



February 15, 2026

## LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

*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*

*Greeter: Ed Fritch*

*Scripture Reader: Jaye McCrea*

*Communion Assistant: Kathie Kueven*

*Usher: Don Menke*

*Coffee Fellowship: Jaye & Cindy McCrea*

*Sunday Counter(s): Terry Pedersen & Charlie Crouch*

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

**Instrumental Prelude**

**Dr. Lev Ryabinin**

**Choir Anthem**

**Dr. Youngmi Kim**

**Welcome**

**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 396

### "Arise and Shine in Splendor"



1 A - rise and shine in splen - dor; Let night to day sur -  
2 See earth in dark - ness ly - ing, The hea - then na - tions  
3 The world's re - mot - est rac - es, Up - on whose wea - ry  
4 Lift up your eyes in won - der— See, na - tions gath - er  
5 Your heart will leap for glad - ness When from the realms of



ren - der. Your light is draw - ing near. A - bove, the  
dy - ing In hope - less gloom and night. To you the  
fac - es The sun looks from the sky, Shall run with  
yon - der From sin to be set free. The world has  
sad - ness They come from near and far. Your eyes will



day is beam - ing, In match - less beau - ty  
Lord of heav - en— Your life, your hope— has  
zeal un - tir - ing, With joy Your light de -  
heard Your sto - ry; Her sons come to Your  
wake from slum - ber As peo - ple with - out



gleam - ing; The glo - ry of the Lord is here.  
giv - en Great glo - ry, hon - or, and de - light.  
sir - ing That breaks up - on them from on high.  
glo - ry; Her daugh - ters haste Your light to see.  
num - ber Re - joice to see the Morn - ing Star.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110019841  
Tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed

our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **The First Lesson: Exodus 24:8–18**

<sup>8</sup>And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, <sup>10</sup>and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. <sup>11</sup>And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

<sup>12</sup>The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup>So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.”

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

**R: This is the Word of the Lord**

**C: Thanks be to God**

## The Epistle: 2 Peter 1:16–21

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” <sup>18</sup>we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup>And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, <sup>20</sup>knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. <sup>21</sup>For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God**

## The Alleluia Verse



The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in G major (one sharp) and the bottom staff is in C major. The lyrics are as follows:

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: Matthew 17:1–9

R: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew Chapter 17

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

<sup>1</sup>After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John

his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. <sup>3</sup>And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>5</sup>He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." <sup>8</sup>And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

<sup>9</sup>And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

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

## Sermon Hymn #413

### "O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair"

1 O won - drous type! O vi - sion fair  
2 With Mo - ses and E - li - jah nigh  
3 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray  
4 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high  
△ 5 O Fa - ther, with the e - ter - nal Son

Of glo - ry that the Church may share,  
The in - car - nate Lord holds con - verse high;  
Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day  
By this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,  
And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er one,

Which Christ up - on moun - tain shows,  
And from the cloud Ho - ly One  
What glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove  
For which in joy ful strains we raise  
We pray Thee, bring - us by Thy grace

Where bright er than the sun He glows!  
Bears rec - ord to the on - ly Son.  
Who joy in God with per - fect love.  
The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.  
To see Thy glo - ry face to face.

