



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Easter Sunday, April 20th

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

RINGING OF THE BELL – *To allow all worshippers to reflect and prepare for the service, please observe silence during the prelude.*

PRELUDE

The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done G. Palestrina
Luke Norton, trumpet

CALL TO WORSHIP

He is Risen!

The dark night is behind us; the morning light erased all darkness and doubt.

All that remains is the empty tomb and the wrappings of pain and death.

The Lord has risen; He's no longer among the dead.

He lives. The Lord has risen!

Yes, the Lord lives! The new morning fills our hearts with joy and hope.

Let us then worship together, extinguishing all doubt and fear with joyful songs and an unbreakable faith in our Redeemer.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it! Alleluia!

HYMN #302

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

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

OPENING PRAYER *(Please be seated)*

***Holy and Living God,
like a tomb's darkness that gives way to light,
open us this day to newness of life;
open us to your love, to your acceptance,
to your forgiveness, to your peace;
open us to one another,
and to the possibilities
you have in store for us.***

***Give us hope for the future
and a passion for life here and now.
We pray in the name
of the One who destroyed death,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.***

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 10:34-43 - Jesus' ministry after his baptism

- 10:34 Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality,
10:35 but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him.
10:36 You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all.
10:37 That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:
10:38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.
10:39 We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree,
10:40 but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,
10:41 not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.
10:42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.
10:43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Psalm 118:14-24 - On this day God has acted (Psalter Lesson) (UMH Pg. 839) (Please read the bold text)

- 118:14 The Lord is my strength and my power; the Lord has become my salvation.
118:15 **There are joyous songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:** "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly,
118:16 the right hand of the Lord is exalted, **the right hand of the Lord does valiantly!**"
118:17 I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.
118:18 The Lord has chastened me sorely, but has not given me over to death.

118:19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

118:20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

118:21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

118:22 The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

118:23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

118:24 This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

1 Corinthians 15:19-26 - Christ raised from the dead (Epistle Reading)

15:19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

15:20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

15:21 For since death came through a human, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human,

15:22 for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

15:23 But each in its own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

15:24 Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power.

15:25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

15:26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Luke 24:1-12 - Women proclaim the resurrection (Gospel)
(Please stand as you are able)

24:1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared.

24:2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb,

24:3 but when they went in they did not find the body.

24:4 While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them.

24:5 The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen.

24:6 Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee,

24:7 that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again."

24:8 Then they remembered his words,
24:9 and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest.
24:10 Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles.
24:11 But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.
24:12 But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

HYMN #159

Lift High the Cross

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
(Let us offer our silent confessions.)*

***Christ, we come to the empty tomb,
we see our own death,
we see our own tomb, we see our own emptiness.
And we remember how we have treated other people-
members of our family, friends, and neighbors.
Lord, we come to your tomb,
we see a hungry world before us,
the pain of starving children,
the guilt of war on our hands,
and we know that collectively we share in those injustices.
Lord, we come to the empty tomb,
we search within ourselves, and we cannot escape what we are,
people caught up in the pain of our own wrongdoing,
for some, a deep sense of loneliness
and a frustration of what we would be but are not.
Lord, when we come to the empty tomb,
we lay before you our pain,
our emptiness and look to you for hope.
Forgive us and restore us to newness of life through Christ,
the Risen One, Our Savior. Amen.***

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news!

*"All the prophets testify about him
that everyone who believes in him
receives forgiveness of sins through his name!"
In the name of the risen Christ, you are forgiven!*

***In the name of the risen Christ,
we are forgiven! Glory to God!
Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!
Alleluia! Alleluia!***

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH #880 (*The Nicene Creed*)

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism

for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI (UMH #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.

HYMN #304

Easter People, Raise Your Voices
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise (LLANFAIR) Arr. Hopson

DOXOLOGY #94 - Praise God From Whom all Blessings Flow

(Please stand as you are able)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Radiant God, whose love endures forever, we gather today in the light of resurrection hope, offering these gifts as a response to the abundant grace we have received. In this period of spiritual renewal, may our giving reflect the joy of the empty tomb and the promise of life everlasting. Transform our offerings into acts of love that bring light to the world, just as Christ's light dawned in our hearts. We dedicate these gifts to your service, trusting that, in your hands, they will bring forth new life. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THE 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.

