

February 9, 2020

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Story – Chapter 19

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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

Pastor:..... Steven Hayden
 Instrumentalist:.....Lev Ryabinin
 Church Secretary:..... Deb Krahling
 Church Office:..... 706-485-4600
 Pastor’s Cell:..... 515-360-5081
 Pastor’s email:.....revshayden@gmail.com
 1089 Lake Oconee ParkwayEatonton, GA 31024
lolcsec@plantationcable.net.....www.lolc.info

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

Ushers: Connie Piepenbrink & Davis Mortensen

Greeters: Terry & Margaret Pedersen

Altar Care: Kathy Stallings & Kathy Lockwood

*Kayleen Ringer & Tonda Wiker wish to invite you for refreshments
after the worship service*

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

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me



1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me O - ver life's
2 As a moth - er stills her child, Thou canst hush
3 When at last I near the shore And the fear -



tem - pes - tuous sea; Un - known waves be - fore me roll,
the o - cean wild; Bois - t'rous waves o - bey Thy will
ful break - ers roar Twixt me and the peace - ful rest,



Hid - ing rock and treach - 'rous shoal. Chart and com -
When Thou say'st to them, "Be still!" Won - drous Sov -
Then, while lean - ing on Thy breast, May I hear



pass come from Thee. Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
'reign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
Thee say to me, "Fear not, I will pi - lot thee."

Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson: Haggai 1:2-9

Reader: Laura Ringer

R: ² “Thus says the LORD of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the LORD.” ³ Then the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, ⁴ “Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins? ⁵ Now, therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. ⁶ You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes. ⁷ “Thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. ⁸ Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the LORD. ⁹ You looked for much, and behold, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? Declares the LORD of hosts. Because of my house that lies in ruins, while each of you busies himself with his own house.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 3:21-28

Reader: Laura Ringer

R: ²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Please Stand

Common Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 7:24-29

Reader: Laura Ringer

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventh chapter

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁴ "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶ And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

²⁸ And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, ²⁹ for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Sermon Hymn (To sing harmony, turn to # 571 vs. 1-4 in the Lutheran Service Book)

God Loved the World So That He Gave

1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

Public domain

The Message

“There Is No Distinction”

Rev. Dr. David Kruger

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.**

Please be seated

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.*

Please stand as the offering is brought to the altar.

Create in Me

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

The first system of musical notation for 'Create in Me' consists of a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics, and the bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are 'Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -'.

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

The second system of musical notation continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are 'new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -'.

way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

The third system of musical notation continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are 'way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it'.

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -

The fourth system of musical notation continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are 'from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -'.

tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

The fifth and final system of musical notation concludes the piece. The lyrics are 'tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.' The system ends with a double bar line.

Our Offering Pledge

C: We pause in our worship, to rededicate ourselves, our time, talents, and treasure, to the service of Christ our Savior. We remember also our responsibility of friendliness to and concern for our fellow-worshippers, for those who are absent, and for our unchurched friends and neighbors. May the Holy Spirit help us to witness for Christ, in whatever way He directs us during the coming days.

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

My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.

Public domain

Announcements Birthdays & Anniversaries

The Dismissal

P: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

+

Post-service Music

+

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

- Tuesday, February 11th – Charlie Crouch
- Wednesday, February 12th – Mark Ketchie
- Thursday, February 13th – Jerry Pailer

and anniversaries

- Thursday, February 13th – Lance & Jerry Pailer
- Best wishes!

NEW LOLC WEBSITE: Our new website, www.lakeoconeelutheran.org, is up and running. We will send a Constant Contact (CC) e-message on Monday with all the pertinent details.

If you haven't already subscribed to LOLC's CC, please contact Deb in the church office or text LAKEOCONEE to 22828



**NATIONAL
LUTHERAN
CHOIR**

The award-winning **National Lutheran Choir**, based in Minneapolis, will be touring the Southeastern U.S. with concerts in North Carolina and Atlanta. The 60-voice choir, led by Artistic Director, **David Cherwien**, will perform a wide-ranging program celebrating the depth and breadth of the Lutheran choral tradition, featuring works by Felix

Mendelssohn, Ola Gjeilo and Ralph Vaughan Williams, set alongside new arrangements of familiar tunes, including Kenneth Dake's "Sweet Hour of Prayer".

National Lutheran Choir on tour in Atlanta Sunday, February 23, 2020 – 4pm

Tickets at NLCA.com/tickets

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer 731 Peachtree St NE Atlanta, GA 30308

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wednesday	"MIRACLES of Jesus" Bible class	CANCELLED
Saturday	ECR Bible Study	3:30 p.m.
	ECR Service	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	Adult Bible Class	9:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	9:00 a.m.
	Worship Service	10:30 a.m.
	Council Meeting	after worship



MIRACLES BIBLE CLASS: "It's a miracle!" Many don't know what miracles really are or question whether they exist. Miracles are an important part of Jesus' ministry, and we can benefit from studying them. But what are they? Throughout the Gospels, we see Jesus doing many different miracles. These miracles reveal our Savior to us. We see Him as God in human flesh who cares for His people in all of their needs. His miracles demonstrate His love.

Join us Wednesday mornings at 10:30am in Bible class as we take a closer look at the Miracles of Jesus. **[CANCELLED Wednesday February 12th]**



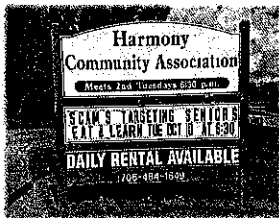
Pastor Steve remains on vacation with Linda through Tuesday, February 11th. If you are in need of counselling, please contact your Elder.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE will be held on Wednesday February 26th at 7:00 p.m. (no supper).