Text and tune: Public domain

**The Message**

**Pastor Steven Hayden**

**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.**

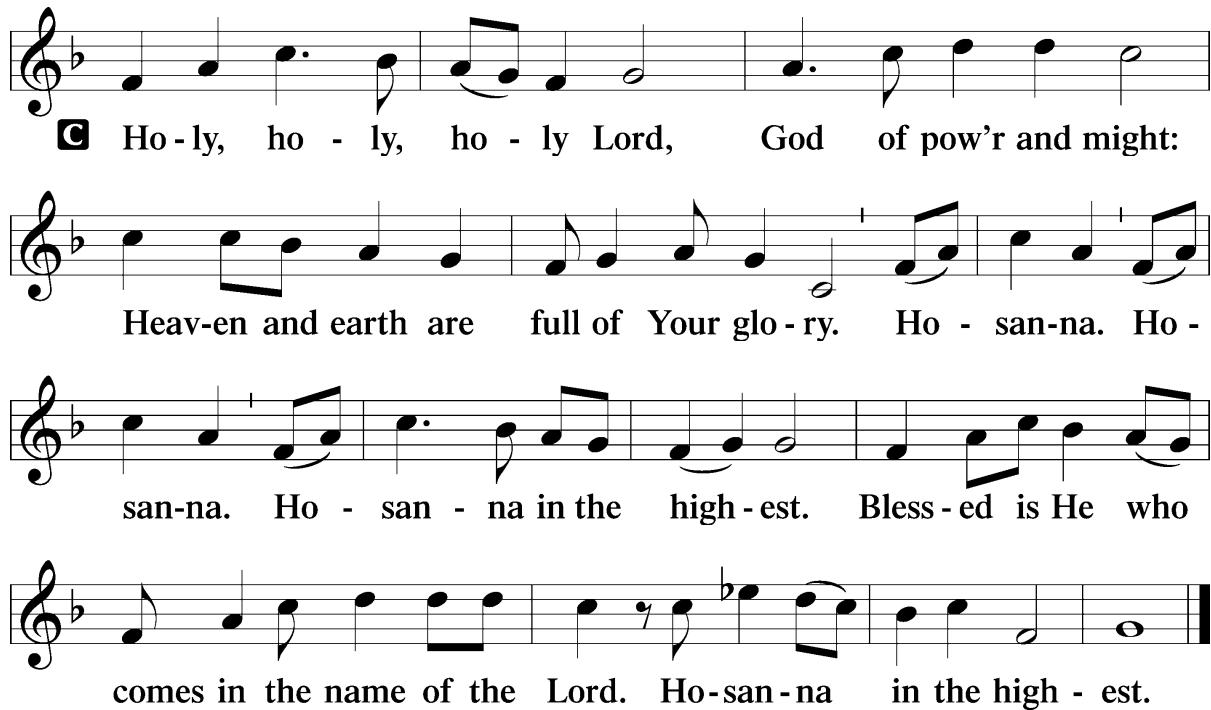
**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**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



C 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.

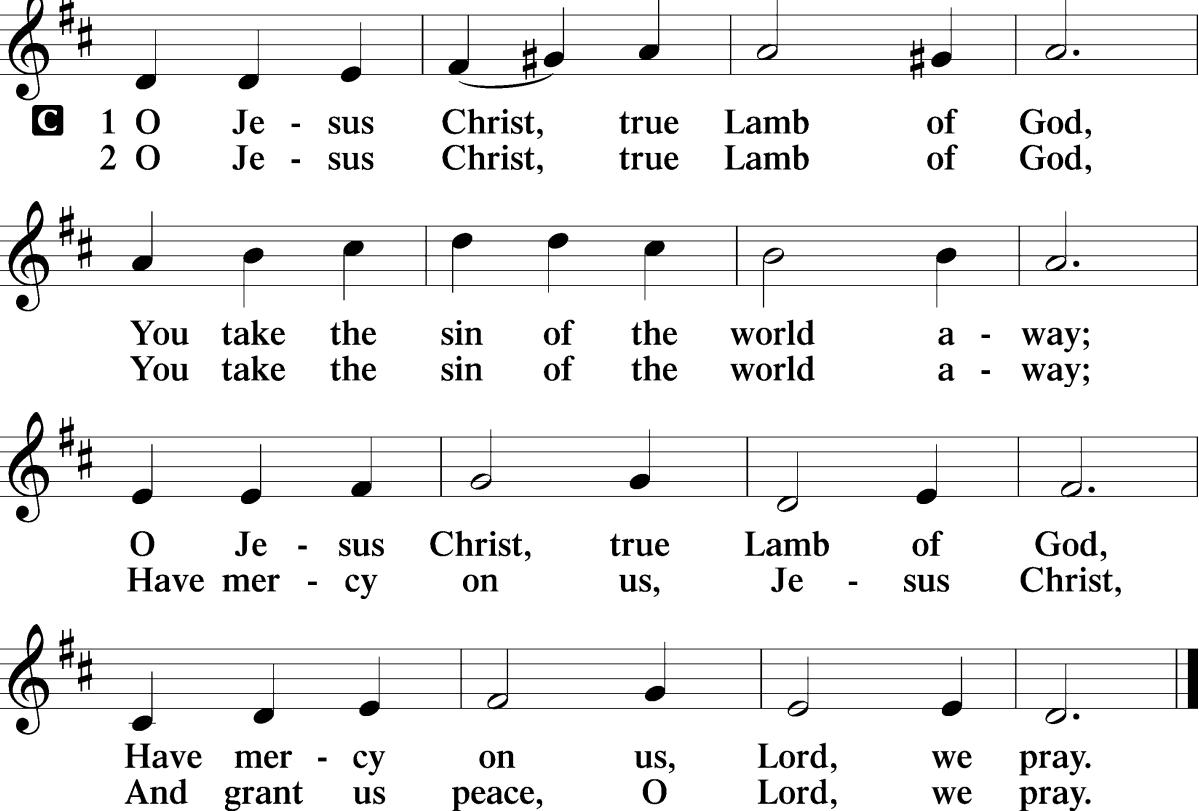
C: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

