



July 23, 2017

## LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Our vision is to be an expanding community of faith, growing in the Holy Spirit, and practicing before the world a Christ-centered life.

Missionaries:	All the people of God
Music Director:	Art Hargrove
Organist:	Dave Heimer
Pianist:	Sandy Mathson
Church Secretary:	Deb Krahling
Church Office:	706-485-4600
Music Director's Cell:	706-473-1290
1089 Lake Oconee Parkway	Eatonton, GA 31024
lolcsec@plantationcable.net	<a href="http://www.lolc.info">www.lolc.info</a>

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.*

*Ushers: Tom Mathson & Fred Jorgensen*

*Greeters: Janie & Ed Fritch*

*Altar Care: Shirley Mai & Linda Jorgensen*

*Connie Piepenbrink & Virginia Daley invite you for coffee after the worship service*

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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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**Prelude: I Love You Lord, Laurie Kline**

**Welcome: Birthdays, Anniversaries, Welcome guests.**

*Please Stand*

**The Peace**

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

**C: And also with you.**

*(You are invited to wish those around you God's peace. Please remain standing for the invocation.)*

**Invocation**

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**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** (To sing harmony, turn to # 905 in the Lutheran Service Book)

**Come Thou Almighty King**



1 Come, Thou al - might - y King, Help us Thy  
 2 Come, Thou in - car - nate Word, Gird on Thy  
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, Thy sa - cred  
 4 To Thee, great One in Three, E - ter - nal



name to sing; Help us to praise; Fa - ther all -  
 might - y sword; Our prayer at - tend. Come and Thy  
 wit - ness bear In this glad hour! Thou, who al -  
 prais - es be Hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign



glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic - to - ri - ous,  
 peo - ple bless, And give Thy Word suc - cess,  
 might - y art, Now rule in ev - 'ry heart,  
 maj - es - ty May we in glo - ry see,



Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
 And let Thy righ - teous - ness On us de - scend.  
 And ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.  
 And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore.

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**Prayer of the Day**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: We pray for God's blessing as we Call a new pastor.

**C: Almighty God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on this Your Church in our time of transition. Give guidance from the Holy Spirit to all involved in the Call process. Our prayer is that, in Your good time and according to Your good plans, we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for Your people and equip us for witness and service to the world around us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

*You may be seated*

**First Lesson –Isaiah 44:6-8**

**Reader: Bob Elkins**

**Psalm 119:57-64**

P: <sup>57</sup>The LORD is my portion;

**C: I promise to keep your words.**

P: <sup>58</sup>I entreat your favor with all my heart;

**C: be gracious to me according to your promise.**

P: <sup>59</sup>When I think on my ways,

**C: I turn my feet to your testimonies;**

P: <sup>60</sup>I hasten and do not delay

**C: to keep your commandments.**

P: <sup>61</sup>Though the cords of the wicked ensnare me,

**C: I do not forget your law.**

P: <sup>62</sup>At midnight I rise to praise you,  
C: **because of your just and righteous decrees.**

P: <sup>63</sup>I am a companion of all who fear you,  
C: **of those who keep your precepts.**

P: <sup>64</sup>The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love;  
C: **teach me your statutes!**

## Second Lesson –Romans 8:18-27

Reader: Bob Elkins

*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 13:24-30, 36-43

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

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

<sup>24</sup> He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field,  
<sup>25</sup> but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup> So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. <sup>27</sup> And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ <sup>28</sup> He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup> But he said, ‘No, lest in

gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.””

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup> Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, <sup>42</sup> and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*You may be seated*

**Sermon**

**Pastor Jim Stoltenberg**

Congregational Hymn (To sing harmony, turn to # 801 in the Lutheran Service Book)

How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er  
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the  
3 But when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing, Sent Him to  
4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y  
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from loft - y moun - tain  
die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my bur - den glad - ly  
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;  
gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;  
bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;  
ra - tion And there pro - claim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

*Refrain*



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee, How great Thou



art! How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

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*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

*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.

## Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray

**C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

## *Brief silence*

P: Lord, continue to raise up witnesses in this and every place to faithfully proclaim Your Word. Let Your Church continue to be the good soil that produces wheat for Your harvest. Bless all our pastors and church workers as they sow in the fields that You have given them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Redeemer and Lord of hosts, the future is in Your hands, and only You know what is to come. Remove from us fear of the unknown and the trepidation that uncertainly brings. Keep us mindful that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed in us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Lord of all, bless our nation and its citizens. Give us good leadership, satisfying work, loving families, and a quiet and peaceable life that glorifies Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: The whole earth is Yours, O Lord, and You have charged us with its care. Make us good stewards of Your creation until that time when You set it free from its bondage to decay and give it to us anew in the kingdom of Your Son. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: God of all compassion, look over the sick and all who suffer from any malady of mind or body. [We intercede this morning particularly for \_\_\_\_\_.] Give them patience and endurance in their trials and, if it be Your will, return them to health. Be especially with those who live in nursing homes and care facilities. Give them an unflinching faith in You and a lively hope for the redemption that You promise. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: We join our prayer with the unending prayers of those who have gone before us and are now with You. Together the Church in heaven and the Church on earth await the time when the righteous will shine like the sun in Your Kingdom, O Father, for You live and reign with Your Son and Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

**C: Amen.**

### **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.**

### **Announcements**

*Please Stand*

### **Benediction**

P: Almighty God, Father, Son ✠, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Congregational Hymn** (To sing harmony, turn to # 644 in the Lutheran Service Book)

**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;  
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,  
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.  
By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
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,  
Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
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 soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.  
And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

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**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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**THANK YOU TO REV. JIM STOLTENBERG** for leading us in worship today.

**MEMORIAL ENVELOPES** are available to memorialize loved ones through a financial contribution. The envelopes are on the foyer table. Mention their name and designate either the “General Fund” or “Debt Reduction” to which you wish to contribute, and place in the collection plate.

**GOD’S BLESSINGS to all those celebrating birthdays this week:**

- Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> – Kathie Kueven
- Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup> – Martha Glen

**Anniversaries:**

- Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> – Lou & Nancy Stefurak  
Best wishes!

**LET US PRAY FOR THE FAMILY OF THE WEEK: Robert & Kathy Dukes**

**ALTAR CARE NEEDED:** *Thank you to those who have signed up recently.* We also need help for the whole month of September. This is so important, especially when we have visiting pastors! Sign up now.



**SETTING UP THE ALTAR:** The church doors will be unlocked on Sundays by 9:00 a.m. If you prefer, you can setup the altar prior to the worship service.



**SAVE YOUR CORKS:** Barbara Smolinski collects them for an art teacher whose class makes cork portraits (like the one shown here). You can drop your corks in the container on the foyer round table.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

TODAY	Council Meeting	after worship
Saturday	ECR Bible Study	3:30 p.m.
	ECR Service	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	Adult Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
	Worship Service	10:30 a.m.



## ***Prayer Requests***

### **Those we keep in our prayers:**

Sue Amick	Cindy Fritch
Cathy Chambers	Cliff Leiter
Barbara Crawford	William & Nancy Mickler
Carol Dunn	Donald Mulford
Martha Glenn	Ricky Newsom
Jim Kueven	Dalton Pearce
Patsy Mahs	Carol Pope
Phil Riley	Jim & Brad Sechler
Pastor Andy & Carol Schroeder	Jean Smith, friend of Harold
John Zawislak	Sollenberger
Francis Cooper	Jean Steinberg
Wanda Davis	Beau Tyler
Sara Harrison	Larry Wells
Ryan Hargrove	Alexis Ward
Nadine Haydon	Ilene Wolfe
Cathy Hayes	Jody Worth

### **Those families who are grieving:**

- The Mahs family
- The Sollenberger family
- The Fuller family
- The Hansen family



## **OUR VALUES AS A CONGREGATION**

### **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.

### **Christian Education –**

...providing quality, Bible based instruction to foster greater understanding of God's Word and to better equip members for their discipleship.

### **Evangelism –**

...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.

### **Stewardship –**

...utilizing fully our time, talents, and resources to serve and love the Lord, furthering our commission of discipleship.

### **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.