



January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

# LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Second Sunday after Christmas

*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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*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.

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.

*Before Communing*

**Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your Holy Spirit that I may be ever watchful and live a true and godly life in Your service; through Jesus Christ, my Lord Amen**

*Elder of the Month: Mark Ketchie*

*Scripture Reader: Tom Mathson*

*Communion Assistant: Tom Mathson*

*Coffee Fellowship:*

*Greeter: Kathie Kueven*

*Sunday Counter(s): Jerry Campbell & Alison Van Cott*

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

**Instrumental Prelude**  
**Choir Anthem**  
**Welcome**

**Dr. Lev Ryabinin**  
**Dr. Youngmi Kim**

**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.

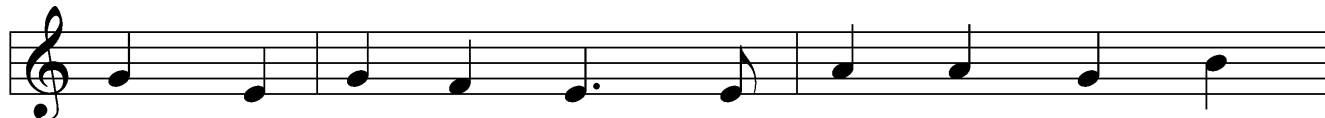
**C: Amen**

## Congregational Hymn # 358

### “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”



1 “From heav’n a - bove to earth I come To bear good  
2 “To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,  
3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your  
13 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly Child, Pre - pare a



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great  
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of  
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your  
bed, soft, un - de - filed, A qui - et cham - ber



joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:  
low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.  
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.  
set a - part For You to dwell with - in my heart.

15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,  
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!  
While angels sing with pious mirth  
A glad new year to all the earth.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Day

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

**P:** Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same 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: 1 Kings 3:4–15**

<sup>4</sup> The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. <sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup>I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. <sup>14</sup>And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.” <sup>15</sup>And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

## The Epistle Lesson: Ephesians 1:3–14

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup>which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

<sup>11</sup>In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup>so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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: Luke 2:40–52**

R: The Holy Gospel according to Luke chapter 2

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

<sup>40</sup>The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

<sup>41</sup>Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup>And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup>but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, <sup>45</sup>and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." <sup>49</sup>And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. <sup>51</sup>And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord

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

## Sermon Hymn #410

### “Within the Father’s House”



1 With-in the Fa-ther's house The Son has found His home,  
2 The doc-tors of the Law Gaze on the won-drous child  
3 Yet not to them is giv'n The might-y truth to know,  
△ 6 Till we be-hold Thy face And know as we are known



And to His tem-ple sud-den-ly The Lord of life has come.  
And mar-vel at His gra-cious words Of wis-dom un-de-filed.  
To lift the earth-ly veil that hides In-car-nate God be-low.  
Thee, Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost, Co-e-qual Three in One.

Text: James R. Woodford, 1820–85, alt.

Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758; adapt. William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