### Pax Domini

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

C: **Amen.**

### Agnus Dei



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (two sharps) and common time. The lyrics are as follows:

**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 # 414

### “ ‘Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here”



1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy  
2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy  
3 Ful - fill - er of the past And  
4 Be - fore we taste of death, We  
5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet



glo - ry fills the night; Thy face and gar - ments,  
beau - ty to be - hold Where Mo - ses and E -  
hope of things to be, We hail Thy bod - y  
see Thy king - dom come; We long to hold the  
we may not re - main; But since Thou bidst us



like the sun, Shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
li - jah stand, Thy mes - sen - gers of old.  
glo - ri - fied And our re - demp - tion see.  
vi - sion bright And make this hill our home.  
leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

Text and tune: Public domain

## 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 #409

### “Hail, O Source of Every Blessing”

1 Hail, O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Fa - ther of our  
2 Once far off but now in - vit - ed, We ap - proach Your  
3 Hail, O all - in - vit - ing Sav - ior! Gen - tiles now their

hu - man race! Gen - tiles now, Your grace pos - sess - ing, In Your  
sa - cred throne, In Your cov - e - nant u - nit - ed, Rec - on -  
of - f'rings bring, In Your tem - ples seek Your fa - vor, Je - sus

courts ob - tain a place. Grate - ful now, we fall be - fore You,  
ciled, re - deemed, made one. Now re - vealed to east - ern sa - ges,  
Christ, our Lord and King. May we, bod - y, soul, and spir - it,

In Your Church re - joice to live, See Your glo - ry  
See the Star of Mer - cy shine, Mys - t'ry hid in  
Live de - vot - ed to Your praise, Glo - rious realms of

and a - dore You, Thank - ful for the grace You give.  
for - mer a - ges, Mys - t'ry great of love di - vine.  
bliss in - her - it, Grate - ful an - thems ev - er raise.

Text and tune: Public domain

## 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 this week

**Birthdays:**

- 02/16 Connie Saner
- 02/20 Margie Heimer

**Anniversaries:**

None this week

*Best wishes!*

### **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Tuesday	Women's Bible Class	10 am
Wednesday	Zoom Bible Class	Cancelled
Wednesday	Lent Supper	6 pm
Wednesday	Lent Service	7 pm
Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch	Noon
Sunday	Choir	9 am
Sunday	Adult Bible Class	9 am
Sunday	Worship	10:30 am
Sunday	Elder's Meeting	After Worship

### **Sunday Morning Bible**

The study of the Old Testament is nothing less than an exploration into the thoughts and desires of God for ordinary people like you and me. It takes us from this hardened and selfish world into the promise of a world where God's peace, justice, and mercy will be complete.

We can view the world as meaningless and without hope. But Jesus Christ came to rescue the world from its quagmire, and His deliverance continues to change our lives.

**Join us every Sunday morning at 9am in person in the church sanctuary or live-streamed on Facebook and our website, for “Exploring God’s Old Testament”.**

### **Wednesday morning Zoom class**

Martin Luther once identified three things that make a good theologian: prayer for the Holy Spirit to understand God’s Word; meditation on this Word; and, as the “touchstone,” enduring afflictions; afflictions not *even though* we are Christians, but afflictions *because* we are Christians.

Luther noticed a discrepancy in his day: On the one hand, Scripture is filled with passages about the necessary suffering of the saints in the world as they follow their crucified Lord in church, home, work, and state. On the other hand, the teaching and practice of many seemed to be about avoiding this God-sent cross at all costs.

Today being “religious” is widely seen as a path to freedom from pain and suffering. Scripture holds out a different vision, where we are shaped by the cross of Christ.

