



May 30, 2021

# LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity Sunday

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

*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

Sonya Plunkett Church Secretary

[www.lakeoconeelutheran.org](http://www.lakeoconeelutheran.org)

Office email: [officelolc@gmail.com](mailto:officelolc@gmail.com)

Pastor Steven Hayden

Pastor's Cell: 515-360-5081

Pastor's email: [revshayden@gmail.com](mailto:revshayden@gmail.com)

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: Robert Elkins

---

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

---

**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.**

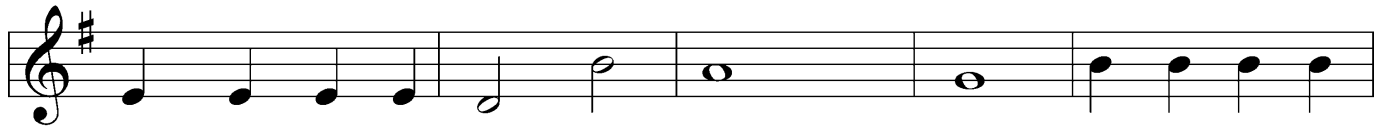
*Please be seated*

# Congregational Hymn # 907

## "God Himself Is Present"



1 God Him - self is pres - ent: Let us now a - dore Him  
2 God Him - self is pres - ent: Hear the harps re - sound - ing;  
3 Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Pu - ri - fy my spir - it,



And with awe ap - pear be - fore Him. God is in His  
See the hosts the throne sur - round - ing. "Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
Trust - ing on - ly in Your mer - it. Like the ho - ly



tem - ple; All with - in keep si - lence; Hum - bly kneel in  
ho - ly!" Hear the hymn as - cend - ing, Songs of saints and  
an - gels, Wor - ship - ing be - fore You, May I cease - less -



deep - est rev - 'rence. He a - lone On His throne  
an - gels blend - ing. Bow Your ear To us here:  
ly a - dore You. Let Your will Ev - er still



Is our God and Sav - ior; Praise His name for - ev - er!  
Hear, O Christ, the prais - es That Your Church now rais - es.  
Rule Your Church ter - res - trial As the hosts ce - les - tial.

## **Prayer of the Day**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **The First Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-8**

R: <sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" <sup>4</sup>And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" <sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup>And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." <sup>8</sup>And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

R: This is the word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

## **The Epistle Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 22-36**

R: <sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. <sup>22</sup>“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— <sup>23</sup>this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. <sup>24</sup>God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. <sup>25</sup>For David says concerning him, “‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; <sup>26</sup>therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. <sup>27</sup>For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. <sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ <sup>29</sup>“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup>Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, <sup>31</sup>he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. <sup>32</sup>This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. <sup>33</sup>Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. <sup>34</sup>For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, “‘The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, <sup>35</sup>until I make your enemies your footstool.’ <sup>36</sup>Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

R: This is the word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

*Please Stand*

## Common Alleluia and Verse

**C** 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: John 3:1-17

R: The Holy Gospel according to St John chapter 3

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

R: <sup>1</sup>Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has

ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>[Jesus said:] “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

R: This is the word of the Lord

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

*Please be seated*



# Sermon Hymn # 498

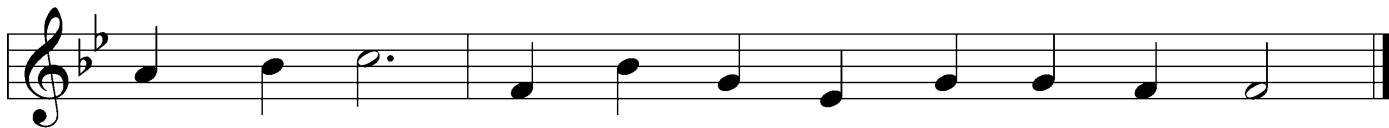
## "Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest"



1 Come, Ho - ly Ghost, Cre - a - tor blest, And make  
2 To You, the Coun - sel - or, we cry, To You,  
3 In You, with grac - es sev - en - fold, We God's  
4 Your light to ev - 'ry thought im - part, And shed  
5 Drive far a - way our wi - ly foe, And Your



our hearts Your place of rest; Come with Your grace and  
the gift of God Most High; The fount of life, the  
al - might - y hand be - hold While You with tongues of  
Your love in ev - 'ry heart; The weak - ness of our  
a - bid - ing peace be - stow; With You as our pro -



heav'n-ly aid, And fill the hearts which You have made.  
fire of love, The soul's a - noint - ing from a - bove.  
fire pro - claim To all the world His ho - ly name.  
mor - tal state With death - less might in - vig - or - ate.  
tect - ing guide, No e - vil can with us a - bide.

6 Teach us to know the Father, Son,  
And You, from both, as Three in One  
That we Your name may ever bless  
And in our lives the truth confess.

7 Praise we the Father and the Son  
And Holy Spirit, with them One,  
And may the Son on us bestow  
The gifts that from the Spirit flow! Amen.

