



January 31, 2020

# LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

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



WE OFFER NURSERY & CHILDCARE

*If you need childcare, please see one of the ushers  
and we will happily accommodate you.*

*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. Communicants may choose to receive the wine in an individual cup, from the Chalice (the Common Cup) or by immersing the wafer in the Chalice (also called intinction). It is very helpful to keep your empty glass visible so Pastor can see if you desire the Common Cup.

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.

Elder of the Month: Joe Peeples

Scripture Reader: Bob Elkins

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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**  
**Welcome**

**Lev Ryabinin**

*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 # 861

### “Christ Be My Leader”



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the  
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or  
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my  
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though  
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.  
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.  
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

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### Prayer of the Day

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

**C:** And also with you.

**P:** Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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 Old Testament Lesson: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

**R:**<sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—<sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’<sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, ‘They

are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

<sup>20</sup>But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.”

R: This is the word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

### **The Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

R: <sup>1</sup>Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup>But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

<sup>4</sup>Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”— <sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup>And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ

died. <sup>12</sup>Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

R: This is the word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

*Please Stand*

### Common 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: Mark 1:21-28

R: The Holy Gospel according to St Mark chapter 1

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

R:<sup>21</sup>And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching.

<sup>22</sup>And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup>“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

R: This is the word of the Lord

## C: Praise to You, O Christ.

*Please be seated*

### Sermon Hymn # 862

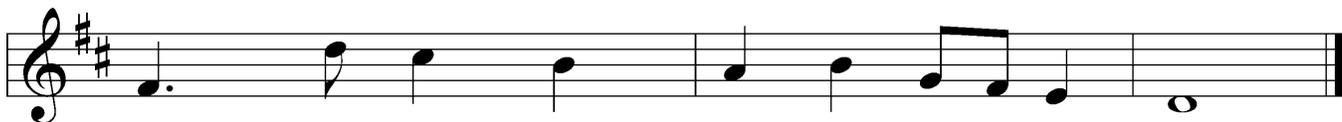
#### "Oh, Blest the House"



1 Oh, blest the house, what - e'er be - fall, Where Je - sus  
2 Oh, blest that house where faith is found And all in  
3 Oh, blest the par - ents who give heed Un - to their  
4 Oh, blest that house; it pros - pers well. In peace and  
5 Then here will I and mine to - day A sol - emn



Christ is all in all! A home that is not whol - ly  
hope and love a - bound; They trust their God and serve Him  
chil - dren's fore - most need And wea - ry not of care or  
joy the par - ents dwell, And in their chil - dren's lives is  
prom - ise make and say: Though all the world for - sake His



His— How sad and poor and dark it is!  
still And do in all His ho - ly will!  
cost. May none to them and heav'n be lost!  
shown How rich - ly God can bless His own.  
Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!

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### The Message

Pastor Steve Hayden

*Please Stand*

### 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 either when you enter or when you exit.*

## 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.**

### **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."

*You may be seated*

### **The Distribution**

#### **Post-Communion Collect**

P: Let us pray.

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 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.

### Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

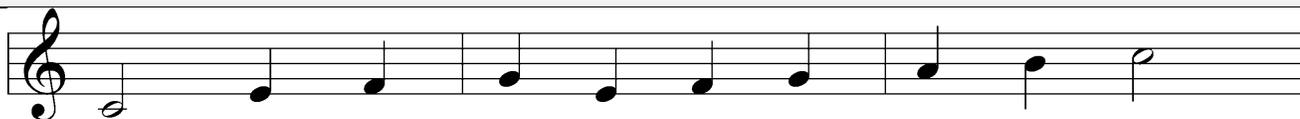
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

C: Amen.