**Wednesday Zoom Bible Study will resume on 2/25/26.**

### **Women’s Bible Study**

**The Women’s Bible Study** is meeting in the Council or meeting room around the big table with informal sessions and open discussion about the Bible and its impact on our everyday lives.

The Women’s Bible group has launched a study of the book of Proverbs. *The Way of Wisdom* considers principles on everyday topics like

words, work, friendship, marriage, parenting, neighborliness, money management, leadership influence, and more. We will discover the wisdom of Proverbs as an invitation to steadily walk God's way in God's world. Please plan on joining us on Tuesdays at 10:00 am in the church conference room for the study and the wonderful discussions we always have about how what we learn impacts our lives.

**Please join The Women's Bible Study on Tuesdays at 10:00 am in the Council Room.**



**What do you remember about the church your family attended while you were a child?** Perhaps you remember the look of the sanctuary. Perhaps you remember a certain pastor. Most likely when you think back you can remember one of your Sunday school teachers. After all, they were the ones who truly showed that they cared about you, and that God cared about you.

**We are looking for Children's Sunday school** teachers here at Lake Oconee to show our kids that Jesus cares about them. We would like 2 teachers for each Sunday. If you are willing to demonstrate God's love to the kids of our church, please find the signup sheet on the blue table in the entry way. Bible school will be held Sunday mornings from 9:00 - 10am.

### **Lent Meals & Midweek Services**

Our Lenten Wednesdays begin on Ash Wednesday, February 18, and continue each week through March 25.

- February 18, 2026 – Ash Wednesday: Soup at 6 pm, Service at 7 pm
- February 25, 2026: Soup at noon, Service at 1 pm

- March 4, 2026: Soup at 6 pm, Service at 7 pm
- March 11, 2026: Soup at noon, Service at 1 pm
- March 18, 2026: Soup at 6 pm, Service at 7 pm
- March 25, 2026: Soup at noon, Service at 1 pm

If you'd like to contribute soup, bread, or dessert, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the blue table in the narthex. Your help makes these meals a warm and welcoming time of fellowship.



**Upcoming Blood Drive dates are scheduled for March 5 and April 9.**

We will need volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering email Pam Kunz at [Kunzpd3@outlook.com](mailto:Kunzpd3@outlook.com). To sign up to donate blood go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and use code LOLC.



**Lake Oconee Lutheran Church is thankful** for all who donate flowers for our Sunday morning worship. If you would like to give flowers, please remember the following points:

\*If you would like the flowers to be listed in the bulletin, please include all the information that you want on the signup sheet: flowers given in memory of..., flowers given in honor of...etc. The signup sheet is located on the blue table in the entry.

\*We would ask that you specifically request or include no lilies in the arrangements. We have a church member who is deathly allergic to lilies and cannot remain in the church if they are present.

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.

### **25th Anniversary Celebration Lunch**

Lake Oconee Lutheran Church will celebrate its 25th Anniversary with a special luncheon on **Saturday, February 21, 2026, at 12:00 PM**. The meal will be catered.

#### **Please RSVP:**

- Sign up on the blue table in the entryway
- Email the church office at [officelolc@gmail.com](mailto:officelolc@gmail.com)
- Call the church office at 706-485-4600

When signing up, please provide the number of people in your party so we can plan accordingly. Let's join together in gratitude and fellowship as we celebrate 25 years of blessings and service.



### Benefits of Singing

- 🎵 It makes you happier
- 🎵 It reduces stress, anxiety and depression
- 🎵 It brings people together
- 🎵 It exercises your lungs
- 🎵 It improves your posture
- 🎵 It shares the love of Jesus

Please come and join our choir as we make “a joyful noise unto the Lord!” **The choir meets** for rehearsal every **Sunday at 9 am** in the choir room.

### Volunteers Needed!

We need people to sign up to help! We need help in the Little Free Pantry, Coffee fellowship, greeters, ushers and more.

You can sign up for the following Sunday Worship Volunteer Roles online through Sign-up Genius or on the clipboard on the blue table:

- Greeter
- Scripture Reader
- Communion Assistant

- Communion Usher
- Coffee Fellowship

You can call or email Cheri in the Church Office to have her send a link to the Sign-Up Genius website or to sign up for you.

Additional volunteer Roles include:

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Little Free Pantry signup sheets are in the narthex on the front table.
- ❖ **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.