



October 10, 2021

# LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Twentieth 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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Eatonton, GA 31024  
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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.*

*Elder of the Month: Kathie Kueven*

*Scripture reader: Robert Elkins*

*Coffee & Fellowship: Sandy Mathson & Ann Mara Lipacis*

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

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**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.**

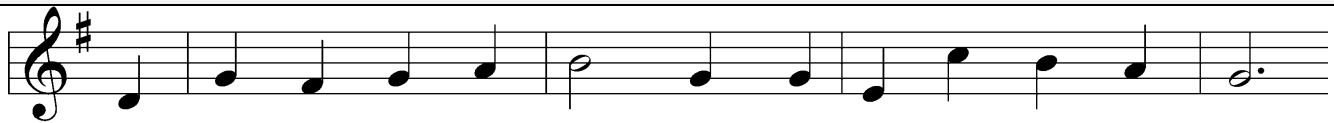
P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

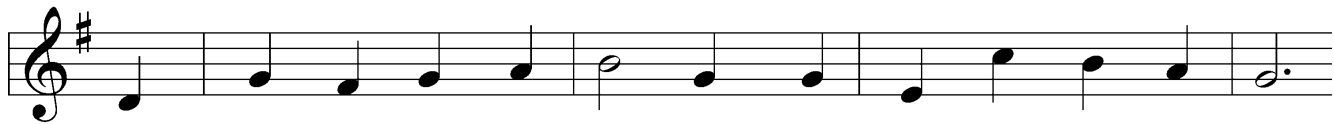
*Please be seated*

## Congregational Hymn #915

### “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”



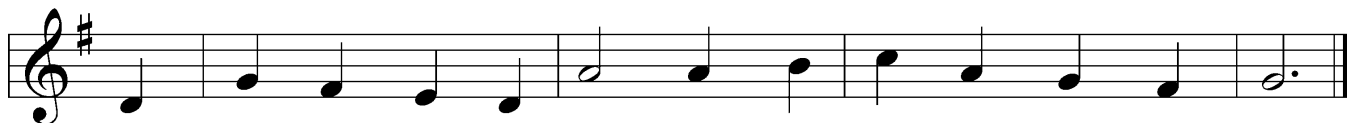
1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.  
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in  
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;  
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,  
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.  
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.  
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,  
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,  
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;  
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.  
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.  
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.  
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

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### Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, whose grace always precedes and follows us, help us to forsake all trust in earthly gain and to find in You our heavenly treasure; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **The First Lesson: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15**

R:<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD and live, lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and it devour, with none to quench it for Bethel, <sup>7</sup>O you who turn justice to wormwood and cast down righteousness to the earth! <sup>10</sup>They hate him who reproves in the gate, and they abhor him who speaks the truth. <sup>11</sup>Therefore because you trample on the poor and you exact taxes of grain from him, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not dwell in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. <sup>12</sup>For I know how many are your transgressions and how great are your sins— you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and turn aside the needy in the gate. <sup>13</sup>Therefore he who is prudent will keep silent in such a time, for it is an evil time. <sup>14</sup>Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, as you have said. <sup>15</sup>Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

## **C: Thanks be to God**

## **The Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 3:12-19**

R: <sup>12</sup>Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. <sup>13</sup>But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. <sup>14</sup>For we share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. <sup>15</sup>As it is said, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.” <sup>16</sup>For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? <sup>17</sup>And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? <sup>18</sup>And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? <sup>19</sup>So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

*Please Stand*

**Common Alleluia and Verse**

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 10:17-22**

R: The Holy Gospel according to Mark chapter 10

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

R: <sup>17</sup> As [Jesus] was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>18</sup>And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. <sup>19</sup>You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’” <sup>20</sup>And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.” <sup>21</sup>And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” <sup>22</sup>Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated*

## Sermon Hymn # 694

### "Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower"



1 Thee will I love, my strength, my tow - er; Thee will I  
2 Thee will I love, my life, my Sav - ior, Who art my  
3 I thank Thee, Je - sus, Sun from heav - en, Whose ra - diance  
4 O keep me watch - ful, then, and hum - ble; Per - mit me



love, my hope, my joy. Thee will I love with all my  
best and tru - est friend. Thee will I love and praise for -  
hath brought light to me; I thank Thee, who hast rich - ly  
nev - er - more to stray. Up - hold me when my feet would



pow - er, With ar - dor time shall ne'er de - stroy. Thee will I  
ev - er, For nev - er shall Thy kind - ness end. Thee will I  
giv - en All that could make me glad and free; I thank Thee  
stum - ble, And keep me on the nar - row way. Fill all my



love, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.  
love with all my heart— Thou my Re - deem - er art!  
that my soul is healed By what Thy lips re - vealed.  
na - ture with Thy light, O Ra - diance strong and bright!