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & SERVICE will be held each Wednesday starting the week on **March 4th**.

The Soup Supper begins at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Lenten Service at 7:00 p.m. Signup sheets are on the sanctuary back wall.



HARMONY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION LAND On Sunday, January 26, 2020 Lake Oconee Lutheran Church, during a congregational meeting, voted to purchase the Harmony Community Association land and building that borders GA 44 and our east parking lot for \$349,000. We will be applying for a

mortgage for the purchase. Lake Oconee Lutheran is planning on using the facility as a base for community outreach, to further our mission of being a "Family of Spirit filled Servants". We believe that this additional land will not just increase our physical footprint in terms of lot size, but that God will use it to increase His spiritual presence and footprint on our community. If you desire and are able to make an "over and above" contribution toward this purchase and mission, please write out a check and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church to the attention of Financial Secretary. On the memo line please write Harmony land purchase. Any special gifts received will go to decreasing our mortgage. May God bless us as we follow Him in serving those around us.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY is celebrated in different way at Putnam Christian Outreach. They already have plenty of soup, but they'd love some hearty sides to go with the soup. Let's team up and kick off February with donations of biscuit mix, cornbread mix and crackers. Please place them in the baskets with all other PCO donations.



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.



Chapter 19

The Return Home

Haggai 1:7-11, 13-15

Please use this space to take notes during the message today.

Then Haggai, the LORD's messenger, gave this message of the LORD to the people: "I am with you," declares the LORD...They came and began to work on the house of the LORD Almighty, their God on the twenty fourth day of the sixth month.

Haggai 1:13, 14b-15

Adult and teen small group discussion points

1. Have you ever been away from home for a long time? When you returned, what was it like? How did you feel about coming home?
2. How did the LORD fulfill His word spoken by Jeremiah? Look up Jer. 25:12 and 29:10. What happened to the king of Babylon? (See p. 264 for further insight.)
3. Look up Isa. 44:28 - 45:1. Isaiah speaks of Cyrus about 400 years before he makes his edict to rebuild the temple? What does this teach you about God?
4. Why do you think many of the exiles chose to stay in Babylon instead of returning home to the Promised Land? How do you suppose God viewed that choice?
5. When the temple was re-established, some were overjoyed, and some were heart-broken. Many churches go through periods of growth, reconstruction and challenge. How should we respond when mixed feelings pull us in opposite directions?
6. Eventually the people got sidetracked from rebuilding God's temple. It was sixteen years before he finally got them back on track (Haggai 1; "The Story," pp. 266-267). What slowed down their work and what got them up and moving again?
7. What are some of the consequences we face when we do our own thing and forget to follow God's plan for our lives?
8. Zechariah's message claimed that people from other nations would be attracted to the religion and the God of the Jews. (p. 269-270). What was to be the basis for this attraction? In what ways should our church be attractive to outsiders? In what ways should the body of Christ be attractive to outsiders?
9. The end of this chapter of "The Story" offers a glimpse of the political wrangling that took place behind the scenes. The governor of the region wanted the people to stop building the temple and accused them of not having permission to build it. After communication with the king of Babylon, everything changed (Ezra 5-6; "The Story," pp. 270-273). How did God turn everything upside down and provide for the temple? How do you see the upper story breaking into the lower story again?
10. With Zechariah's encouragement, the people completed the task God gave them. Who in your group needs encouragement? Make a list of specific needs to pray for, and check on them next week.

Close in prayer.

Family's with kids discussion points

Please use these discussion questions with your children.

Key verse: *They will be my people. I will be their faithful God. I will keep my promises to them.—Zechariah 8:8*

1. Cyrus, the king of Persia, encouraged God's people to go back to Jerusalem and rebuild the Lord's temple. About 50,000 people went back to start the project. When the foundation was laid, some of God's people cried and others shouted with joy. Talk about a time when you cried tears of joy. Can you remember a time that you shouted with joy?
2. God's people pitched in their gold and silver to make God's temple magnificent. Talk about a time when you worked together with friends to accomplish a big task. Did it work better when everyone shared?
3. How does it make you feel when you give something of value to another person?
4. People in the surrounding areas didn't want the temple rebuilt. They tried to stop the building. Have you ever known God wanted you to do something and had others stand in your way? What did you do? What was the end result?
5. In the ultimate backfire, governors in nearby areas went to King Darius to see if King Cyrus had truly decreed that God's people could rebuild the temple. They hoped Darius would stop the building. Instead he found Cyrus' decree and made these governors give money and supplies to build the temple. Obviously, God's plan trumped the governors'. How do you think the governors felt? Have you ever had a plan backfire?
6. What does this story teach about God's plans?

Prayer together: Lord, we thank you for our beautiful church, the people who built it, and those who work together to take care of it. We also thank you for the larger church, the body of believers, that they keep your purposes in front of you. Fill us with your Spirit for Jesus' sake, so that we can be about your business and put you first in our lives. We ask it in his name. Amen.

Personal weekly Bible readings to go deeper into Scripture.

Memory Verse: *Esther 4:14b*

Day 1 – Chapter 20 of “The Story”

Day 2 – Esther 1-2

Day 3 – Esther 3-5

Day 4 – Esther 6-7

Day 5 – Esther 8-10

Questions to consider while reading the Bible:

Is there an example to follow?

Is there a sin to avoid?

Is there a promise to rely on?

Is there a command to obey?

Is there a challenge in which to respond?



God Writes His Word on our Lives, Building Us into a Family Engaged in Spirit-filled Service

Lake Oconee Lutheran Church
Eatonton, GA