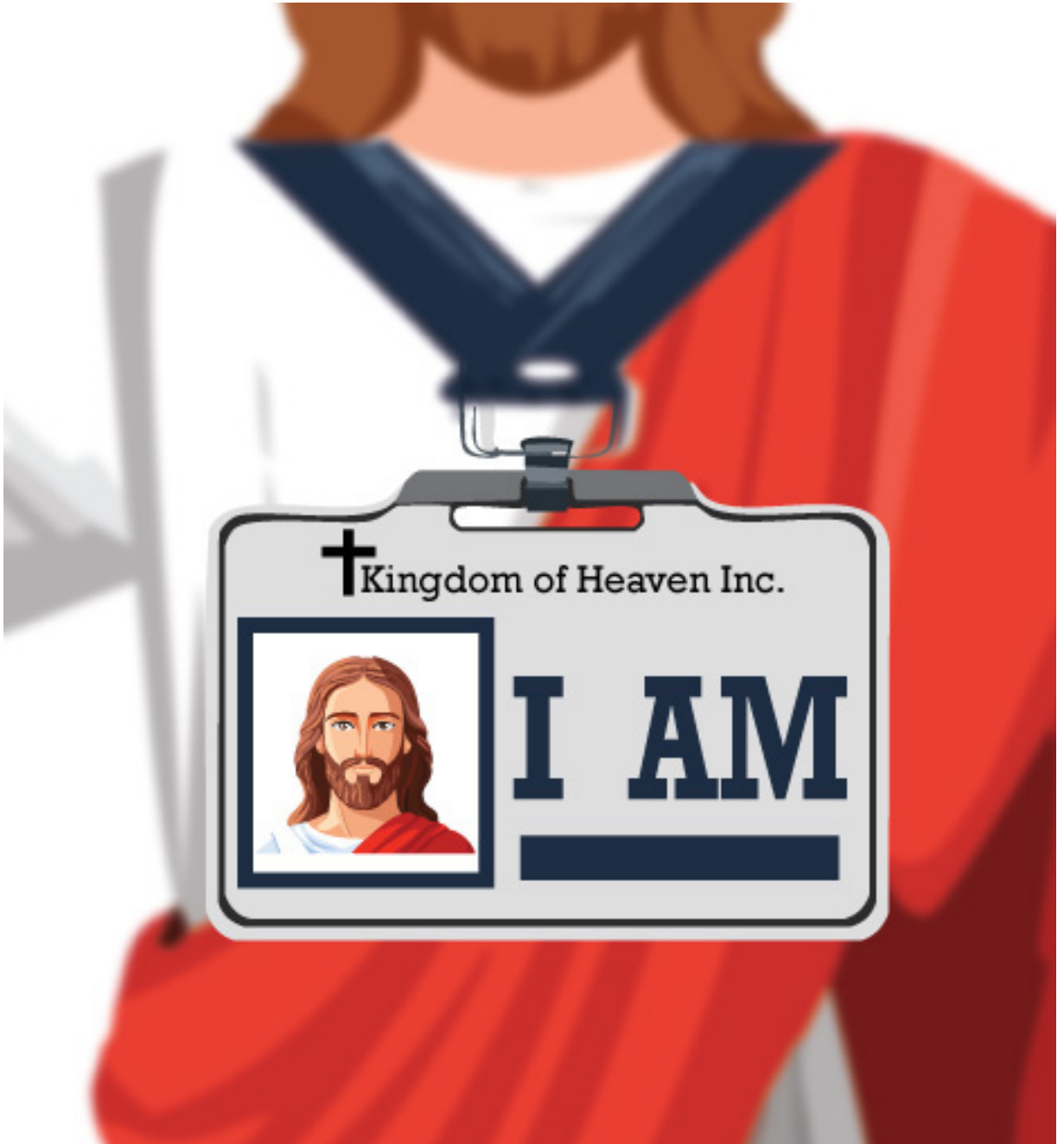




Connecting all to Christ to become healthy in God and courageous in love.



Traditional Worship - April 6, 2025 - 8:30 & 11:00 am

Entering into the Spirit of Worship

Greeting 8:30 - Tom Beattie 11:00 - Wrenn Nicodemo

Prelude *De Jesus an dem Kreuze stund* J.S. Bach

***Call to Worship** 8:30 - Bill Christiansen
11:00 - Wrenn Nicodemo

Leader: We have come today, hungry for God's word.

People: We remember Jesus said, "I am the bread of life."

Leader: We also long to know God's love.

People: We remember Jesus said, "I am the living bread."

All: Here we encounter Christ, the bread of life — nourishment for the journey.

***Hymn** *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days (v. 1-4)* #223

The Uniting of our Hearts in Prayer

Prayer 8:30 - Pastor Jared Priset
11:00 - Pastor Bryan George

Lord's Prayer

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. Amen.