Text and tune: Public domain



**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 when you enter.*

## 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.**

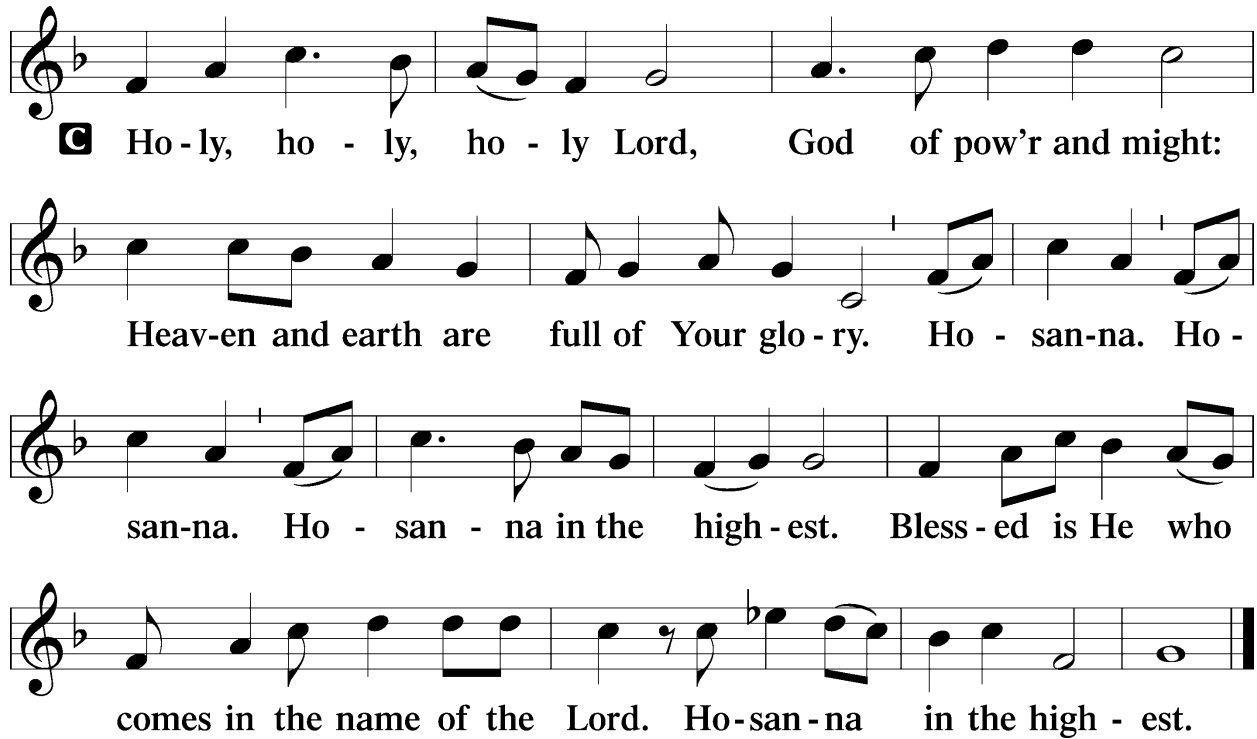
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

#### Proper Preface

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P:** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## 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."

## Proclamation of Christ

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

## Agnus Dei



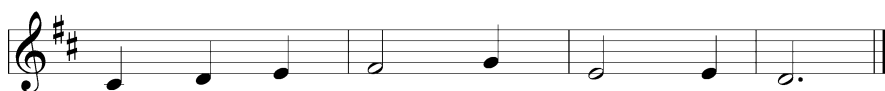
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

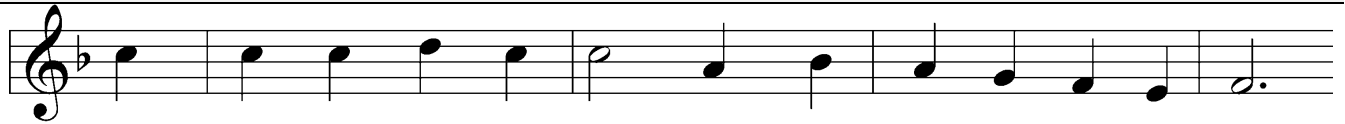


Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

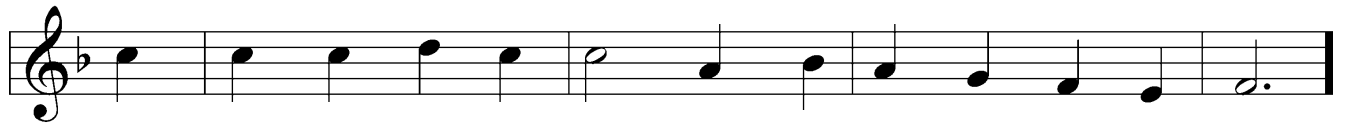
## The Distribution

### Communion Hymn #383

#### "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

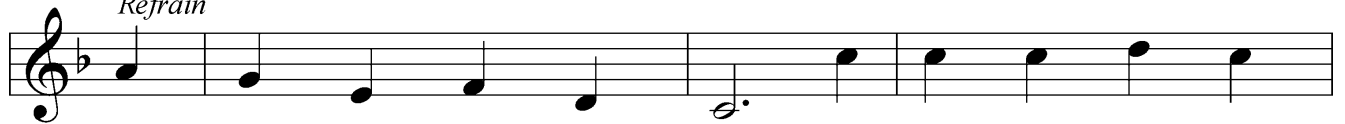


1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:  
2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,  
3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,  
4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,  
5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!  
And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.  
Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.  
The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.  
And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

#### *Refrain*



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

Text: Germanus, c. 634–c. 734; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1599, Köln

Text and tune: Public domain

## Post-Communion Collect

P: 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 in 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.

