



September 15th, 2024

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

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



1089 Lake Oconee Parkway

Eatonton, GA 31024

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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.

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.

Before Communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your Holy Spirit that I may be ever watchful and live a true and godly life in Your service; through Jesus Christ, my Lord Amen

Elder of the Month: Kathie Kueven

Scripture Reader: Peggy Uehlin

Communion Assistant: Kathie Kueven

Coffee Fellowship: Beth Etheridge & Keith Mulford

Sunday Counters: Pam Kunz & Alison Van Cott

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

Instrumental Prelude
Choir Anthem
Welcome

Dr. Lev Ryabinin
Dr. Youngmi Kim

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.

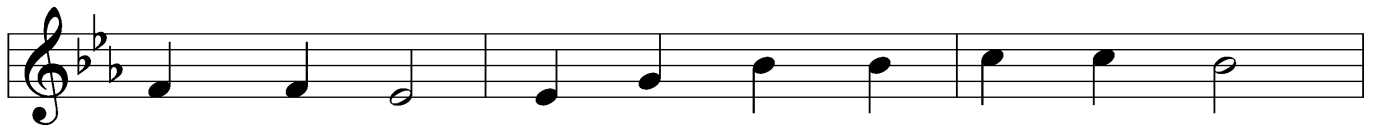
C: Amen

Congregational Hymn # 611

“Chief of Sinners Though I be”



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4–10

⁴The Lord God has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.

Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.

⁷But the Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

⁸He who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who is my adversary?

Let him come near to me.

⁹Behold, the Lord God helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

¹⁰Who among you fears the Lord
and obeys the voice of his servant?

Let him who walks in darkness
and has no light
trust in the name of the Lord
and rely on his God.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Epistle Lesson: James 3:1–12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For we all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea

creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

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 9:14–29

R: The Holy Gospel according to Mark chapter 9

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to [Jesus] and greeted him. ¹⁶And he asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” ¹⁷And someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” ¹⁹And he answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.” ²⁰And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. ²²And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” ²³And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” ²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” ²⁵And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” ²⁶And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” ²⁹And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord

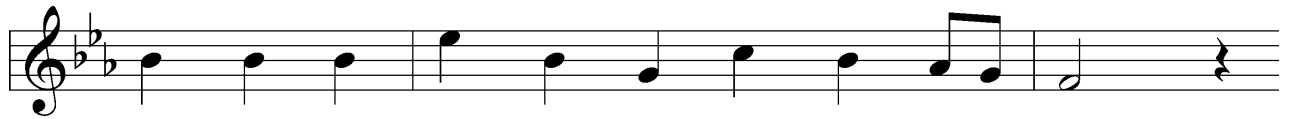
C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn # 533

“Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure”



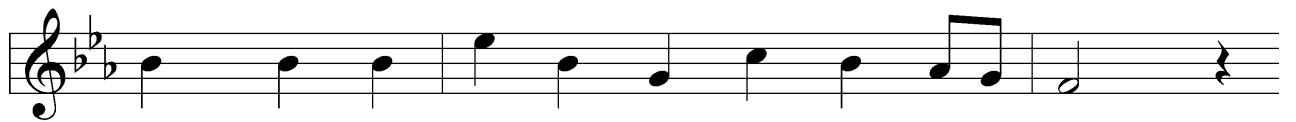
1 Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal,
2 Je - sus has come! Now see bonds rent a - sun - der!
3 Je - sus has come as the might - y Re - deem - er.
4 Je - sus has come as the King of all glo - ry!



Al - pha, O - me - ga, Be - gin - ning and End;
Fet - ters of death now dis - solve, dis - ap - pear.
See now the threat - en - ing strong one dis - armed!
Heav - en and earth, O de - clare His great pow'r,



God - head, hu - man - i - ty, u - nion su - per - nal,
See Him burst through with a voice as of thun - der!
Je - sus breaks down all the walls of death's for - tress,
Cap - tur - ing hearts with the heav - en - ly sto - ry;



O great Re - deem - er, You come as our friend!
He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,
Brings forth the pris - 'ners tri - um - phant, un - harmed.
Wel - come Him now in this fast - fleet - ing hour!



Heav - en and earth, now pro - claim this great won - der:
Lifts us from shame to the place of His hon - or.
Sa - tan, you wick - ed one, own now your mas - ter!
Pon - der His love! Take the crown He has for you!



Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal!
Je - sus has come! Hear the roll of God's thun - der!
Je - sus has come! He, the might - y Re - deem - er!
Je - sus has come! He, the King of all glo - ry!

Text: Johann Ludwig Conrad Allendorf, 1693–1773; tr. Oliver C. Rupprecht, 1903–2000, alt.

Tune: Cöthen, c. 1733

Text: © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110019841

Tune: Public domain

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.

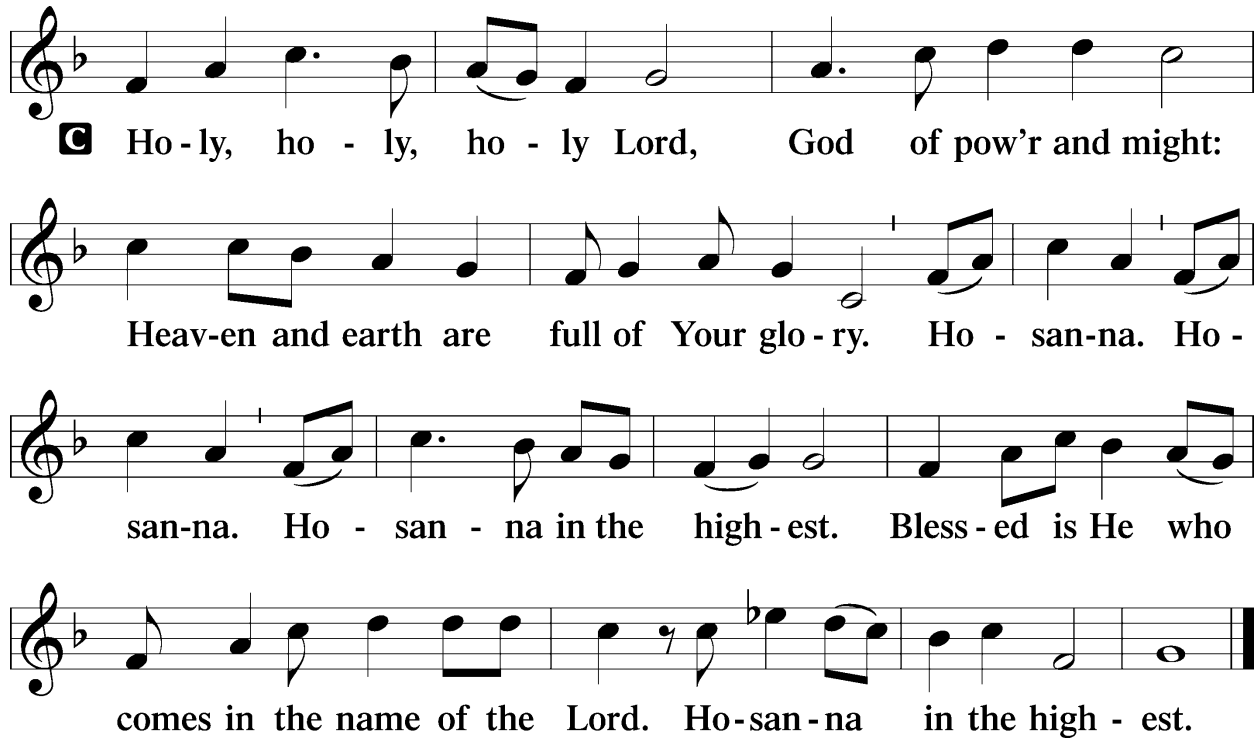
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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.**

Pax Domini

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

C: **Amen.**

Agnus Dei



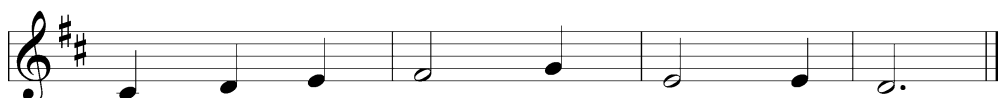
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

The Distribution

Communion Hymn # 822

"Alleluia! Let Praises Ring"



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! To God the Fa -
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to the Lamb
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to the Ho -
4 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to our tri -



ther let us bring Our songs of ad - o - ra - tion.
of God we sing, In whom we are e - lect - ed.
ly Ghost we sing For our re - gen - er - a - tion.
une God we sing; Blest be His name for - ev - er!