Proclaiming the Word of God

Anthem (11:00 only) *Come to the Feast* Harlan
Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading Psalm 78:21-25 pg. 473

Prayer for Communion

Gracious God, how amazing is your love for us that you would send your only Son to save us? That you would make your Word flesh so that you could be among us? We can only begin to understand the magnitude of your love through all of the ways we encounter Jesus in our lives. We are grateful for Jesus as our shepherd — the one who cares for us and knows us by name. We no longer have to be people who walk in darkness, because we have Jesus as the light to guide our way. We hunger no more for we are nourished by Jesus who is the Bread of Life. We live in confidence knowing that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. Amen.

Offering our Gifts to God

In Remembrance
Abe Gibson, voice; Philip Schleich, piano

arr. Larson

*Response in Song (11:00 only)

#682

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication (11:00 only)

*Hymn (11:00 only)

I Am Thine, O Lord (v. 1)

#591

Good News Moment

Vacation Bible School

Scripture

John 6:35-40

pg. 864

Message

I Am the Bread of Life

I Am

Pastor Bryan George

Responding With Thanksgiving

Communion

Communion is open to all who hunger to receive the love and mercy of the Lord

We will practice communion at stations, come forward to the station that is closest to where you are seated. Individual pieces of bread and cups will be passed to you. Deposit empty cups in the receptacles at the end of the aisles. If you are unable to come forward due to physical limitation, the ushers will bring the elements to you as you remain seated in your pew. Allergen-free wafers are available.

Sending Forth

*Closing Hymn

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts (v. 1, 3 & 5)

#128

*Benediction

Postlude

Forty Days, Forty Nights

arr. Penfield

*Those who are able, please stand

Choir Director - Abe Gibson; Interim Organist - Philip Schleich; Interim Accompanist - Lorraine George

Altar Flowers: are given by Bill & Kathy Malinowski
in celebration of their anniversary

Acolytes: Jacob Ashley & June Ashley

Sermon Outline

Focus: The first of seven “I Am” sayings in John’s Gospel, Jesus reminds us that like the manna from heaven, He is the bread of life who sustains us in the wilderness of life

I) Baking Bread at the beginning of Pandemic

Putting Bryan’s Bread machine away due to cost, effort and taste

Breaking Brian’s Sourdough “Friendship” Bread together

II) The Context of “I am the Bread of Life”: Everyone is Hungry!

Feeding the Multitudes with Five Barley loaves and two fish (6:2-14)

Reference to preparation for Passover (John 6:4)

This meal centers on unleavened bread

Manna from Heaven (John 6:30-31)

God sustains the people with the white flaky substance (Exodus 16)

Smith *“Jesus does not mean that he is literally bread from heaven, but that he is the sustenance, the very stuff of life which God gives.”*

The power of communion

Breaking shared bread binds people together

St. Ignatius: *“The medicine of immortality and the antidote to death”*

III) What nourishment sustains your life?

“Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.” (6:27)

The Jesus’ way of life can be hard to swallow, yet builds eternal strength (6:60ff)

Are you Grumbling or Grateful for the sustenance of your life?

Maya Angelou Mama’s singing *“Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more.”*

Contemporary Worship - April 6, 2025 - 9:30 & 11:00 am

Praise Songs

Graves into Gardens
King of My Heart

Welcome

9:30 - Matt Ritzert Oasis - Julia Fabich

Worship Song & Offering

Hard Fought Hallelujah

Prayer

9:30 - Pastor Bryan George Oasis - Pastor Jared Priset

Good News Moment

Vacation Bible School

Scripture

John 6:35-40

Message

I Am the Bread of Life

I Am

Pastor Jared Priset

Communion

Closing Song

Give Me Jesus

Benediction

Sermon Outline

Focus: As the bread of life, Jesus offers us true satisfaction. This type of satisfaction is given freely and it is eternal. Are we seeking satisfaction apart from Christ?

I. I Am – the Bread of Life

Our most primal need – hunger
Hunger of the body vs. hunger of the soul

II. The Bread of Life is the only true satisfaction

Seeking satisfaction apart from God
Genesis 3:6 – Garden of Eden – a counterfeit satisfaction
Exodus 16 and Numbers 11 – God providing manna (bread) from heaven
Jeremiah 2:13 – looking for temporary fulfillment
John 6 – Jesus offers eternal satisfaction
Where are we seeking satisfaction?
Success & career; relationships; pleasure & entertainment; religion

III. The Bread of Life is given by grace, not earned

John 6:37 *“All that the Father gives to me comes to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.”*

Salvation is not something we achieve – it is something we receive.

Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 6:23

Jesus offers us what we could never earn

IV. The Bread of Life gives eternal life

John 6:40; John 10:10; 1 John 5:12

With Jesus, we are fed something that lasts

“I am the Bread of Life” is the ultimate act of love – Jesus’s sacrifice has given us life

Explore

Women's Retreat

Our Women's One Day Retreat is on **Saturday, April 26th**, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm at the Das Dutch Kitchen in Dalton. Join us for a day of Bible Study, praise, fellowship, and spiritual rejuvenation. We are blessed to have Patti Brown as our featured speaker. The cost is \$55 which includes lunch. This retreat is open to all women so join us and invite a friend, co-worker, or family member. Free child care is provided at the church for those who register in advance. Register by *April 13th* in the church office or at churchofthelakes.org/event/womens-retreat.

