

June 6, 2021

# LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Second Sunday after Pentecost

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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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.

#### <u>In Preparation of Holy Communion</u>

<u>The Lord's Supper</u> 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: Kathie Kueven Scripture Reader: Cindy Helms Ushers: Jack Carson & Bob Elkins Coffee Fellowship: Kayleen Ringer Marcia Elkins & Connie PiepenBrink

# 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 # 650**



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## **Prayer of the Day**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Almighty and eternal God, Your Son Jesus triumphed over the prince of demons and freed us from bondage to sin. Help us to stand firm against every assault of Satan, and enable us always to do Your will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

#### The First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-15

R: <sup>8</sup>And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup>And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field;

on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

R: This is the word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

## The Epistle Lesson: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

R: <sup>13</sup>Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, <sup>14</sup>knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup>For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

<sup>16</sup>So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup>as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

<sup>1</sup>For we know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

R: This is the word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Please Stand

## **Common Alleluia and Verse**



Holy Gospel: Mark 3:20-35

R: The Holy Gospel according to St Mark chapter 3

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

R: <sup>20</sup>Then [Jesus] went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. <sup>21</sup>And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind." <sup>22</sup>And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "by the prince of demons he casts out the demons." <sup>23</sup>And he called them to him and said to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup>If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup>And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup>And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. <sup>27</sup>But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house. <sup>28</sup>"Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, <sup>29</sup>but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"— <sup>30</sup>for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit." <sup>31</sup>And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. <sup>32</sup>And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you." <sup>33</sup>And he answered them, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" 34And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup>Whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."

R: This is the word of the Lord

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated



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#### 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 when you enter.

## **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.

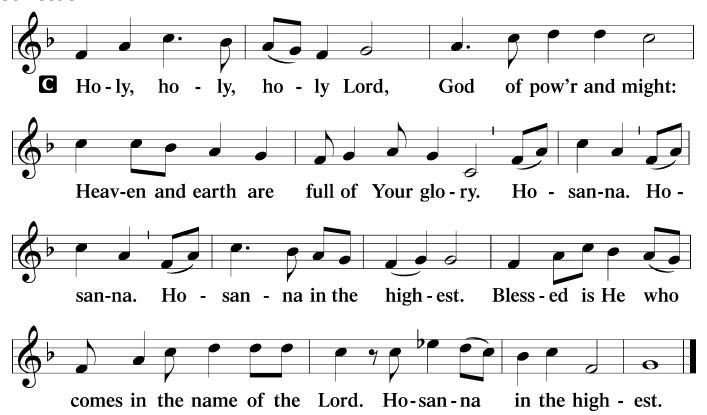
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## **Proper Preface**

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

#### **Sanctus**



## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**P:** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