To Him through ev - er - last - ing days Be wor - ship, hon -
He bought His Church with His own blood, He cleansed her in
The sav - ing faith in us He wrought And us un - to
With an - gel hosts let us a - dore And sing His prais -



or, pow'r, and praise, Whose hand sus - tains cre - a - tion.
that bless - ed flood, And as His bride se - lect - ed.
the Bride-groom brought, Made us His cho - sen na - tion.
es ev - er - more For all His grace and fa - vor!



Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;
Ho - ly, ho - ly Is our u - nion And com - mu - nion.
Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Joy e - ter - nal, Bliss su - per - nal;
Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;



Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry.
His be - friend - ing Gives us joy and peace un - end - ing.
There is man - na And an end - less, glad ho - san - na.
Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry!

Post-Communion Collect

P: 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 in 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

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

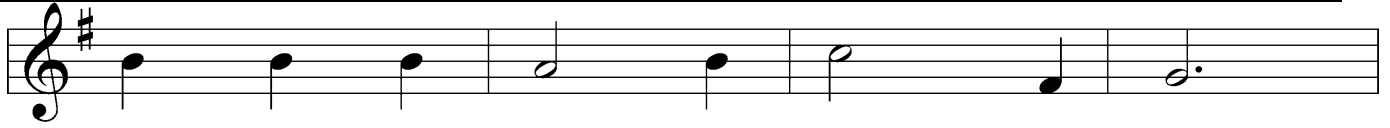
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

C: Amen.

Congregational Hymn 554

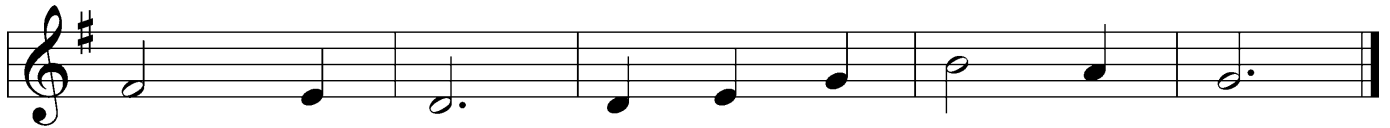
"O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"



1 O Je - sus, King most won - der - ful!
2 When once You vis - it dark - ened hearts,
3 O Je - sus, light of all be - low,
4 May ev - 'ry heart con - fess Your name,
5 Oh, may our tongues for - ev - er bless,



O Con - quer - or re - nowned! O Source of peace in -
Then truth be - gins to shine, Then earth - ly van - i -
The fount of life and fire, Sur - pass - ing all the
For - ev - er You a - dore, And, seek - ing You, it -
May we love You a - lone And ev - er in our



ef - fa - ble, In whom all joys are found:
ty de - parts, Then kin - dles love di - vine.
joys we know, All that we can de - sire:
self in - flame To seek You more and more!
lives ex - press The im - age of Your own!

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.
Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–76
Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements

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:

No birthday's this week

and anniversaries:

- Sept 18 Don & Pam Kunz
- Sept 21 Dale & Dorothy Johnson

Best wishes!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Tuesday	Women's Bible Class	10:00 am
Wednesday	Zoom Bible Class	10:30 am
Saturday	Episcopal Worship Service	5:00 pm
Sunday	Choir / Adult Bible Class	9:00 am
Sunday	Worship	10:30 am

Sunday Morning Bible class - The apostle Matthew writes his gospel to proclaim to the world that its promised Savior has come. Pointing to Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies, Matthew shows Jesus as the King who desires everyone to be a member of His kingdom.

Join us every Sunday morning at 9am in the church or on Facebook for Matthew.

Wednesday Bible class - Paul's letter to the Ephesians is about the church and about the fellowship of believers who make up the church. It is about us, for by faith we are the church in our time and place. We, by God's grace, are a part of God's family—a family united in Christ and sustained by the Holy Spirit.

Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:30am on Zoom for Ephesians.

Women's Bible study will continue with their study of the Gospel in Romans with the book *In View of God's Mercies* on **Tuesday, September 10 at 10:00** am in the Choir Room. If you are intrigued by Paul's personal letter to a group of new Christians in the Roman empire which helps them (and us) know how amazing and all-encompassing the gospel actual is – that it's powerful, planned, eternal and free – please join us! We would love to have you.

