

March 28, 2024

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



LAKE OCONEE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: Amen.

Pastor: O Lord, open my lips.

People: And my mouth shall declare Your praise.

Pastor: Hasten to save me, O God.

People: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

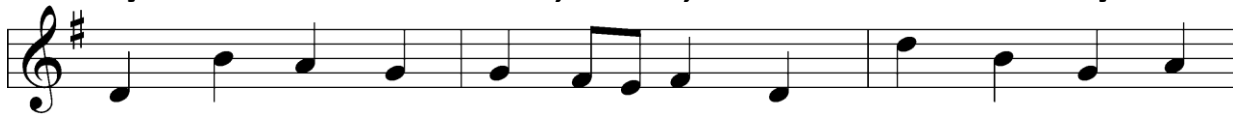
People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, You showed Your great love by sending Your Son to suffer and die in our place. How remarkable that You love us when we deserve only Your wrath and eternal punishment! Open our eyes and hearts to new and deeper insights into Your love that we may strive to follow You faithfully. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Receive our songs of thanks and praise. Fortify us to live to Your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

The Hymn "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain"

Hymn 435



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -
4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er



Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

Text and tune: Public domain

THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: On the night in which he was betrayed Jesus took bread and wine and gave it to his disciples as the meal of the New Covenant.

Tonight as we prepare to receive the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper, we confess that we have betrayed our Lord by our sinful thoughts, words and deeds. We repent of that sin, and we seek God's mercy to forgive our iniquity.

People: Most merciful God, we are not worthy to receive you. We are sinful and unclean. We have disobeyed your Word and disregarded your will for us. We ask you not to remember our evil but instead to forgive our transgression. For the sake of Jesus Christ, who sacrificed his body and blood for our salvation,

pardon us and restore us in righteousness. Renew us so that we walk in obedience to your Word, to the glory of your holy name. Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

Pastor: Hear the good news! God's Word declares: "the blood of Jesus Christ God's Son cleanses us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). In the mercy of Almighty God, his Son Jesus was given to die for you. For Christ's sake God forgives you all your sins and gives you his righteousness, making you holy in his sight. His mercy endures forever because his love for you is steadfast.

People: Amen!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious Lord, in the Upper Room you left us a memorial of your passion in a wonderful meal of forgiveness and life. Grant that we may share in this sacred supper of your body and blood so that your redeeming work may continue to abide in us. In view of your mercy, form us by your Spirit to remember him who comes to us in the bread and wine. We pray these things in the holy name of Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 53:3-5

³ He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴ Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed"

THE EPISTLE READING:

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, ²⁴and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁵In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

THE HOLY GOSPEL:

John 13:2-5

² During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴ rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

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 "JESUS, GREATEST AT THE TABLE"

HYMN 446



1 Je - sus, great - est at the ta - ble, The al -
2 Mar - vel how their Lord and teach - er Gent - ly
3 Je - sus took the role of ser - vant When up -
4 Can we fath - om such deep mer - cy? Do we
5 Je - sus gave to His dis - ci - ples A com -



might - y Son of Man, Laid a - side His out - er cloth - ing,
taught them not to vie As He hum - bly knelt be - fore them,
on that grue - some span, For all hu - man sin He suf - fered
see what God has done? Who can grasp this great re - ver - sal:
mand - ment that was new: "Show My love to one an - oth - er,



Poured some wa - ter in a pan; As the Twelve lay,
Dust - y feet to wash and dry, By His ten - der
As a vile and loath - some man; On the cross poured
Love that gives His on - ly Son? Christ, the sin - less
Do as I have done for you; All the world will



hushed in si - lence, He the ser - vant's task be - gan.
touch ex - press - ing True com - pas - sion from on high.
out like wa - ter To ful - fill the Fa - ther's plan.
for the sin - ners, For the man - y dies the One.
know you love Me As you love each oth - er too."

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THE MESSAGE

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord Jesus, help us to ask again every day, "What shall I do with You?"

People: With all our hearts, Lord, I want to be a thankful guest at Your table.

Pastor: Help us to see clearly the dread seriousness of our sins and that nothing less than Your holy blood can cover our guilt and restore us to You.

People: **In spite of our many sins, You come to us in the mystery and power of Your Holy Supper to bring us life and salvation.**

Pastor: Work in our hearts through Your body and blood to dedicate our lives to You. Help us to honor You at Your table and in all things. Hear us, Lord, as we bring You our prayers. Be with the sick and hurting that we name before you in our own minds. Lord, in Your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You for shedding Your blood to win our eternal salvation.

People: **We thank You that You continue to forgive and strengthen us. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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."

Distribution of Holy Communion

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.

HYMN "O JESUS, BLESSED LORD, TO THEE"

HYMN 632



1 O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to Thee My heart - felt
2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is



thanks for - ev - er be, Who hast so lov - ing -
come to me this day! My Sav - ior dwells with -



ly be - stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.
in my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

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THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

The observance of Good Friday begins with this simple devotion at the conclusion of our Maundy Thursday worship service. All altar ware and adornments are removed from the Altar—symbolic of Christ being stripped of His clothing during the crucifixion. After the stripping of the altar has been completed, portions of Psalm 22 are read by the pastor.

Our Holy Week Devotion continues tomorrow, Good Friday, at 7:00 pm.

We will return Sunday morning to celebrate the Easter message at 10:30am.