Faithful Finances - Budgeting Workshop

Join us on **Sunday, May 4th**, 12:30 pm in the Activity Center as Paul Guerra presents a transformational budgeting seminar that blends practical financial strategies with timeless Christian principles. This is a FREE workshop, lunch is provided. Childcare is provided if requested when registering. Register at churchofthelakes.org/event/faithful-finances-workshop.

All Daughter's of God Luncheon

All women and girls are invited to a special luncheon on **Saturday, May 10th**, 11:30am in the Activity Center. Join us to celebrate that we are all daughters of God. For fun, ladies are encouraged to accessorize with your favorite or most creative purse. Join us for an afternoon of fun, fellowship, and laughter as we learn what God says about what is in the wonderful, wacky purses we carry while enjoying a meal from Mr. Mike's, playing Bingo, and other fun activities. Cost is \$15/person. Register on our website.

Serve

Easter Basket Donations 2025

Church of the Lakes is partnering with Jackson Friends and Woodlawn Church to make sure that low-income students in Jackson have a magical Easter. We are looking for donations to fill 60 Easter Baskets for area elementary students. To sign up to donate specific snack items, or sponsor the purchase of the actual basket and Bible use the QR or visit the church website. Donations need to be at the church by *Sunday, April 13th*.



The Encouragers

The Encouragers Card Making Ministry for GRACE6:8 will be meeting on **Saturdays, April 12th & May 3rd**, 10:00 am in room 108. Join this group to make cards of encouragement for our foster families as well as for yourself. If you wish to attend contact Rosemary Lare, 330-818-1013.

Prayer Shawls

The Prayer Shawl ministry will meet on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (April 15th), 1:00 pm in room 203. If you need instructions, needles patterns, etc., join us. Donations of yarn or gift cards to Michael's or Hobby Lobby are always appreciated. If you would like to request a prayer shawl for a friend or family member, contact Elaine Strock, estrock25@gmail.com.

WAYS TO GIVE

Visit churchofthelakes.org/online-giving or text: **give to 330-961-5524**

Offering envelopes are located in the pew pad clipboards.

For EFT instructions contact Stephanie Strock, stephanie@churchofthelakes.org

Children's Easter Party

KINDERGARTEN - 6TH GRADES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH

STARTS AT
5:30 PM

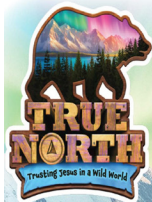


**DINNER
 RESURRECTION
 EGGS,
 SCAVENGER
 EGG HUNT,
 CRAFTS
 & MORE**

**COST IS ONLY \$5
 AND CAN BE PAID
 AT THE DOOR**

Join us on a journey as we follow Jesus through Holy week from the Last Supper to the Empty Tomb. Children will discover why Jesus died on the cross and why His resurrection is the foundation of our faith.

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR CHILD AT
CHURCHOFTHELAKES.ORG/EVENT/EASTER-PARTY



Church of the Lakes

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025

For children age 4 - 6th grade

Mornings: June 9th - 13th
8:45 am - 12:15 pm

Evenings: June 8th - 12th
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE:

CHURCHOFTHELAKES.ORG

JESUS in the HOME

Family FUN Night

BOWLING NIGHT

Sunday, April 27th
5:00 - 7:00 pm

Register at churchofthelakes.org

\$12 per person

2 hours of bowling
 shoe rental
 & pizza dinner



Holy Week

| | | |
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| <p>PALM SUNDAY April 13th Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00* am Traditional 9:30* & 11:00 am Contemporary COMMEMORATION OF JESUS' ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM</p> | <p>MAUNDY THURSDAY April 17th Tenebrae & Communion Service 7:30* pm Sanctuary GOOD FRIDAY April 18th Stations of the Cross 9:00 am - 7:00 pm Sanctuary</p> | <p>EASTER SUNDAY April 20th Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00* am Traditional 9:30* & 11:00 am Contemporary <small>No Sunday School for 5th - 12th grades on Easter Sunday</small> CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR SAVIOR</p> |
|--|--|--|

* These services will be available live online at churchofthelakes.org/live-worship
 Childcare is available during all services for children 5 and under

VBS Volunteers

Volunteer opportunities include but are not limited to: Station Leaders, Station Assistants, Crew Leaders, Snack helpers, Dinner team, nursery workers and decorating team. Our VBS Volunteer Training meeting will be **Tuesday, April 29th**, 10:00 am or 6:30 pm in room 201. If you would like to volunteer for VBS contact Angela Fritz, angela@churchofthelakes.org.

Submit your news, information or announcements to betsi@churchofthelakes.org.



Please pray for: Lucy Woods, Lori Briggs, and Molly Milosevic

To submit prayer requests call 330-499-8972 ext. 203 or email: prayer@churchofthelakes.org.