Upcoming Blood Drive dates are scheduled for **Oct 3rd** and **Nov. 7th**. We will need volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering email Pam Kunz at Kunzpd3@outlook.com. To sign up to donate blood go to redcrossblood.org and use code LOLC.

The choir is meeting for rehearsal every **Sunday at 9 am** in the choir room. You are all invited.

Do you want to be loved?

Would you like to be greeted with a hug every Sunday?

You have a chance now to sign up as a **Sunday school teacher** here at Lake Oconee and you will be loved on by our kids.

We are looking for two teachers for each Sunday. Sign up by Sunday for any Sunday that you are available.

Sunday school starts in September, every Sunday, at 10:00 am and runs to 10:20 am. All materials are provided. [See the sign up sheet on the blue table.](#)

Back to school support

It seems like summer just started, but before we know it, schools will be back in session. Service/Outreach ministry asks for your support of the Greene and Putnam County schools by providing these items:

- 24 count boxes of crayons
- Packs of #2 pencils
- Glue sticks
- Notebook paper

Look for the bin labeled Back-to-School Supplies in the church entry. Thank you for your support of the childer of Greene and Putnam counties.

Operation Christmas Child – 2024

This year our Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Ministry will look just like last year. We will have shoeboxes with instructions for you to **pack your own boxes**. This way you can personalize your shoeboxes and encourage family and friends to participate with you. Include your family, neighbors, pickleball or tennis team, craft group, or co-workers. Celebrate your birthday, anniversary, or other special event by packing a shoebox with your family or friends. Remember, school supplies go on sale in July! Drop off your filled shoebox gifts **throughout the year at the church before November 10**. Another option that you may find more convenient is to **build a shoebox online**. Shoebox gifts built online go to the ends of the earth to children in some of the hardest-to-reach places. Online boxes are carefully prepared and sent by OCC, abiding by strict customs regulations to safeguard partners who will deliver the gifts, as well as the boys and girls who receive them. The suggested donation is \$25 per shoebox. The link and instructions are available at:

<https://sampur.se/3OZCwKz>

Select “**BUILD A SHOEBOX ONLINE NOW**” and follow instructions. By using this link, we will be able to track our church’s progress toward our shoebox goal. You can also make a monetary contribution to the church, and we will build a shoebox for you (\$25/shoebox).

Our “faith goal” this year is **200 boxes**. Let us **pray and rejoice** as God works through us to reach children with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Lake Oconee Lutheran Dinner Club 2024-2025

Join in the fun of sharing a meal and fellowship with your LOLC family. Each dinner is made up of six people, comprised of three pairs.

A sign-up sheet and more information will be on the blue table in the church entryway. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, September 15th.

UPSCALE RESALE will be held here on September 28th from 10:00 – 1:00 pm. 100% of sales are donated to Greene & Putnam County food pantries including Bread of Life.

The Outreach Committee extends a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who has supported the sandwich ministry to Rock of Ages Lutheran Church in Stone Mountain. They are currently feeding 50 people six days a week. Each person receives 2 sandwiches a day. Your generous donation of **580 sandwiches** provided lunch for 6 days. Fortunately, they are also receiving sandwiches from 2 other churches and the neighborhood of another former member. The need is great and we thank you for your help.

Just a Reminder

Lake Oconee Lutheran is able to receive gifts by credit card/debit card now. You will find the terminal in the entryway on the shelving near the kitchen. Please be aware that there is a charge to the church for each gift received in this way. If you include your name on the form (screen) when it asks, the gift will show up on your church statement, but we are unable to do that if you do not input your name. You may also request a receipt sent to you if desired.

Volunteers needed for:

- ❖ Altar Care there is a signup sheet in the narthex on the front table.
- ❖ Sunday service camera operator. We will provide training on how to manage it. signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table, or you can call/email the church office.
- ❖ Ushers' signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table, or you can call/email the church office.
- ❖ Coffee Fellowship signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table.
- ❖ Little Free Pantry signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table.
- ❖ Scripture readers You can contact the office for Marsha to put you on the email list.
- ❖ Communion assistants you can contact the office for Marsha to put you on the email list.
- ❖ Sunday School teachers, 2 teachers per Sunday to rotate, sign-ups are on the blue table.

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.