



January 12th, 2024

## LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Baptism of our Lord

*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

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*Elder of the Month: Mark Ketchie*

*Scripture reader: Jaye McCrea*

*Coffee & Fellowship: Jaye & Cindy McCrea*

*Greeter(s):*

*Sunday Counter(s): Sandy Mathson & Cindy or Charlie Helms*

*The flowers on the Altar today are given by:*

*The Sayne Family in honor of Zachary*

*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**

**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.**

## Sermon Hymn # 405

### “To Jordan’s River Came Our Lord”



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, The Christ, whom  
2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— The Son of  
3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood And John bap -  
4 Then from God's throne with thun - d'rous sound Came God's own  
5 The Fa - ther's word, the Spir - it's flight A - noint - ed



heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, The God from God, the  
God in flesh dis - guised— To stand be - neath the  
tized the Lamb of God, The Ho - ly Spir - it,  
voice with words pro - found: “This is My Son,” was  
Christ in glo - rious sight As God's own choice, from



Light from Light, The Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.  
Fa - ther's will And all His righ - teous - ness ful - fill.  
heav'n - ly dove, De - scend - ed on Him from a - bove.  
His de - cree, “The one I love, who pleas - es Me.”  
Ad - am's fall To save the world and free us all.

Text: James P. Tiefel, 1949, alt.

Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, 1690, Hamburg, alt.

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Tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Day

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

**C:** And also, with you.

**P:** Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; 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: Isaiah 43:1–7**

<sup>1</sup>But now thus says the LORD,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.

<sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.

<sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

<sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my eyes,  
and honored, and I love you,  
I give men in return for you,  
peoples in exchange for your life.

<sup>5</sup>Fear not, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you.

<sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, Give up,  
and to the south, Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from afar  
and my daughters from the end of the earth,

<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.”

**R:** This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

## The Epistle Lesson Romans 6:1–11

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

**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 3:15–22**

R: The Holy Gospel according to Luke 3

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

<sup>15</sup>As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>18</sup>So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup>But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup>added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

# Sermon Hymn # 406

## “To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord”



1 To Jor - dan came the Christ, our Lord, To do His  
2 O hear and mark the mes - sage well, For God Him -  
3 These truths on Jor - dan's banks were shown By might - y  
4 There stood the Son of God in love, His grace to



Fa - ther's plea - sure; Bap - tized by John, the Fa - ther's Word  
self has spo - ken. Let faith, not doubt, a - mong us dwell  
word and won - der. The Fa - ther's voice from heav'n came down,  
us ex - tend - ing; The Ho - ly Spir - it like a dove



Was giv - en us to trea - sure. This heav'n - ly wash - ing  
And so re - ceive this to - ken. Our Lord here with His  
Which we do well to pon - der: “This man is My be -  
Up - on the scene de - scend - ing; The tri - une God as -



now shall be A cleans - ing from trans - gres - sion  
Word en - dows Pure wa - ter, free - ly flow - ing.  
lov - ed Son, In whom My heart has plea - sure.  
sur - ing us, With prom - is - es com - pel - ling,



And by His blood and ag - o - ny Re - lease from death's  
God's Ho - ly Spir - it here a - vows Our kin - ship while  
Him you must hear, and Him a - lone, And trust in full -  
That in our Bap - tism He will thus A - mong us find



op - pres - sion. A new life now a - waits us.  
be - stow - ing The Bap - tism of His bless - ing.  
est mea - sure The word that He has spo - ken.”  
a dwell - ing To com - fort and sus - tain us.



## 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 makes His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord looks upon you with favor and gives you peace.

C: Amen.

## Congregational Hymn # 596

### “All Christians Who Have Been Baptized”



1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know the God of  
2 You were be-fore your day of birth, In-deed, from your con-  
3 But all of that was washed a-way— Im-merged and drowned for-  
4 In Bap-tism we now put on Christ— Our shame is ful-ly



heav-en, And in whose dai-ly life is prized The name of  
cep-tion, Con-demned and lost with all the earth, None good, with-  
ev-er. The wa-ter of your Bap-tism day Re-stored a-  
cov-ered With all that He once sac-ri-ficed And free-ly



Christ once giv-en: Con-sid-er now what God has done, The  
out-ex-cep-tion. For like your par-ents' flesh and blood, Turned  
gain what-ev-er Old Ad-am and his sin de-stroyed And  
for us suf-fered. For here the flood of His own blood Now



gifts He gives to ev-'ry-one Bap-tized in-to Christ Je-sus!  
in-ward from the high-est good, You con-stant-ly de-nied Him.  
all our sin-ful selves em-ployed Ac-cord-ing to our na-ture.  
makes us ho-ly, right, and good Be-fore our heav'n-ly Fa-ther.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. Jon D. Vieker, 1961

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg

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## 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:**

- Jan 13                  Pam Kunz

**and Anniversaries:**

- None for this week

**Best wishes!**

### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Sunday	Council Meeting	after service
Tuesday	Women's Bible Study	10:00 am
Wednesday	Zoom Bible Study	10:30 am
Saturday	Episcopal Worship	5:00 pm
Sunday	Choir / Bible Class	9 am
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am

## Sunday Morning Bible

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in 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?

**Join us every Sunday morning at 9am in the church or on Facebook for Matthew.** You may also follow along on our live stream on Facebook or the church website and YouTube.

## 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.

**“The Women’s Bible Study** 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 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 **Feb 6<sup>th</sup>** and **March 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.

### **We need new Greeters**



Sign-up sheets are on the blue table of the Narthex. Please help us Welcome new visitors to our Services.

For those who may feel **cold during services** here at Lake Oconee, a limited number of cotton, blue blankets are available on the usher's table in the back of the sanctuary. Please help yourself. After you use one, please place it in the basket on the floor so that it may be washed.

### **Just a reminder**

Lake Oconee Lutheran can 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.