CLOSING HYMN #308

Thine Be the Glory
Located in the back of the bulletin - (printed w/permission)

POSTLUDE

Almighty God (O Store Gud) Swedish folk song/arr. Whitman
Luke Norton, trumpet

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the Altar

*The flowers on the altar are given by **Mandy & Ryan Stahl** in honor of the grace we each received through the sacrifice of Jesus.*

Guest Trumpeter

*We welcome back **Luke Norton** as our trumpeter today. Luke is a member of Lake Toxaway UMC and finishing his final year at Western Carolina University in Music Education. Luke is a graduate of Rosman High School and began playing the trumpet in the band while a student at Rosman. We are pleased to have him play his trumpet in worship for Easter Sunday. We also are praying for Luke to locate a teaching position in the area for the Fall.*

Coffee Hour after today's service

Please join us in the Dice Hall after today's service for coffee and snacks. This is a great way to see friends and make new ones.

Parish Dinner

***We will be having our next parish dinner on April 23rd at 6:00 PM in the Dice Hall.** With Cinco de Mayo approaching, it will be Mexican themed. Please keep nuts and cheese on the side due to food allergies. Please bring a side or sweet treat as the main dish will be provided. Please let Saunders know if you are coming by e-mail to administrator@laketoxawayumc.org by 5:00 PM Monday, 4-21-25.*

Spring Bible Study

*The **Spring Bible Study** meets on **Sunday mornings 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 is led by **Don Henderson**. Please reach out to him if you have questions at bacpac@comporium.net*

The Prayer Ministry

***They meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 9:30 AM in the church.** Please e-mail prayer requests 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 – 6:00 PM.*

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please pray for those who have long-term illness, health concerns and special intentions.

Please pray for those having or had a surgery, acute illness or injury and their recovery.

Our heartfelt prayers for all who have experienced the recent passing of a loved one. We especially pray for Dan & Kay Johnson. Dan's mother died earlier this week. Their address is: Dan & Kay Johnson | P.O. Box 777 | Sapphire, NC 28774

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 Leaders: Paula Markert: 828-553-9434 and Maria Buehler: 828-553-2128

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

Liturgist: Scott Walter

Guest Trumpeter: Luke Norton

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

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today 302

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. Lives a - gain our glo-rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!
 * 5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Al - le - lu - ia!
 * 6. King of glo - ry, soul of bliss, Al - le - lu - ia!

Earth and heaven in cho - rus say, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise to thee by both be given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ev - er - last - ing life is this, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Once he died our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Made like him, like him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Thee we greet tri - um - phant now, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Thee to know, thy power to prove, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where's thy vic - tory, boast-ing grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hail the Res - ur - rec - tion, thou, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Thus to sing, and thus to love, Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739
 MUSIC: *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

EASTER HYMN
 77.77 D

Lift High the Cross

159

Refrain
(Unison)

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim

till all the world a-dore his sa-cred name. *Fine*

Harmony

1. Come, Chris-tians, fol - low this tri - um-phant sign.
2. Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied
3. O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4. So shall our song of tri-umph ev - er be:

The hosts of God in u - ni - ty com-bine.
 bears on the brow the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom-ised, draw the world to thee.
 Praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry! *D.C.*

WORDS: George William Kitchen and Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916, alt.

CRUCIFER

MUSIC: Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916

10 10 with Refrain

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Easter People, Raise Your Voices 304

1. Eas - ter peo - ple, raise your voic - es, sounds of heav - en in
 2. Fear of death can no more stop us from our press - ing
 3. Ev - ery day to us is Eas - ter, with its res - ur -

earth should ring. Christ has brought us heav - en's choic - es;
 here be - low. For our Lord em - pow - ered us to
 rec - tion song. When in trou - ble move the fast - er

heav - en - ly mu - sic, let it ring. Al - le - lu - ial
 tri - umph o - ver ev - ery foe. Al - le - lu - ial
 to our God who rights the wrong. Al - le - lu - ial

Al - le - lu - ial Eas - ter peo - ple, let us sing.
 Al - le - lu - ial On to vic - tory now we go.
 Al - le - lu - ial See the power of heav - en - ly throngs.

WORDS: William M. James, 1979
 MUSIC: Henry T. Smart, 1867

REGENT SQUARE
 87.87.87

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Thine Be the Glory

1. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son;
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb;
 3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life!

end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.
 lov - ing - ly he greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom.
 Life is naught with - out thee; aid us in our strife.

An - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a - way,
 Let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph sing,
 Make us more than con - querors, through thy death - less love;

kept the fold - ed grave - clothes where thy bod - y lay.
 for our Lord now liv - eth; death hath lost its sting.
 bring us safe through Jor - dan to thy home a - bove.

Refrain

Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son;

end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

WORDS: Edmond L. Budry, 1904; trans. by R. Birch Hoyle, 1923
 MUSIC: *Harmonia Sacra*, ca. 1753; arr. from G. F. Handel, 1747

JUDAS MACCABEUS
 55.65.65.65

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