



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Fifth Sunday in Pentecost

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service & Communion
Fifth Sunday in Pentecost, July 6th

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 - Dearest Jesus, at Your Word Johann R. Ahle/Setting by Michael Burkhardt

CALL TO WORSHIP

*All are welcome here. Whether you are heavy-hearted,
wondering if there is power to make you well,
or feel weighed down by many demands,*

The kingdom of God has come near.

*Whether you are burdened by rules others have imposed
or you are a keeper and maker of rules,*

The kingdom of God has come near.

*Whether you feel at home in this place
or you long to be accepted,*

The kingdom of God has come near.

*Come and worship God, the One who writes
our names in the book of life and dares us
to be become new creations in Jesus.*

The kingdom of God has come near.

HYMN #340, Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

OPENING PRAYER

Challenging God, you send us out like lambs among wolves, then ask us to be peaceful and gentle.

Help us hear and obey your call to follow Jesus, even if we must surrender our reputations and rules we hold dear.

May we learn and live the path of the cross, restoring one another and bearing one another's burdens, as we discover your gift of becoming new creations in Christ.

Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

*Peaceful and merciful God, you promise
that your Kingdom is within our reach.
Yet we are often distracted by disagreements,
demands, requirements, and rejections.
As we seek to follow Jesus,
our rules and offences can separate us.
Help us to refrain from deepening our divisions,
and empower us to restore one another,
fulfilling Christ's command to love.
You promise us victory over all
that threatens to separate us from your presence.
Help us forsake earthly power and victory,
as we strive for the love your kingdom brings.
We ask for your grace to become more like Jesus,
letting go of fleeting rewards
of earthly status and recognition.
Help us seek instead the eternal reward
of resting in your loving arms.
Have mercy O Lord; forgive us. Amen.*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*People of God, God hears us and has mercy.
God turns our wailing into dancing
and our deepest regrets in our greatest joys.*

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

2 Kings 5:1-14 - Naaman is healed of leprosy

- 5:1 Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease.
- 5:2 Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife.
- 5:3 She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease."
- 5:4 So, Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said.
- 5:5 And the king of Aram said, "Go, then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel." He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments.
- 5:6 He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his skin disease."
- 5:7 When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."
- 5:8 But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel."
- 5:9 So, Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house.
- 5:10 Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean."
- 5:11 But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease!
- 5:12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage.
- 5:13 But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?"

5:14 So, he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Psalm 30 - You restored me to health (Psalter Lesson)
(UMH Pg. 762) (Please read the bold text)

30:1 I will extol you, O Lord, for you have lifted me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

30:2 O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

30:3 O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, **restored me to life from among those gone down to the pit.**

30:4 Sing praises to the Lord, O his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

30:5 **Surely the Lord's anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.**
Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

30:6 As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."

30:7 By your favor, O Lord, you had established me as a strong mountain; **you hid your face; I was dismayed.**

30:8 To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication:

30:9 **"What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the pit?** Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?

30:10 Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!"

30:11 You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and girded me with gladness,

30:12 that my soul may praise you and not be silent. **O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.**

Galatians 6: 1-16 - Do what is right (Epistle Reading)

6:1 My brothers and sisters, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted.

6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ.

6:3 For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves.

6:4 All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride.

6:5 For all must carry their own loads.

6:6 Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

6:7 Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow.

- 6:8 If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit.
- 6:9 So, let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up.
- 6:10 So, then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.
- 6:11 See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand!
- 6:12 It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel you to be circumcised--only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ.
- 6:13 Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh.
- 6:14 May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.
- 6:15 For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything!
- 6:16 As for those who will follow this rule--peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 - Jesus sends out seventy (Gospel)

(Please stand as you are able)

- 10:1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.
- 10:2 He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.
- 10:3 Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.
- 10:4 Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road.
- 10:5 Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!'
- 10:6 And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you.
- 10:7 Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house.
- 10:8 Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you;
- 10:9 cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'
- 10:10 But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say,
- 10:11 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'
- 10:16 "Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

- 10:17 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!"
- 10:18 He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning.
- 10:19 Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you.
- 10:20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

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

P: Thanks be to God.

SOLO - Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing - American folk tune Setting by Richard Walters

SERMON

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please be seated)*

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY SOLO - Simple Song Leonard Bernstein

DOXOLOGY #95 - Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow

(Please stand as you are able)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***Generous God, source of all abundance,
bless now these gifts, we pray.***

Receive this offering.

Receive our very lives.

***Fit us for humble, joyful ministry
in your name. Amen.***

COMMUNION HYMN #561, Jesus, United by Thy Grace

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 MUSIC: Voluntary on "Martyn" Gordon Young

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 #66, Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven

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*) Postlude in F Major W. Volckmar

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guest Soloist – Claire Griffin

Soprano Claire Griffin received her Master of Music degree from the A. J. Fletcher Opera Institute of UNCSCA in 2025. She is currently a member of the Brevard Music Center's Janiec Opera Company. Claire grew up in Brevard where during her high school years she and Emilee Dodson became friends. Please welcome Claire to LTUMC.

Thank you volunteers for the pastor's 30-year anniversary luncheon!

We had a wonderful turnout to celebrate Rev. Dodson's 30-year anniversary last Sunday. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this happen. The following are just a few who helped. Mandy Stahl coordinated everything, brought extra tables to serve food on and several stand up tables in the parking lot, set up & tore down. Tom Blackstock smoked all the delicious BBQ and chicken and shredded it. Paula Markert, Nancee Salyer, Beth Holimon and Stephanie Taylor along with many others never stopped with setting things up. Many thanks to Paula Markert, Nancee Salyer and Mandy Stahl for ensuring the tables had flowers. There were many of you who brought delicious side dishes and desserts. The pastor had a wonderful time and is grateful for all the congratulations and cards.

Summer Bible Study

The summer Bible Study is 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.

Administrative Council Meetings

The following dates have been scheduled for the remaining Administrative Council meetings for 2025: Friday, August 22; & Friday, October 24. The meeting times are 10:00 AM in the Minnich conference room.

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. Please sign up to host one.

Flowers & Coffee Hour Sign-Up Calendars

The sign-up calendars are located in the Parish Hall. For Coffee Hour, please reach out to Nancee Salyer at nsalyer331@aol.com and for Flowers please e-mail Beth Holimon at roxy1011@gmail.com and for flower wording for the bulletin please reach out to Saunders at administrator@laketoxawayumc.org before 5:00 PM the Wednesday prior.

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 4:00 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 Don Scholl, Lysa Riggs' husband as he recovers from his cancer treatments. We also pray for Chip Dixon, the Guffeys and the Baileys.

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

We continue to pray for those who have recently lost a family member.

Please continue to pray for our student scholars, our local students, teachers and staff over the summer months.

STAFF & LAY VOLUNTEERS

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

Organist: Charlotte Gilmore

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

Lay Leader: Paula Markert: 828-553-9434 & Maria Buehler: 828-553-2128

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

Liturgist: Scott Walter