



January 26, 2020

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Story – Chapter 17

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

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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: Barney Ross

Ushers: Keith Mulford & Ray Hilpipre

Greeters: Barbara Hardesty & Roger Martinson

Altar Care: Peggy Uehlin & Marcia Elkins

*Eileen Oberdeck & Susan Krause wish to invite you for coffee
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

Spread the Reign of God the Lord



1 Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spo - ken, writ - ten, might - y Word;
2 Tell how God the Fa - ther's will Made the world, up - holds it still,
3 Tell of our Re - deem - er's grace, Who, to save our hu - man race
4 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n,



Ev - 'ry - where His crea - tures call To His heav'n - ly ban - quet hall.
How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.
And to pay re - bel - lion's price, Gave Him - self as sac - ri - fice.
Strong and ho - ly, just and true, Work - ing both to will and do.

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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, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Reader: Susan Larson

R: **37** The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ² And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³ And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the

LORD.” ⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹ Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.’ ¹² Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The Epistle Lesson: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Reader: Susan Larson

R: ³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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: John 11:17-27

Reader: Susan Larson

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁷ Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰ So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Salvation unto Us Has Come



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God's free grace and fa - vor;
2 What God did in His Law de - mand And none to Him could ren - der
3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream That God His Law had giv - en



Good works can - not a - vert our doom, They help and save us nev - er.
Caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand For man, the vile of - fend - er.
That sin - ners could them - selves re - deem And by their works gain heav - en.



Faith looks to Je - sus Christ a - lone, Who did for all the
Our flesh has not those pure de - sires The spir - it of the
The Law is but a mir - ror bright To bring the in - bred



world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.
Law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.
sin to light That lurks with - in our na - ture.

6 Since Christ has full atonement made
And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad
And build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,
Your death is now my life indeed,
For You have paid my ransom.

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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.

Instrumental Anthem:

Lev Ryabinin

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 line of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The treble staff has a common time signature. 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 line of musical notation continues the melody. 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

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.

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.

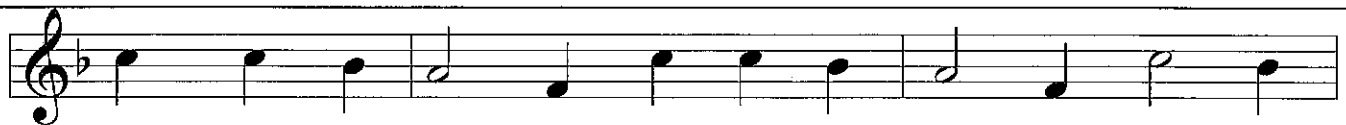
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

Congregational Hymn (To sing harmony, turn to # 818 in the Lutheran Service Book)

In Thee Is Gladness



1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,
2 Since He is ours, _____ We fear no pow - ers, Not of



sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of
earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -



heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou
tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the



wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -
sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -



cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
 joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing
 glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him



To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
 And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

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Announcements Birthdays & Anniversaries

The Dismissal

P: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

+

Post-service Music

+

A SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING will be held today following the worship service to approve the Harmony Community Building purchase.

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

- Wednesday, January 29th – Walter Krause
- Thursday, January 30th – Dick Schneider & Margaret Ringer
- Friday, January 31st – Greg Hardesty

and anniversaries - None to report for this week

Best wishes!



are given in celebration of Walter Krause's birthday

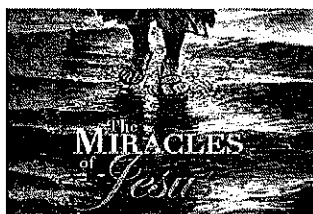
2019 DONATION STATEMENTS are in your hanging family folder in the narthex.

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 the next month with donations of biscuit mix, cornbread mix and crackers. Please place them in the baskets with all other PCO donations.



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Wednesday	"MIRACLES of Jesus"	10:30 a.m.
Sunday	Adult Bible Class	9:00 a.m.
	Choir Practice	9:00 a.m.
	Worship Service	10:30 a.m.



