



*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church**  
**Community Worship Service & Communion**  
**Second Sunday of Easter, April 7th**

**9:30 A.M. Livestream is now available via the LTUMC YouTube channel:**  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgtuJe20i8DN7S\\_Cfg1sWCg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgtuJe20i8DN7S_Cfg1sWCg)

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**PRELUDE**

Alleluias     Robert Lau

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*How shall we live when shadows gather?*

***Drawn to God's unquenchable light, we are also drawn into one another's presence.***

*What was hidden has been revealed; we are woven together with all Creation.*

***When we live in the light, as God is in the light, we are one with each other.***

*Let us worship God, who is our Light and Salvation.*

**HYMN #318**

Christ is Alive

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

**OPENING PRAYER**

***Holy One, we gather with grateful hearts  
to remember the blessings of your light and love  
as they flow through our lives each day.***

***In this moment, open our hearts to your Holy Spirit.***

***Open our minds to the truths of your story.***

***Open our hands to welcome the risen Christ among us.***

***And open our eyes to your glory—***

***a glory reflected in the faces around us.***

***In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.***

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Acts 4:32-35

- 4:32 Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.
- 4:33 With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.
- 4:34 There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.
- 4:35 They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

### Psalms 133 (Psalter Lesson – Please read the bold text)

- 133:1 How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!
- 133:2 It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.**
- 133:3 It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

### 1 John 1:1-2:2 (Epistle Reading)

- 1:1 We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life--
- 1:2 this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us--
- 1:3 we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.
- 1:4 We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.
- 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.
- 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true;
- 1:7 but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.
- 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- 1:9 If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.
- 2:1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;
- 2:2 and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

**John 20:19-31 (Please stand for the Gospel)**

- 20:19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."
- 20:20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
- 20:21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
- 20:22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
- 20:23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
- 20:24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.
- 20:25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."
- 20:26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."
- 20:27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."
- 20:28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"
- 20:29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."
- 20:30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.
- 20:31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*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)**

*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**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
(Let us offer our silent confessions.)  
God of grace and mercy,  
we want to continue singing the alleluias of Easter,  
but there are days we just don't feel like singing.  
Sometimes we lock ourselves away,  
fearful of what has happened  
or what the day may bring.  
Sometimes we allow our doubts to overwhelm our faith.  
Sometimes we forget about the needs of our neighbors  
because we are so focused on ourselves.  
Forgive us.  
Draw us back to you and to one another.  
Help us walk in your love and light,  
that others may see in us  
the loving presence of the risen Christ. Amen.*

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*Brothers and sisters, siblings in Christ, Jesus promises:*

*"If you forgive the sins of any,  
they are forgiven them."*

*Receive the hope and promise of this good news,  
for forgiveness is ours when we forgive one another.*

*Thanks be to God!*

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

## **OFFERING**

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

## **OFFERTORY**

This Joyful Eastertide Charles Callahan

## **DOXOLOGY #95**

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***Generous God, as we gather to offer our tithes and offerings, we are reminded of the words of the apostle John about the Word of life. Just as your Word brings light into our lives, may our giving be an act of generosity, a reflection of the abundance of your grace and love. We thank you for the forgiveness and grace offered through your Son, Jesus Christ, and as we give, may we also steward these gifts wisely for the betterment of your kingdom. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.***

## **HYMN OF PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION #303**

The Day of Resurrection  
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 PRAYER**

***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 #310**

He Lives

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)**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing      Michael Burkhardt

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Livestream Chair & Volunteers Needed**

***We have an immediate opening for the Livestream Chair to work with our LTUMC YouTube channel to ensure updates for the livestream work. We also need volunteers who can be at the church on a rotational basis to ensure the livestream is working and/or the service is being recorded. If either of these opportunities interest you, please reach out to Fred Markert at 828-553-3303.***

### **Outreach Volunteer Opportunities to Feed Those at The Haven**

***We have been asked to feed those staying at The Haven, our local homeless shelter in Brevard for the following weekends. If you are interested, please e-mail Judy Lefler at [judylefler1@gmail.com](mailto:judylefler1@gmail.com). The open weekends are: July 5<sup>th</sup> & October 25<sup>th</sup>.***

## **PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY**

***Please pray for those who have long-term illness, health concerns and special intentions. We pray for Andy Harvill, Steve, Joe Haraschak's brother. Please pray for Sherry Minnich's sister, Leigh Ashman who has kidney cancer. We also pray for Leslie Brown who also has cancer.***

***Please pray for those having or had a surgery and their recovery. Especially for Patricia Simmons who is having surgery on Wednesday, 4-10.***