5 Thee will I love, my crown of gladness;  
Thee will I love, my God and Lord,  
Amid the darkest depths of sadness,  
And not for hope of high reward,  
For Thine own sake, O Light divine,  
So long as life is mine.

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**The Message**

**Pastor Steve Hayden**

*Please Stand*

**Apostles' Creed**

**C: 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.**

## **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**

*\* Prayer of The Church*

*(After the pastor ends each petition with, "Lord in Your Mercy, the congregation responds with, "Hear our prayer.")*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **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.**

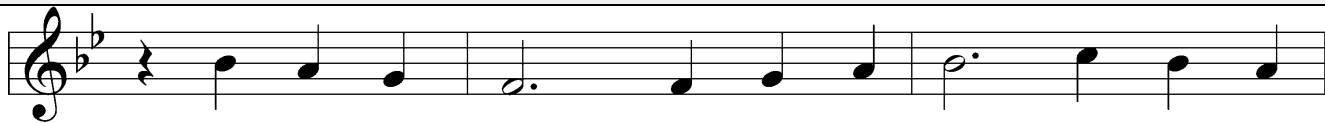
**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated*



# Congregational Hymn #701

## “Draw Us to Thee”



1 Draw us to Thee, For then shall we Walk in Thy  
2 Draw us to Thee, Lord, lov - ing - ly; Let us de -  
3 Draw us to Thee; O grant that we May walk the  
4 Draw us to Thee That al - so we Thy heav'n - ly  
5 Draw us to Thee Un - ceas - ing - ly, In - to Thy



steps for - ev - er And has - ten on Where Thou art  
part with glad - ness That we may be For - ev - er  
road to heav - en! Di - rect our way Lest we should  
bliss in - her - it And ev - er dwell Where sin and  
king - dom take us; Let us for - e'er Thy glo - ry



gone To be with Thee, dear Sav - ior.  
free From sor - row, grief, and sad - ness.  
stray And from Thy paths be driv - en.  
hell No more can vex our spir - it.  
share, Thy saints and joint heirs make us.

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## Announcements

### The Dismissal

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

**C: Thanks be to God!**

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### Post-service Music

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

- Oct 13 Roger Martinson
- Oct 13 Jackie Birtcher
- Oct 14 Ed Blosser

- Oct 14 Henry Ringer
- Oct 15 Margaret Pedersen

**and anniversaries**

- Oct 12 Jerry & Carol Campbell
- Oct 14 Richard & Kathryn Noble

Best wishes!

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Sunday	Council Meeting	After Worship
Tuesday	Women’s Bible Class	No Class
Wednesday	ZOOM Bible Class	10:30am
Saturday	Episcopal Church worship	5 pm
Sunday	Bible Class (In Person)	9 am
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 am

**Sunday Morning Bible Class** Some say that it is not really important what we believe, but that we do good for others. Others try to pull us in the opposite direction: it is not what we do that counts but only that we believe the right things. In five short chapters James sets the record straight. He offers pastoral encouragement (and even a little correction) to his people and to us. Since James is addressing those who already believe in Christ as Savior, he does not attempt to systematically outline the basics of Christian faith for them (we call that justification). Rather, his purpose is to encourage his readers to live the faith they profess to believe (we call this sanctification). James repeatedly points out that genuine faith in Christ will always show itself in the believer’s life through the fruits of faith—Christlike living and loving others. After spelling out the practical implications faith in Christ has for our lives, James will challenge us to put these into action. Join us on **Sunday mornings at 9 am** either in person at church or livestreamed on Facebook as we study **James, How Faith Works**.

