



March 6, 2024

## LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*God writes His Word on our Lives, building us into a Family engaged  
in Spirit-filled Service.*



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In this service of Lent, we are drawn to Calvary to receive peace. In word and song, we contemplate how to live lives of peace in our hearts, souls and minds through Christ, who brought peace between us and God by the cross.

## **Lenten Midweek Service – Guided to Peace**

### **Invocation and Call to Worship**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: We live a world where peace can be hard to find. We are surrounded by strife and quarrels. We are often filled with worry and fear. Jesus tells us, *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid”* (John 14:27).

**People: Jesus our Savior, when we are troubled and worried by the strife around us, grant us your peace.**

Pastor: The world’s peace depends on the absence of war and strife and trouble. The peace that Jesus brings to us is not like the world’s peace. The peace of Jesus depends only on Jesus. The world’s peace can be lost, but the peace that Jesus brings to us is ours forever.

**People: Jesus our Savior, even in times of trouble or fear, grant us your peace.**

Pastor: By God’s grace, through faith in Jesus, we have peace even in the midst of trouble. Through faith in Jesus, we have peace with God through the forgiveness of our sins. It is peace that Jesus won for us through his death on the cross and his triumphant resurrection. It is peace that we can share with others as we tell them of Jesus’ love.

**People: Jesus our Savior, grant us your peace.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Pastor: Jesus, Lord and Savior, through the blood of your cross, you have brought us forgiveness for our sins and peace with God. When the circumstances of life and the dangers and concerns of the world

around us threaten the peace that we have, help us to remember your promise, that you will be with us always, to the end of the age (see Matthew 28:20). Make us bold witnesses for you so that, in the power of the Holy Spirit, others will come to know the peace that you alone can bring. Set your cross before us to guide us in the way of peace.

**People: Amen.**

**The Hymn**      *“Not What These Hands Have Done”*      **Hymn 567**



1 Not what these hands have done Can save this guilt - y soul;  
2 Not what I feel or do Can give me peace with God;  
3 Thy work a - lone, O Christ, Can ease this weight of sin;  
4 Thy love to me, O God, Not mine, O Lord, to Thee,



Not what this toil - ing flesh has borne Can make my spir - it whole.  
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears Can bear my aw - ful load.  
Thy blood a - lone, O Lamb of God, Can give me peace with - in.  
Can rid me of this dark un - rest And set my spir - it free.

- 5 Thy grace alone, O God,  
To me can pardon speak;  
Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God,  
Can this sore bondage break.
- 6 I bless the Christ of God,  
I rest on love divine,  
And with unfalt'ring lip and heart  
I call this Savior mine.

Text and tune: Public domain

**The Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 53:4-5*

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **The New Testament Reading**

*Colossians 1:15-20*

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel Reading**

*Luke 23:44-46*

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **The Confession of Our Faith in The Apostle's Creed**

**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.

**The Hymn**      *"Christ, the Life of All the Living"* Hymn 420 v 1, 3, 6-7



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of  
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might  
6 Thou hast suf - fered great af - flic - tion And hast borne it  
7 Then, for all that wrought my par - don, For Thy sor - rows



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing  
all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,  
pa - tient - ly, E - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion,  
deep and sore, For Thine an - guish in the Gar - den,



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,  
Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of  
Ful - ly to a - tone for me; Thou didst choose to  
I will thank Thee ev - er - more, Thank Thee for Thy



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.  
God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.  
be tor - ment - ed That my doom should be pre - vent - ed.  
groan - ing, sigh - ing, For Thy bleed - ing and Thy dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.  
For that last tri - um - phant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

## The Meditation

### The Prayers

Pastor: Lord Jesus, you suffered and died for our sins, and by your wounds, we have received healing from our sins and we have peace with God. During this Lenten season, as we follow your path to the cross, set your cross always before us to guide us in the way of peace. Jesus, Prince of Peace,

**People: Hear our prayer, and grant us peace.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, the cross that you carried to Golgotha was not known as an instrument of peace, but as a terrible instrument of death. Yet through your sacrifice, the cross has become for us a sign of love and peace. Through the blood you shed on the cross, God has reconciled all things to himself, making peace through the blood of your cross. Jesus, Prince of Peace,

**People: Hear our prayer, and grant us peace.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, the world around us is rarely at peace, and when it is, that worldly peace can be a fragile thing. We must deal with conflicts and quarrels, troubled times among our own friends and family members and the threat and reality of war among nations. Yet you have promised that when we bring our fears and worries to you in prayer, you will guard our hearts and minds with your peace. Jesus, Prince of Peace,

**People: Hear our prayer, and grant us peace.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we pray for people who are suffering through illness, grief and other difficult circumstances. Grant to them the peace that you alone can give. Comfort them through the promises of your Word, and give us opportunities to serve them and to share your love with them. Jesus, Prince of Peace,

**People: Hear our prayer, and grant us peace.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, right now each day, we have forgiveness and peace through faith in your name. We look forward to the day when we

will live in your presence, where we will enjoy peace forever.

Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace,

**People: Hear our prayer, and grant us peace. Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**People: 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 Blessing (Colossians 1:17-20; 2 Thessalonians 3:16)**

**Pastor: Jesus is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the  
firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be  
preeminent.**

**People: For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and  
through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth  
or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.**

**Pastor: Now, may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in  
every way. The Lord be with you all. Amen.**

## The Hymn

## “On My Heart Imprint Your Image” (422)



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-rase;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856-1921, alt.  
Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691-1758  
Text and tune: Public domain

### Lenten Wednesday Services for this year:

March 13, 2024 6pm soup 7pm service

March 20, 2024 12pm soup 1pm service

Join us next week for the Guided to the Cross Lenten service, as we are drawn to Calvary to deepen our trust. In word and song, we contemplate how to live lives of trust in God, who entrusted his Son, Jesus, on the cross for our sake.