***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](mailto:marcus61dodson@gmail.com)

Organist: Charlie Steele: [cwsorgan@comporium.net](mailto:cwsorgan@comporium.net)

Church Administrator: Saunders Grommesh, 469-569-2314, [administrator@laketoxawayumc.org](mailto:administrator@laketoxawayumc.org)

Lay Leader: Paula Markert: 828-553-9434

Audio/Visual for Livestream Chair: Andy Harvill: 828-884-3548 Scheduler: Fred Markert: 828-553-3303

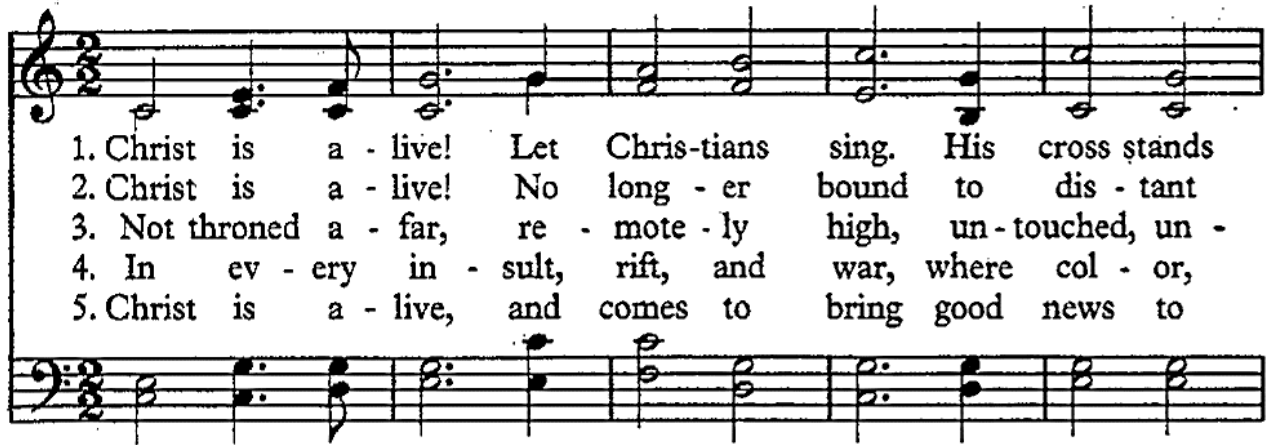
Liturgist: Carole Guffey

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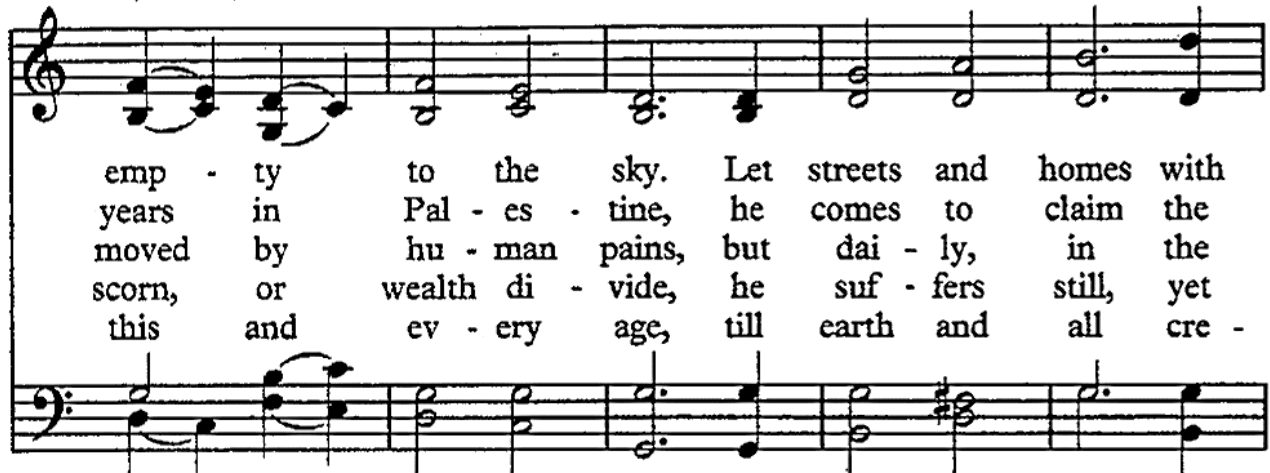