**Wednesday Zoom Bible Class** When you hear the word angel, what image comes to mind? Clarence from the movie *It’s A Wonderful Life*? Tess from *Touched by an Angel*? Popular culture formerly portrayed angels as harp-carrying spirits lounging on comfortable white tufts of cloud or as pastel-colored feminine virtues or

chubby, winged infants. On the other hand, what comes to mind when you hear the words demon or devil? Hellboy from the comic book series or the movie? Various heinous creatures from The Lord of the Rings? Or when you think about angels and demons, do you think of those comical creatures sitting on someone's shoulders—an angel in a white gown and wings on one shoulder and a demon with a pitchfork and pointy tail sitting on the other? For many people, popular films, books, comic books, and other media are their only sources of information about angels and demons—if they believe in these creatures at all. These are inaccurate portrayals of angels and demons. In contrast, we will share the truth about angels and demons using God's errorless Word. What the Bible says about angels, demons, and other related topics is vitally important to Lutherans because what God says about these matters can be trusted. Join us on Wednesday morning Zoom Bible class at 10:30 for **Angels and Demons**

**Women's Bible Study** will be focusing on Elijah, Spiritual Stamina in Every Season by Melissa Spoelstra. In this six-week study grounded in 1 and 2 Kings, we will examine the life of the prophet Elijah, an ordinary man who did extraordinary things for God in the midst of the highs and lows of life. Learn some of the spiritual stamina secrets that helped him hold on and persevere in faith, including practical habits related to prayer, choices, soul care, surrender, mentoring and legacy. The Bible class meets **each Tuesday at 10:00 am** in the Choir Room. We would love it if you would join us! **No Women's Bible Class October 12 or 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Don't forget to Volunteer.** We are looking for volunteers to sign up for Coffee fellowship, Camera Operators, and Communion Ushers. Look for sign-up sheets in the entry on the blue table.

**Do you like kids & sharing about Jesus?!** If so, we need your help! Children's Sunday School class takes place from 10-10:20 am every Sunday! We need your help to make it a fun and safe time for the kids! If you are interested in volunteering to help with Children's Sunday School please sign up at the table in the entrance or email Pastor Steve at [revshayden@gmail.com](mailto:revshayden@gmail.com) .

**LOLC will be one of the regional drop off centers** for Operation Christmas Child this year. We would like you to think about volunteering and saving the dates for one or all of the following activities:

**November 13** - Help pack LOLC's 150 Christmas boxes. Times to be determined shortly.

**November 15 – November 22** - Be available to greet people from other churches as they drop off their donations at our church. You will pray over the boxes they donated, count, and record the boxes accurately, pack them in cartons and store them in our conference room. Times for volunteers will be determined shortly. We will be placing sign-up sheets in the narthex for all of these opportunities. Please prayerfully consider helping us as we provide much needed gifts to children in need across the globe. These gifts create opportunities for the children to hear about the love of Jesus Christ and have a personal relationship with Him.

**November 29 - 1:00 to 5:00 pm Volunteer** at the Atlanta Operation Christmas Child Processing Center. Atlanta is one of eight processing centers across the United States where tens of thousands of volunteers serve annually. Before the millions of shoebox gifts can make their way to the children in need, they need to be carefully inspected and prepared for international shipment. Consider being part of bringing great joy and the Gospel of Jesus Christ to millions of children around the world.

**Sandwich Ministry Stone Mountain, Georgia.** Six days per week Rock of Ages Lutheran Church in Stone Mountain serves bag lunches for up to 300 people. Last year they (and partners) provided almost 19,000 meals. Lake Oconee Lutheran Church will help them again in October. A sign up sheet will be available October 3<sup>rd</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup> asking each person who signs up to bring sandwiches to church on **October 17th**, and the sandwiches will be delivered to Rock of Ages following the church service. Each Sandwich should contain one slice of cheese and one slice of meat ( turkey, ham, Bologna) Please do not add any condiments to the bread due to the sandwiches are served up to 6 days. Each Sandwich should be packed in an individual Plastic bag and sealed, place individual bagged sandwiches in a larger bag and date larger bag. Please do not date the individual bags as they are sometimes frozen for future use.

**Sunday choir to resume.** We would like to gauge interest in resuming choir on Sunday mornings and will be placing a sign up sheet on the front table in the lobby for those who are interested. Practices will take place Sunday mornings during 9am Bible Class.

**Altar flowers** were donated in honor of Roger Martinson's Birthday

## **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.