MIRACLES BIBLE CLASS: "It's a miracle!" These words mean many things to different people. Some use them to describe any surprising or unexpected event. Some limit these words to events that seem humanly impossible. 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. .

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 17

The Kingdoms' Fall

2 Kings 24:8-14

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

He carried all Jerusalem into exile: all the officers and fighting men, and all the skilled workers and artisans—a total of ten thousand. Only the poorest people of the land were left. 2 Kings 24:14

Adult and teen small group discussion points

1. What is the most memorable destruction or disaster that you have seen firsthand?
2. Who is most culpable for the sins of Judah—the people or their king? How can believers today avoid being led astray?
3. For hundreds of years God waited patiently, warned his people, and gave them chance after chance. Why was God so patient with the people of Israel when they were so rebellious and sinful? How have you experienced God's great patience in your life?
4. In the prophet Ezekiel's amazing and powerful vision from God (Ezekiel 1, 2, 6; "The Story," pp. 235-237), what do we learn about the following: The condition of the people's hearts (the nation of Judah), the reason for the coming judgment; what lies ahead for Judah and Jerusalem?
5. During the exile, God gave Ezekiel the mission of sharing his Word with the Jews living in a foreign land. How does the Christian mission today resemble this situation?
6. Once Jerusalem had fallen and the Babylonians had utterly destroyed the nation of Judah, Jeremiah recorded what he saw and felt (Lamentations 1-5; "The Story," pp. 243-245). What did he write that seemed to have a sense of hope, like God's plan could still be accomplished?
7. After the fall of Jerusalem, Jeremiah grieved for his beloved city (p. 201-203). What did Jeremiah believe about the upper story of God? What specifically can we apply to our own lives from Jeremiah's lament and praise?
8. When God called Jeremiah to serve him, he assured him that his plan had been in place since Jeremiah was in his mother's womb. In the New Testament we learn that God has plan for each of us who follow him. How has God gifted and called you to serve him and how are you following this call? How can your group members pray for you and cheer you on as you seek to follow God with greater faithfulness and passion?
9. Respond to this statement: "In God's employment contract he does not ask us to be successful (by the world's standards) but faithful. Success is based on faithfulness to God...not the results!" What is one way you can be more faithful to God in the coming weeks? How can your group members encourage you in this effort?

Close in prayer.

Family's with kids discussion points

Please use these discussion questions with your children.

Key verse: *I say to myself, "The Lord is everything I will ever need. So I will put my hope in him."—Lamentations 3:24*

1. Have you ever done something that you were told not to? What happened?
2. God told the people in Judah and Israel many times to not worship idols. He sent prophets who warned them about what would happen. So, the people turned from their wicked ways and worshiped God, right? Wrong! What did the people really do?
3. Do you like it when your parents warn you about your behavior?
4. Do you usually change your behavior before you get in trouble?
5. God's people got in big trouble. Do you think that was fair?

6. We've all heard the saying, "Like father, like son." What are some ways that you're like your parents? (Parents, share about similarities with their parents. Be sure to talk about some positive attributes and some negative.)
7. In this chapter of "The Story," it is like the kings tried to be the opposite of their parents. It was "like father, not like son." It was good king, bad king, good king. . . . Why do you think that happened?
8. Are there any things you're doing to be set apart from your parents?
9. Why do some people work hard at not following the positive character qualities of their parents?
10. How can you work to embrace the good and reject the bad from the role models in your life?

Pray together: Dear God, thank you so much for sending Jesus as our Savior. Even though we continue to mess things up, you still love us with an amazing love. Help us as we struggle with sin. Forgive us when we give in to temptation, and remind us that your love never fades. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Personal weekly Bible readings to go deeper into Scripture.

Memory Verse: *Daniel 3:17-18*

Day 1 – Chapter 18 of "The Story"

Day 2 – Daniel 1-3

Day 3 – Daniel 6

Day 4 – Jeremiah 29

Day 5 – Jeremiah 30-31

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