



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, March 3rd, 2025

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service & Communion
Transfiguration Sunday, March 3rd

10:00 A.M. Livestream is now available via the LTUMC YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgtuJe20i8DN7S_Cfg1sWCg

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Toccata on "Christ, We Do All Adore Thee" (Adoramus Te) Dubois/arr. Young

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Lord, you have called us to the mountaintop.

P: Help us to look forward to where you would have us go.

L: Help us to listen carefully to the words of your healing love.

P: Open our hearts and spirits to receive your glorious directions.

L: Place your trust in the Lord in all your ways.

P: Lord, we have come here to give our lives to you. AMEN.

HYMN #258

O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair

Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

OPENING PRAYER

God of mountaintops and valleys and everywhere in between, we thank you for meeting us where we are. We thank you also for leading us to this place of prayer and renewal. Enlighten our minds, radiate our hearts, and ready us for Your Alive Word of Love. Let it shine in and through us, lighting a path of grace, hope, and joy. May the same transfiguring power, shown forth in Jesus Christ, also shine in us for the good of the world. Be our light in worship and in our service today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 34:29-35 - Moses' face shone

34:29 Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God.

34:30 When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him.

- 34:31 But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them.
- 34:32 Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.
- 34:33 When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face,
- 34:34 but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded,
- 34:35 the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

Psalm 99 - Worship upon God's holy hill (Psalter Lesson)
(Pg. 819 UMH) (Please read the bold text)

99:1 The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! The LORD sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

99:2 The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

99:3 Let them praise your great and wonderful name! **Holy is the LORD!**

99:4 Mighty Ruler, lover of justice, you have established equity; **you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**

99:5 Extol the LORD our God. Worship at the LORD's footstool! **Holy is the LORD!**

99:6 Moses and Aaron were among God's priests, Samuel also was among those who called on God's name. **They cried to the LORD, who answered them.**

99:7 **who spoke to them in the pillar of cloud.** They kept testimonies, and the statutes God gave them.

99:8 **O LORD our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them but an avenger of their wrongdoings.**

99:9 Extol the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain. **Surely the LORD our God is holy!**

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 - We will be transformed (Epistle Reading)

3:12 Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with complete frankness,

3:13 not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside.

3:14 But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, the same veil is still there; it is not unveiled since in Christ it is set aside.

- 3:15 Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds,
3:16 but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.
3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
3:18 And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.
- 4:1 Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart.
4:2 We have renounced the shameful, underhanded ways; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

Luke 9:28-36, 37-43a - Jesus is transfigured on the mountain (Gospel)

(Please stand as you are able)

- 9:28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray.
9:29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning.
9:30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him.
9:31 They appeared in glory and were speaking about his exodus, which he was about to fulfill in Jerusalem.
9:32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep, but as they awoke, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him.
9:33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah," not realizing what he was saying.
9:34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were terrified as they entered the cloud.
9:35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"
9:36 When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and, in those days, told no one any of the things they had seen.
9:37 On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him.

- 9:38 Just then a man from the crowd shouted, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child.
- 9:39 Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him.
- 9:40 I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not."
- 9:41 Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and put up with you? Bring your son here."
- 9:42 While he was being brought forward, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father.
- 9:43a And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

L: This is the word of the Lord for the people of Christ.

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #881 (*The Apostles' Creed*) (*Please stand as you are able*)

***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, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

THE GLORIA PATRI #70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Please be seated*)

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(Let us offer our silent confessions.)

Holy God, it has been easy to live with our eyes veiled. Too often, we have hidden from the hard realities within us and around us. We have shielded Your light of Love, instead of sharing it. Something deep within has often hardened our hearts, leading to inertia and unfreedom. But there is a deeper longing within. We hunger for the forgiveness and renewal You revealed in Jesus Christ. Forgive us, Holy One, and unveil our eyes and our hearts. With Your shining love, light a path of forgiveness for us that we may share it with others. By this, we may know the freedom of new life you revealed in Jesus Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news! Do not lose heart! God is merciful. Bit by bit, we are being transformed into the image of God's glory made known in Jesus Christ. In our turning, God has forgiven us and unveiled our lives. God has also called us to listen to Jesus Christ, the Beloved, who calls us by the same name. Beloved, may the forgiving light of God's love shine through us, and bear the hope of a new beginning to others. Thanks be to God! Amen.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

OFFERING

<https://www.wnccumc.org/online-donations-to-churches>

OFFERTORY

Andante in F Major A. Hesse

DOXOLOGY #95

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Glorious God, who reveals the light of your presence, we bring these gifts as a testament to your transforming power. Jesus was transfigured before his disciples; transform us to reflect your love and grace. Use these offerings to shine your light in the world, bringing hope and healing. In the name of your beloved Son, we pray. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION #77

How Great Thou Art
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks and remembers God's acts of salvation, and concludes:...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The pastor continues the thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled. The pastor concludes:...and so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering

for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding:...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY:

For The Bread Which Thou Hast Broken
COMMUNION PRAYER

Copes/arr. Cherwien

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed with permission)

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #393

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Amen.