# Christ Is Alive

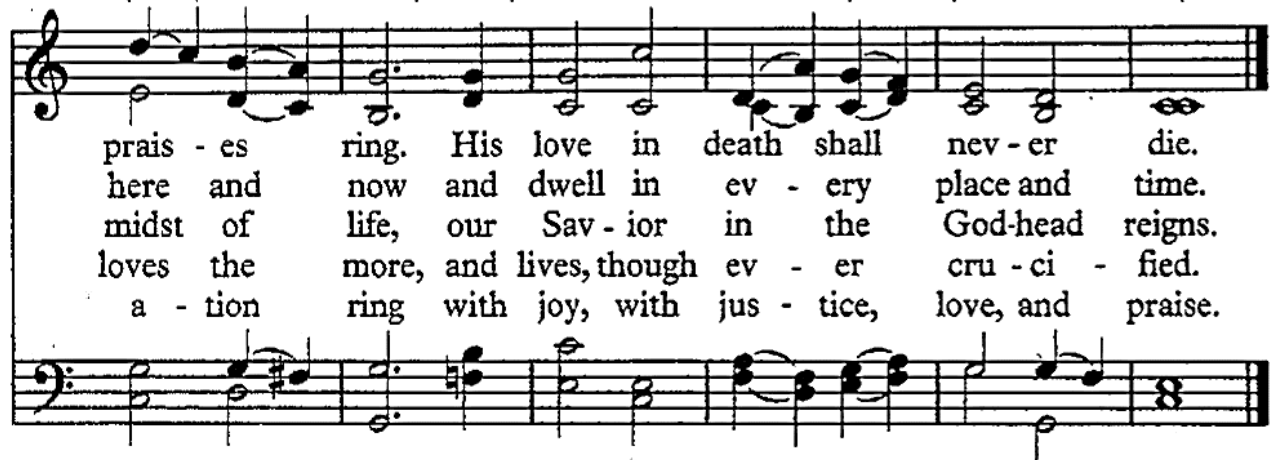
318



1. Christ is a - live! Let Chris-tians sing. His cross stands  
 2. Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
 3. Not throned a - far, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -  
 4. In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
 5. Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the  
 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet  
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and all cre -



prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.  
 here and now and dwell in ev - ery place and time.  
 midst of life, our Sav - ior in the God-head reigns.  
 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.  
 a - tion ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1968, alt.  
 MUSIC: *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

TRURO  
 LM

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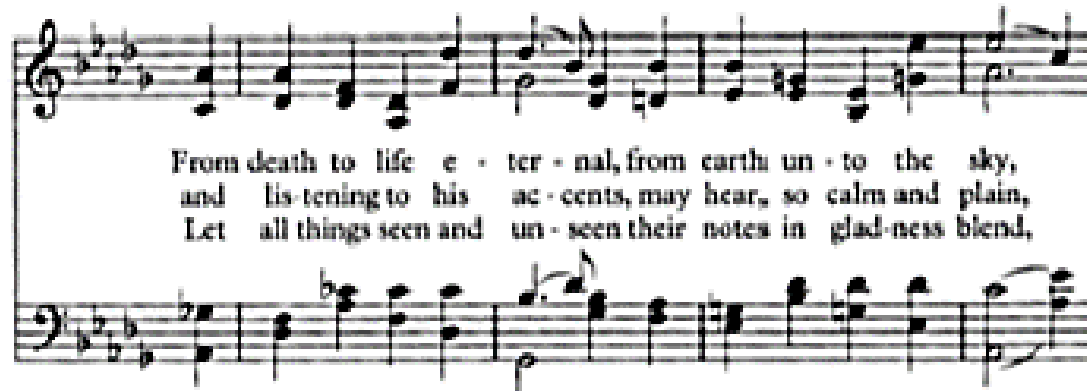
## The Day of Resurrection



1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;  
 2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right  
 3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful! Let earth the song be - gin!



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.  
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;  
 Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is there - in!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,  
 and lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,  
 Let all things seen and un - seen their notes in glad - ness blend,



our Christ hath brought us o - ver, with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
 his own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.  
 for Christ the Lord hath ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

310

## He Lives

1. I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, he's in the world to - day;  
 2. In all the world a - round me I see his lov - ing care,  
 3. Re - joi - ce, re - joi - ce, O Chris - tian, lift up your voice and sing

I know that he is liv - ing, what - ev - er foes may say.  
 and though my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair.  
 e - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

I see his hand of mer - cy, I hear his voice of cheer,  
 I know that he is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast;  
 The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;

and just the time I need him, he's al - ways near.  
 the day of his ap - pear - ing will come at last.  
 none oth - er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.

Refrain

He lives, He lives, Christ Je - sus lives to - day! He walks with me and  
He lives, He lives,

talks with me a - long life's nar - row way. He lives, He lives, He lives, sal -  
He lives, He lives,

va - tion to im - part! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

*Rit.*

A.H.A.

Rev. Alfred H. Ackley

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

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LIVING GOD

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