### Congregational Hymn # 786

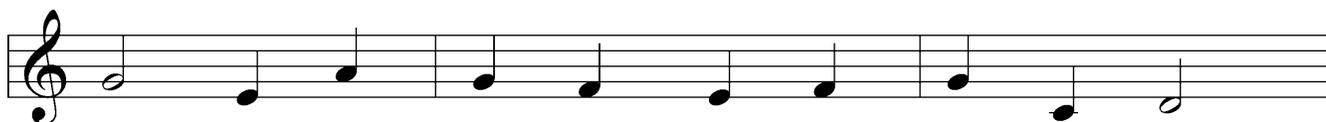
#### “Lord of All Good”



1 Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now;  
 2 We give our minds to un - der - stand Your ways;  
 3 Fa - ther, whose boun - ty all cre - a - tion shows;



Use them Your ho - ly pur - pose to ful - fill.  
 Hands, eyes, and voice to serve Your great de - sign;  
 Christ, by whose will - ing sac - ri - fice we live;



To - kens of love and pledg - es they shall be  
 Hearts with the flame of Your own love a - blaze—  
 Spir - it, from whom all life in full - ness flows:



That our whole life is of - fered to Your will.  
 Thus for Your glo - ry all our pow'rs com - bine.  
 To You with grate - ful hearts our - selves we give.

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## Announcements Birthdays/Anniversaries

### 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:**

January 31      Greg Hardesty

**and anniversaries:**

February 4      Harold & Joyce Huston

Best wishes!

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Tuesday	Women's Bible Class	10 am
Wednesday	Zoom Bible Class	10:30 am
Sunday	Adult Bible School	9 am
Sunday	Children's Sunday School	10 am
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am

**Sunday Morning Bible Class** It is remarkable how many of the great events in Scripture took place on mountaintops. God chose mountaintops so that certain events would stand out in our minds. As if to hold them up for all to see, God performed some of His most dramatic lessons on mountaintops. In fact, God's whole plan of salvation can be seen through biblical mountaintop events. Join us for the next two Sundays as we look at some of the mountaintop events in Scripture. **Join us every Sunday morning at 9 am** as we see how God uses mountains. You may also watch the Bible class live each week on Lake Oconee Lutheran Church's Facebook page.

**Tuesday Women's bible class** in the book of Ruth, we have the opportunity to hear about the Lord's faithfulness both in Ruth and Naomi's relationship but in a grand way as Boaz serves as the Kingsman redeemer for Ruth and Naomi. The Lord is at work in all of their lives and provides abundantly more than they could have imagined. Curious what this is all about and how it impacts your life as well? Join us on Tuesdays at 10am.

**Wednesday Zoom Bible Class** The study of the Old Testament is nothing less than an exploration into the thoughts of God and His desires for ordinary people like you and me. And what makes more sense than to "begin at the beginning"? As

the history of sinful humanity finds its beginning, so also does the unfolding of God's plan to redeem fallen humanity through the sending of a Savior. **Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am on Zoom** as we look at old familiar stories and clearly see the new life that God gives to us in Jesus Christ.

**Children's Sunday Bible School** will be held at 10am in the children's Sunday school room. If you have any questions, please email Katherine at [dcekatherine@gmail.com](mailto:dcekatherine@gmail.com)

**LOLC fellowship committee** is hosting a Trivia Game night. It will be held via ZOOM on **Monday, Feb 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm-8pm**. We cannot wait to see who will be crowned the Champion! Zoom Link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82279690330> it can also be found in your email closer to the 8th. How to play is simple.

On Monday, Feb. 8 before 7:00 pm, open the email that Katherine sent you.

- Click the link in the email to join the meeting.
- We will assess how many have signed in and will create teams of 6 +/-.
- We will display a question on the screen.
- We will break you out into your teams privately to discuss and come up with a single answer for the team.
- When asked, you will display your answer.
- You will keep your own score to win bragging rights.

**Time and Talents Form** at Lake Oconee Lutheran Church, we have a special opportunity, not only to serve our neighbors but also to grow in community and in our relationship with Our Lord. Our desire is to continue to build into a family of Spirit-filled servants, who spend time growing in faith alongside one another. Our desire is that what you choose to prioritize in 2021 points you back to Christ today and every day. To fill out the time and talents form online: [tinyurl.com/LOLCtimetalent](https://tinyurl.com/LOLCtimetalent) Paper forms are also available on the table in the entrance of the church.

**Blood Drive February 16<sup>th</sup>** from 1-6pm to volunteer please email Pam Kunz at [kunzpd3@outlook.com](mailto:kunzpd3@outlook.com) To sign up to give blood got to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and use **code LOLC**.

**Red Letter Challenge** starts **February 14<sup>th</sup>** as we kick off our journey together in Bible Class. Sign-up sheet is at the back of the church to reserve your book.

## **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.