# C: Amen.

#### 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."

### **Proclamation of Christ**

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

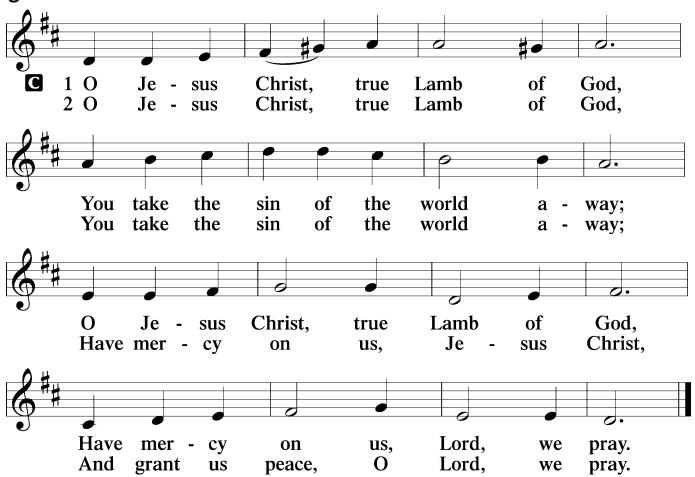
You may be seated

#### **Pax Domini**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

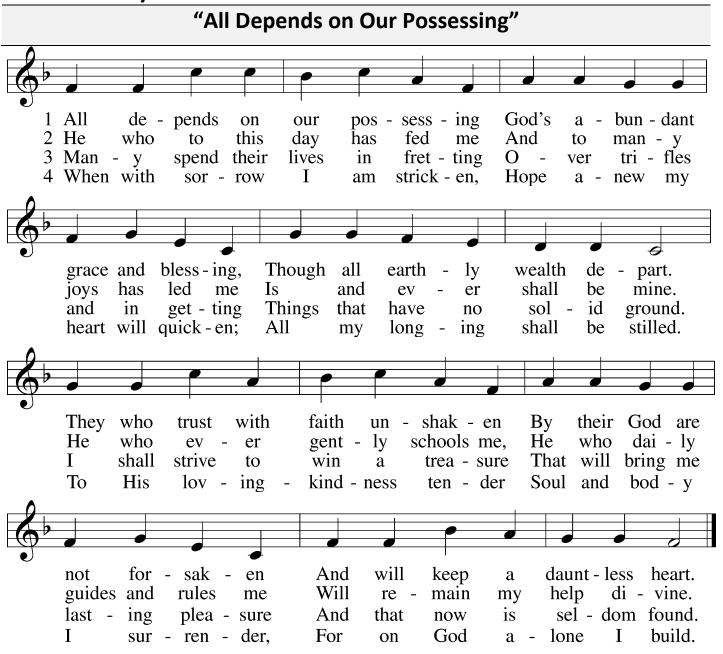
C: Amen.

# **Agnus Dei**



**The Distribution** 

## **Communion Hymn # 732**



Well He knows what best to grant me;
 All the longing hopes that haunt me,
 Joy and sorrow, have their day.
 I shall doubt His wisdom never;
 As God wills, so be it ever;
 I commit to Him my way.

If my days on earth He lengthen, God my weary soul will strengthen; All my trust in Him I place. Earthly wealth is not abiding, Like a stream away is gliding; Safe I anchor in His grace.

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#### Please Stand

#### **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.

C: Amen

### **Benediction**

C: Amen.

## Congregational Hymn # 716

# "I Walk in Danger All the Way"



- I walk with Jesus all the way,
  His guidance never fails me;
  Within His wounds I find a stay
  When Satan's pow'r assails me;
  And by His footsteps led,
  My path I safely tread.
  No evil leads my soul astray;
  I walk with Jesus all the way.
- My walk is heav'nward all the way;
  Await, my soul, the morrow,
  When God's good healing shall allay
  All suff'ring, sin, and sorrow.
  Then, worldly pomp, begone!
  To heav'n I now press on. For all the world I would not stay;
  My walk is heav'nward all the way.

# Announcements Birthdays/Anniversaries

#### The Dismissal

P: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

+ <u>Post-service Music</u>

+

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

- June 8 Donna Hansen
- June 11 Ed Fritch
- June 12 Rosalyn Carson
- June 12 Donald Menke

#### and anniversaries:

- June 7 Jack & Rosalyn Carson
- June 7 Ron & Karen Schornhorst
- June 8 Gary & Katheryn Roper
- June 11 Jim & Kathie Kueven
- June 12 Steve & Linda Hayden
- June 12 Tom & Connie Saner

Best wishes!

## **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Tuesday	Women's Bible Study	10 am
Wednesday	Zoom Bible Class	10: 30 am
Saturday	<b>Episcopal Worship Service</b>	5 pm
Sunday	Adult Bible School	9 am
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am
Sunday	Council Meeting	After Worship

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.

**Regular coffee fellowship** times will begin **today** and continue after Worship. We need your help in this! Sign up sheets for Volunteers are on the kitchen counter.

We are in need of Volunteers. We are looking for volunteers to sign up for Coffee fellowship, Camera Operators, and Communion Ushers.

Look for sign-up sheets in the kitchen for coffee fellowship. The remaining volunteer sign-up sheets are on the table near the side exit of the church next to the choir room.

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 Peeples (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!

# 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.