**"John 3:1-17 God in a box?"**

*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 # 504

### “Father Most Holy”



1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer-ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our  
2 Trin - i - ty bless - ed, u - ni - ty un - shak - en, Good-ness un -  
3 Mak - er of all things, all Thy crea-tures praise Thee; All for Thy  
4 Lord God Al - migh - t - y, un - to Thee be glo - ry, One in three



Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,  
bound - ed, ver - y God of heav - en, Light of the an - gels,  
wor - ship were and are cre - at - ed; Now, as we al - so  
per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,



ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, Light nev - er wan - ing;  
joy of those for - sak - en, Hope of all liv - ing,  
wor - ship Thee de - vout - ly, Hear Thou our voic - es.  
praise Thee and a - dore Thee, Now and for - ev - er.

Public domain

## Announcements Birthdays/Anniversaries

### The Dismissal

**P:** Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

**C:** Thanks be to God!

---

+

**Post-service Music**

+

---

**GOD'S BLESSINGS to all those celebrating birthdays this week:**

- June 4     Connie Piepenbrink

**and anniversaries:**

- June 5     Marlo & Bonnie Neuleib  
                    Best wishes!

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Tuesday	Women's Bible Study	10 am
Wednesday	Zoom Bible Class	No Bible Class
Saturday	Episcopal Worship Service	5 pm
Sunday	Adult Bible School	9 am
Sunday	Children's Sunday School	10 am
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am

**Sunday Morning Bible Class** St. Paul's letter to the Romans is the first epistle in the New Testament because it is the longest, but it could also occupy that position because of its importance. It has always played an important role in the church because it summarizes so well the essential emphases of the apostle's theology. Throughout the letter Paul emphasizes that God's mercy comes to undeserving people who stand under the Law. In the Gospel of Jesus Christ, God freely gives righteousness through faith alone, not on the basis of their own accomplishments. This unconditional promise is the sole basis of people's relationship with God.

Martin Luther wrote, "This epistle is really the chief part of the New Testament, and it is truly the purest gospel. It is worthy not only that every Christian should know it word for word, by heart, but also that he should occupy himself with it every day...we can never read it or ponder over it too much." **Join us on Sunday mornings at 9 am as we read the Letter to the Romans.**

**Wednesday Zoom Bible Class** The religious leaders in Judea had questioned the ministry of John the Baptist and worried about his influence. But after they heard Jesus' teaching, they knew they were in for trouble. Jesus taught with great boldness and challenged people's assumptions in simple language. Yet, many of

Jesus' sayings invite the deepest reflection because they expound the eternal mysteries of the faith. The central purpose of the Gospel of John is stated by John himself: "This is written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name."(20:31) **Join us on Zoom every Wednesday at 10:30am** as we read through the **Gospel of John** and see that even now, Jesus--the Word made flesh--is working for your blessing (5:17) and preparing an eternal home for you (14:1-3).

**Women's Bible Study** The devotional Life by Lisa Harper shows us the Gospel is truly Good News for your actual, every day, sometimes painful or difficult life. It's a reminder that God's faithfulness follows us through the harried, hard and humorous things in life. Join us anytime for this conversational series. Women's Bible Study meets **Tuesdays at 10 am** in the choir room.

**Operation Christmas child collections** are being split up into specific items for each month. We have created an Amazon wish list to make shopping easier for you. The specific items for the collection of the month will be on the wish list with the number of how many are needed in total. The direct link is emailed out in the church's Thursday email. If you do not receive those emails, you can contact the church office and we will email you a direct link. You can also purchase the items locally if you desire and bring them to church.

**The Church office will be closed on Monday May 31<sup>st</sup>** in recognition of Memorial Day.

**Regular coffee fellowship** times will begin on **June 6th**. We need your help in this! Sign up sheets for volunteers are on the kitchen counter.

**The Church Council at their May meeting** approved several changes to our way of Worship together. These changes will take effect **beginning Sunday, June 6th**. -Beginning June 6th, mask wearing will be optional during Worship and Bible class time. You may choose whether you would like to continue to wear your mask throughout the service, or not to wear one. As the percentage of complete vaccinations increases and with the introduction of coffee hour, the Council felt this was appropriate. We continue to encourage you to allow room for social distancing. Beginning June 6th, we will resume serving communion at the railing with some modifications.

1. There will be fewer people ushered to the railing each time, so we ask you to leave space between households.
  2. We are asking you not to kneel and remain standing for communion. This will avoid the spread of germs through the communion rail.
  3. The common cup will still not be used, only the individual cups will be offered.
  4. The self-contained communion cups and wafers that we have been using will continue to be available. If you desire to receive communion at your seat and not come forward, you may continue that practice.
  5. Pastor and the communion assistant will be masked during the distribution.
- Above all, we encourage you, in love, to be patient as we navigate these changes and iron out any unforeseen difficulties that we encounter. You may help us in this transition by signing up to serve as ushers for communion Sundays. If you have any questions, you are always invited to speak with Pastor Steve, Joe Peoples (Chair of the Board of Elders) or Tom Mathson (Congregational President). Thank you.

### **WORSHIP UPDATE**

Remember, we are now live streaming our Sunday Bible Class and Worship. This means both services will be broadcast live as they happen on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am and 10:30 am on Facebook. Join us as we all come together in worship. If you are unable to be online while they are live, do not worry. The recorded services will remain available for you to watch later as well. You may find it on the @lakeoconeelutheranchurch page on Facebook. God's blessings to each of you!



## **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.