POSTLUDE (*Please be seated*)

Selection from "Symphony in B-flat" Bègue/arr. Hopson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the Altar

The flowers on the altar for January, February and March are from **Paula and Fred Markert and Jim and Beth Holimon in memory of their mothers.**

Ash Wednesday Service

The Ash Wednesday Service will be on Wednesday, March 5th at 6:00 PM.

Spring Bible Study

The **Spring Bible Study** will begin on **Sunday, March 9th at 8:45 AM** in the **Bill Minnich Conference room**. This is a come as you can Bible Study and a study guide will be provided. **It will be led by Don Henderson**. Please reach out to him if you have questions at **bacpac@comporium.net**.

LTUMC Name Tags

We are ordering name tags. If you need one, please email Saunders at **administrator@laketoxawayumc.org**. They are magnet backs unless you need a pin back. Please specify which type you need.

Model Cars for Thomas Blackstock

Model cars are available for you to take home as a reminder to be in prayer for Thomas Blackstock daily in his cancer journey. We ask you to mail the car to him sometime in March. Please reach out to Jo Ditzel and Mandy Stahl at **LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com**. Details will follow.

Our Daily Bread

The new Our Daily Bread devotionals are at both entrances of the church and in the Dice Hall.

Prayer Ministry

The **Prayer Ministry** meets the **2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 9:30 AM** in the church. If you have a prayer request and cannot make it in person, please e-mail it to **LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com**

AA Meetings Thursday Nights

The weekly AA meeting is every Thursday at 4:45 PM in the Dice Hall. In an effort to honor anonymity, please do not go to the **Parish building from 4:15 PM – 6:00 PM on Thursdays.**

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please pray for those who have long-term illness, health concerns and special intentions. We pray for Thomas Blackstock who is experiencing complications in his cancer journey. He loves cards as they brighten his days. Please pray for Kay and Tom Blackstock as they are supporting and caring for Thomas. His address is: Thomas Blackstock, 208 Hidden Ln. #58, Sapphire, NC 28774.

Please pray for those having or had a surgery and their recovery.

Our heartfelt prayers for all who have experienced the recent passing of a loved one.

Please continue to pray for our student scholars, our local students, teachers and staff.

STAFF & LAY VOLUNTEERS

Pastor: Marcus Dodson: 828-553-0282, marcus61dodson@gmail.com

Pianist/Organist: Charlotte Gilmore

Church Administrator: Saunders Grommesh, 469-569-2314, administrator@laketoxawayumc.org

Lay Leader: Paula Markert: 828-553-9434 & Scott Walter: 314-374-2969

Audio/Visual for Livestream Chair: Joe Haraschak 813-918-1916

Liturgist: Mandy Stahl

Hymns are located on the next few pages and used with permission via One License #737113-A

258 O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair

1. O won - drous sight! O vi - sion fair
 2. From age to age the tale de - clares
 3. The law and proph - ets there have place,
 4. With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray,
 5. And faith - ful hearts are raised on high

of glo - ry that the church shall share,
 how with the three dis - ci - ples there
 two cho - sen wit - ness - es of grace;
 Christ deigns to man - i - fest that day
 by this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y;

which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
 where Mo - ses and E - li - jah meet,
 the Fa - ther's voice from out the cloud
 what glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
 for which in joy - ful strains we raise

where bright - er than the sun he glows!
 the Lord holds con - verse high and sweet.
 pro - claims his on - ly Son a - loud.
 who joy in God with per - fect love.
 the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

WORDS: *Sarum Breviary*, 1495; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1851
 (Mt. 17:1-8; Mk. 9:2-8; Lk. 9:28-36)

MUSIC: William Knapp, 1738; harm. from *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875

WAREHAM
LM

How Great Thou Art

1. O Lord my God! when I in awe-some won-der Con-sid-er all the worlds Thy hands have
 2. When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der And hear the birds sing sweet-ly in the
 3. And when I think that God, His Son not spar-ing, Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it
 4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac-ela-ma-tion And take me home, what joy shall fill my

made, I see the stars, I hear the roll-ing thun-der, Thy pow'r thro'-out the u-ni-verse dis-
 trees; When I look down from loft-y moun-tain gran-deur And hear the brook and feel the gen-tle
 in; That on the cross, my bur-den glad-ly bear-ing, He bled and died to take a-way my
 heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion And there pro-claim, my God, how great Thou

Refrain

played,
 breeze;
 sin;
 art!

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!

384 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
 4. Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down; fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing;
 trou - bled breast! Let us all in thee in - her - it;
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er,
 let us be. Let us see thy great sal - va - tion

all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown! Je - sus, thou art
 let us find that sec - ond rest. Take a - way our
 nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be
 per - fect - ly re - stored in thee; changed from glo - ry

all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it
 bent to sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of
 al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray and
 in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place, till we

us with thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1747
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870

BEECHER
 87.87 D

Alt. tune: HYFRYDOL

393

Spirit of the Living God

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

WORDS: Daniel Iverson, 1926; adapt. (Acts 11:15)
 MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926

LIVING GOD
 75.75.875

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