - loose their chains, The wea - ry find e -  
cu - liar to our King; An - gels de - scend with



shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.  
ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.  
songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.  
Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793  
Text and tune: Public domain

### Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; 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: Zechariah 9:9-12

R: <sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having

salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. <sup>10</sup>I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. <sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. <sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

**The Epistle Lesson:       Romans 7:14–25a**

R: <sup>14</sup>We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. <sup>15</sup>I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. <sup>17</sup>So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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 11:25-30

R: The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew chapter 11

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

R: <sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup>Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon Hymn #

### "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to Me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light.



Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up - on My breast."  
The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down and drink and live."  
Look un - to Me; thy morn shall rise And all thy day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, So wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found In Him my star, my sun;



I found in Him a rest - ing place, And He has made me glad.  
My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in Him.  
And in that light of life I'll walk Till trav - ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, alt.  
Tune: Amanda Husberg, 1940  
Text: Public domain  
Tune: © 1996 Amanda Husberg. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110019841

## 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 #

### “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.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870  
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:

- July 9 Frank Whitten

## and anniversaries

- July 15 Walter & Susan Krause

Best wishes!

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

Today	Council meeting	After Worship
Monday	Bread of life	9 am
Tuesday	Women's Bible Class	10 am
Wednesday	ZOOM Bible Class	10:30 am
Thursday	Blood Drive	1pm
Saturday	Episcopal service	5 pm
Sunday	Bible Class (In Person)	9 am
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am

**Sunday Morning Bible Class** Join us on **Sunday mornings at 9 am** in church and on Facebook Live.

**Wednesday Bible Class** Join us online on Zoom in Bible Class every **Wednesday morning at 10:30am**.

**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.

**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.

**\*Check out the Goal tracker chart in the front entry way across from the kitchen of the church to watch our OCC box count grow as we hit our goal.**

**Join in the fun of sharing** a meal and fellowship with your LOLC family. Each dinner is made up of six people, comprised of three pairs. A pair can be a couple or two singles. The dinner groupings will be chosen randomly. Each pair will take a turn hosting. As a host, you will be responsible for:

- Calling the other people in their group and setting up a day and time to get together.
- Providing the entrée and beverages, and the home to meet
- Arranging for each guest couple to bring a dish from among a dessert, a vegetable, or salad

Dinners will be scheduled for September/October, January/February, and March/April. This schedule allows the host a two-month window to schedule your dinner and it avoids the busy holiday season. A sign-up sheet will be on the blue table in the church entryway. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, July 30. If you have any questions, contact Margaret Pedersen (404-295-0331) or Terry Pedersen (770-314-3596).

**Back to school Support** It seems like summer just started, but before we know it, schools will be back in session. Service/Outreach ministry asks for your support of the Greene and Putnam County schools by providing these items: 24 count boxes of crayons, Packs of #2 pencils, Glue sticks, and Notebook paper Look for the bin labeled Back-to-School Supplies in the church entry. Thank you for your support of the children of Greene and Putnam counties.

## **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.