**C: Amen**

## Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

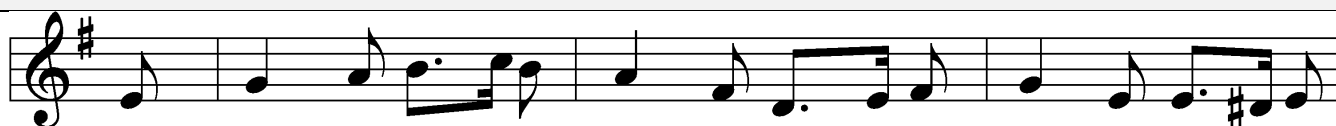
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

C: Amen.

## Congregational Hymn 370

### “What Child Is This”



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

## 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 this week,

#### Birthdays:

- Jan 3 Jeffrie Sayne
- Jan 4 Lynda Bridwell
- Jan 5 Mark Dentler
- Jan 6 Don Kunz
- Jan 8 Janice Sollenberger

#### Anniversaries:

- None this week

### Best wishes!

#### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Sunday	Bread of Life Board Meeting	after Service
Monday	Epiphany	
Tuesday	Women's Bible Class	10:00 am
Wednesday	Zoom Bible Study	10:30 pm
Thursday	Bread of Life	11:00 am
Thursday	Blood Drive	11:00 am
Saturday	Episcopal Worship Service	5:00 pm
Sunday	Choir / Adult Bible Class	9:00 am
Sunday	Worship	10:30 am
Sunday	Council Meeting	after service

**Sunday Morning Bible class** - “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believe I Me will never die.” John 11:25-26. With these words, Jesus invites us into a faith relationship with Him. In that relationship He gives us forgiveness, hope, joy, comfort, peace and new life through Him. Join us as we work through the Scriptures to hear and understand who Jesus is and what God does in our life through faith. Join us for What Do We Believe?, our Sunday morning Bible class which starts next Sunday, January 5th in person in the Church at 9 am. You may also follow along on our live stream on Facebook or the church website and YouTube.

**Join us every Sunday morning at 9am in the church or on Facebook for Matthew.**

### **Wednesday Bible class - Myth or Faith?**

- The New Testament is more important than the Old Testament.
- Our love for God is the motive for all we do in our lives.
- Prayer changes things.
- We go to church primarily because we get something out of it.

What do we really believe? Better yet, what does the Bible really teach? Join us on Wednesday morning Bible class as we use God’s Word to root out myths that often lead to confusion and disagreement in the Church. Join us for **Myth or Faith?** Every Wednesday on Zoom at 10:30 am.

**“The Women’s Bible Study** will resume on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, with *Discerning the Voice of God* by Priscilla Shirer. This weekly study will help us discover the root to clear and daily communication with God—humble obedience. Learn how surrender unlocks His many blessings intended for us, centers us in His will, and helps us discern His voice in everyday life.

**Please join us on for this new study on Tuesdays at 10:00 am in the Choir Room.”**

**The choir meets** for rehearsal every Sunday at **9 am in the choir room.**  
You are all invited.



**Upcoming Blood Drive dates** are scheduled for **Jan 9<sup>th</sup> and Feb 6<sup>th</sup>**. 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.

### **Just a Reminder**

Lake Oconee Lutheran is able to receive gifts by credit card/debit card now. You will find the terminal in the entryway on the shelving near the kitchen. Please be aware that there is a charge to the church for each gift received in this way. If you include your name on the form (screen) when it asks, the gift will show up on your church statement, but we are unable to do that if you do not input your name. You may also request a receipt sent to you if desired.

### **Volunteers needed for:**

- ❖ Altar Care there is a signup sheet in the narthex on the front table.
- ❖ Sunday service camera operator. We will provide training on how to manage it. signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table, or you can call/email the church office.
- ❖ Ushers' signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table, or you can call/email the church office.
- ❖ Coffee Fellowship signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table.
- ❖ Little Free Pantry signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table.
- ❖ Scripture readers You can contact the office for Marsha to put you on the email list.
- ❖ Communion assistants you can contact the office for Marsha to put you on the email list.
- ❖ Sunday School teachers, 2 teachers per Sunday to rotate, sign-ups are on the blue table.

## **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.