



December 11, 2022

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Elder of the Month: Virginia Daley

Scripture reader: Charlie Helms

Coffee & Fellowship: Mai's & Larson's

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 #398

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”



1 Hail to the Lord’s a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid’s great - er Son!
2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,
3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;
4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!
To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;
Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.
All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,
To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,
Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;
To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;



To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.
Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.
And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.
His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A king - dom with - out end.

Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10

R: ¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ²it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Epistle Lesson: James 5:7–11

R: ⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged;

behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

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 11:2–15

R: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew chapter 11

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

R: ²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” ⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he

of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ ¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

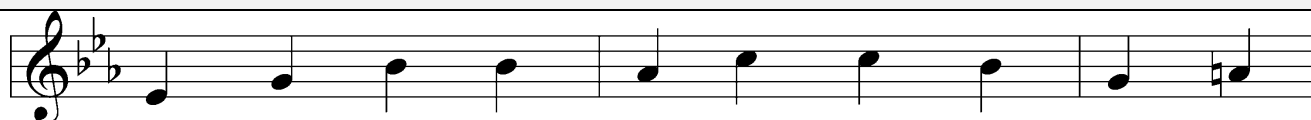
R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Sermon Hymn # 345

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
 4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near,” we hear it say. “Cast a - way the
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
 par - don down from heav’n. Let us haste, with
 world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
 Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!”
 sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv’n;
 with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
 liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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.

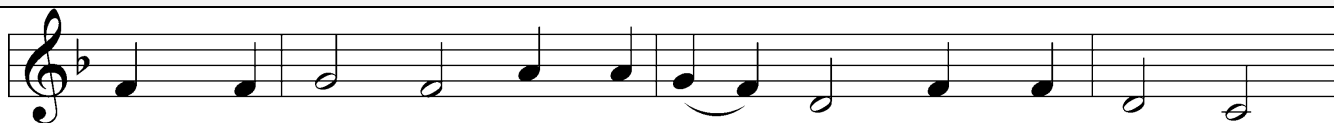
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

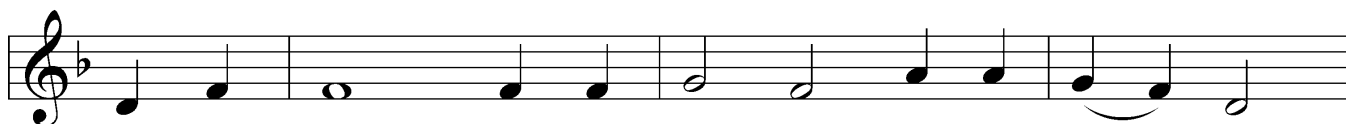
Please be seated

Congregational Hymn # 849

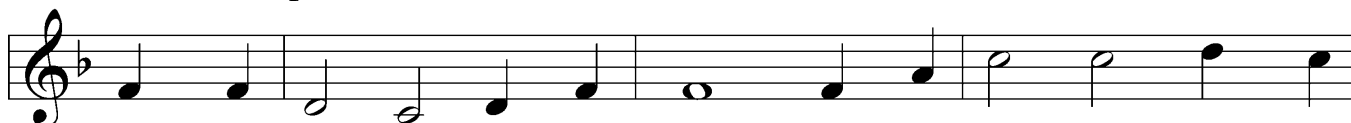
"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"



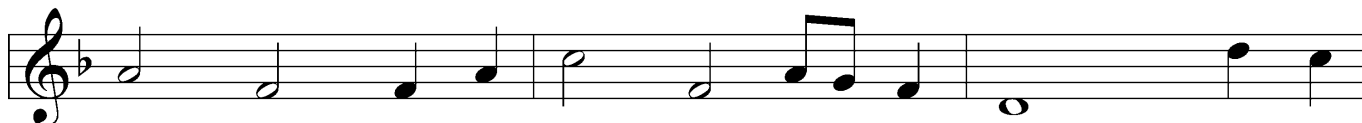
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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:

- December 11 Isaac Ringer
- December 12 Janie Seglund
- December 16 Shirley Mai

and anniversaries

- December 17 Joe & Robbie Peeples

Best wishes!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Tuesday	Quilt Guild	9am
Tuesday	Women's Bible Class	10 am
Wednesday	ZOOM Bible Class	10:30am
Wednesday	Soup Supper	12pm
Wednesday	Advent Service	1pm
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 Christians in Corinth faced many of the conflicts that Christians today encounter as we seek to live out our faith in a culture that contradicts Christian beliefs and principles. At the same time 1Corinthians is a document of hope for our times. In trying to hold the Corinthians to the Word of God, Paul found it necessary to state both their human faults and their proper goals. In his epistle, Paul shows them...and us...the way of error and the way of

truth. His letter contains God's answers and counsel. Join us on **Sunday mornings at 9am** in the Sanctuary or live-streamed on Facebook for **1 Corinthians**.

Wednesday Bible Class We all have sung hymns in worship (and often complained about them). But what are they actually? Are they just musical entertainment, breaks where we can whisper to others or go to the restroom, time to stretch or re-arrange? Lutheran hymns are not breaks from worship, but a central part of worship. They concisely teach pure, clear Biblical doctrine in a way that reinforces the theme of the day in worship and teaches us using music. Hymns have always been a part of Lutheran worship beginning with Martin Luther who urged churches to use them as a vehicle for proclaiming the Gospel. He writes, "Next to theology, I accord to music the highest place and greatest honor." **Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:30am for our Zoom Bible study** as we study the Biblical teaching of the Hymn of the Day which will be sung at the next Sunday Worship service. **There will be no bible class Wed. Dec 28th.**

Women's Bible Study. The Women's Bible Study group will be reading and discussing the Women of the Bible. Please join us in fellowship as we learn about the many women in Scripture that the Lord has called upon. They come from all walks of life and stepped up when the Lord made them a part of His plans. The book highlights 12 of these women and the valuable lessons we can learn from their stories, inspiring us to persevere through tough times and listen when He calls us in our hearts. **Women's Bible Class meets at 10:00 am on Tuesday in the Choir Room. There will be No Bible class Dec 27th.**

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.

Advent Soup suppers will be held this year. We are doing things differently this year so please make note., **Dec 14th Soup Supper at 12pm noon Service at 1pm**

Please Join us in Worship Christmas Eve worship **Dec 24th at 7pm** Christmas Day Worship **Dec 25th at 10am.** There will be no adult bible class Christmas morning.

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.