

July 26, 2020

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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



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Aids for hearing, children's activity bulletins, and large print bulletins are
available from the ushers



WE OFFER NURSERY & CHILDCARE

*If you need childcare, please see one of the ushers
and we will happily accommodate you.*

Elder of the Month: Joe Peeples

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

Instrumental Prelude

Lev Ryabinin

Welcome

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 #752 vs. 1, 2, 4

Be Still, My Soul



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; Bear pa - tient-
2 Be still, my soul; your God will un - der - take To guide the
4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on When we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to or - der
fu - ture as He has the past. Your hope, your con - fi - dence let
be for - ev - er with the Lord, When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and



and pro - vide; In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re -
noth - ing shake; All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at
fear are gone, Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re -



main. Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly Friend
last. Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
stored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

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Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; 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: Deuteronomy 7:6-9

R: ⁶“For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷ It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸ but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹ Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations,

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 8:28-39

R: ²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to

come, nor powers,³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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: Matthew 13:44-52

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸ When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Sermon Hymn #644 vs. 1-2, 4-5

The Church's One Foundation



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

**5 Yet she on earth has union
With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us,
May see You face to face.**

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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.

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. The Offering will be collected at the door as you exit.

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 #803

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais - ing Thee, their sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, Flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di - vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy - ful, we by grace are Thine!

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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:

- Today, July 26th – Brant Moore
- Wednesday, July 29th –Robin Peeples

and anniversaries

- Friday, July 31st – Ed & Janie Fritch

Best wishes!

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wednesday	Bible Class via ZOOM	10:30 a.m.
Sunday	Worship Service	10:30 a.m.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Want to get connected with a group of ladies and find out more about how the Lord is present in hardships and through our doubts? James, Jesus' own brother, started out as a skeptic. In James: Mercy Triumphs, by Beth Moore, we will see how one glimpse of the resurrected Savior turned an unbeliever into a disciple. All women are invited to do the study starting August 18th at 10 am. Bible study will take place on Zoom and is open to anyone! To reserve a Bible study book, email Katherine at dcekatherine@gmail.com that you would like to join. A freewill offering can be given to Katherine to cover the cost of the Bible study book.

WORSHIP UPDATE

Earlier this year, Lake Oconee Lutheran had been pre-recording our worship service and then posting it online. Now we have moved to a new way of sharing our service. We are now live-streaming our worship. This means worship services will be broadcast **live** as they happen on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am on Facebook. Join us as we all come together in worship. If you are unable to be online at 10:30 am, do not worry. The recorded service will remain available on-line for you to watch later as well. You may find it on the [@lakeoconeelutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/lakeoconeelutheranchurch) page on Facebook. The service will also be posted on the church website (www.lakeoconeelutheran.org) by Monday or Tuesday of each week. Worshiping God with your brothers and sisters in Christ; now there is more than one way to do that. God's blessings to each of you!



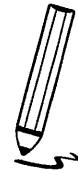
Back to School Support --- August

Supplies for Students - We will be taking monetary donations and material donations to purchase supplies for over *900 Elementary students* at the Putnam and Greene County elementary schools.



Items to Bring:

- 24 packs of Crayola Crayons
- Boxes of #2 Pencils
- Plastic folders with prongs



Donations can be placed in the grey and green bins in the entryway and the breezeway.

Teacher Support Presents- We recognize that the start of school is a high stress time for teachers as well! As teachers will be accommodating many types of learning this year, we want to let them know that we are supporting and praying for them. Our goal is to collect donations to give each of the *140 public Elementary teachers* in Putnam County and Greene County a back to school care kit. This will include a note, snacks and other fun supplies to encourage the teachers.

We will take a collection of cash gifts at both doors every Sunday in August for the purchase of additional school supplies and support presents.

Contact Katherine for more info dcekatherine@gmail.com



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.