



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Eighth Sunday in Pentecost

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service & Communion
Eighth Sunday in Pentecost, Aug. 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 - Rhosymedre (Lovely) R. Vaughan Williams

An important note about the English composer R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), A truly remarkable composer including major symphonies. But it is his interest in hymnody that is significant. There are more than 20 hymns tunes in the Methodist Hymnal he harmonized, arranged or composed. He was the editor of an earlier English Episcopal Hymnal.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to God,

for God's steadfast love lasts forever.

God accompanies us in our distress,

as we cross the threshold to worship's blessings.

Give thanks to our God,

for God's steadfast love abides with us.

Let us enter this space for worship,

celebrating God's works for humankind.

HYMN # 126 - Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

OPENING PRAYER

God, our guide and our protector,

as we gather today in your holy house,

open our minds and souls and hearts,

***that we may be inclined to hear the gentle direction
of your Spirit in our lives.***

Help us follow you as you lead us

to the land you have created for us,

where we may dwell with you and in you. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

Lord God, You have called us to yourself and made us into a people.

We belong to you, and we belong to one another.

But in our self-focused lives, we have forgotten that. We have lived for ourselves.

Sometimes we have ignored others whom we have deemed unworthy.

Sometimes we have ignored your gifts to us and deemed ourselves unworthy.

Forgive us our sins, we humbly ask.

O Lord, by the power of your Spirit, increase our gratitude for your gifts and for our life together.

We pray this in the name Jesus who is head of the Body. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

When Jesus encountered the Samaritan woman at the well, he told her, "If you knew the generosity of God and who I am, you would be asking me for a drink, and I would give you fresh, living water" (MSG). Sisters and brothers, Jesus' forgiveness is as limitless and life-giving as a spring in the desert. So, believe the Good News of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

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

Hosea 11:1-11 - *Like a mother, God loves Israel*

- 11:1 When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.
11:2 The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals and offering incense to idols.
11:3 Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk; I took them up in my arms, but they did not know that I healed them.
11:4 I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them.
11:5 They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me.
11:6 The sword rages in their cities; it consumes their oracle priests and devours because of their schemes.
11:7 My people are bent on turning away from me. To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all.
11:8 How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender.
11:9 I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim, for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath.
11:10 They shall go after the LORD, who roars like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west.
11:11 They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt and like doves from the land of Assyria, and I will return them to their homes, says the LORD.

Psalms 107:1-9, 43 - *Give thanks to the Most High (Psalter Lesson)* *(UMH Pg. 830) (Please read the bold text)*****

- 107:1 O give thanks to the LORD, who is good, whose steadfast love endures for ever!
107:2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom the LORD has redeemed from trouble
107:3 and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
107:4 Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city in which to dwell;
107:5 hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.
107:6 Then in their trouble, they cried to the LORD, who delivered them from their distress,
107:7 and led them by a straight way, till they reached a city in which to dwell.
107:8 Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.

107:9 For the LORD satisfies those who are thirsty, and fills the hungry with good things.

107:43 Whoever is wise, give heed to these things; consider the steadfast love of the LORD.

Colossians 3:1-11 - *Clothed in Christ (Epistle Reading)*

- 3:1 So, if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
- 3:2 Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth,
- 3:3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- 3:4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.
- 3:5 Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry).
- 3:6 On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.
- 3:7 These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.
- 3:8 But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth.
- 3:9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices
- 3:10 and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator.
- 3:11 In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

Luke 12:13-21 - *Be rich toward God, your treasure (Gospel)*
(Please stand as you are able)

- 12:13 Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."
- 12:14 But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"
- 12:15 And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."
- 12:16 Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly.
- 12:17 And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'
- 12:18 Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.
- 12:19 And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

12:20 But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'

12:21 So, it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

P: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING The Call R. Vaughan Williams (See Hymn # 164)

SERMON

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please be seated)*

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY - Love Bade Me Welcome R. Vaughan Williams

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

Holy and ever-present God, you call us to set our minds on things above, to let go of all that weighs us down, and to embrace the new life found in Christ. As we bring these gifts, shape our hearts in generosity, our hands in service, and our minds in faithfulness. May these offerings be used to transform lives, to build up your kingdom, and to reflect your love in this world. Keep us ever mindful that we give because you have first given so abundantly to us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen

COMMUNION HYMN #632 - Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

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 # 413 - A Charge to Keep I have

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) Improvisation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guest Soloist – Vocalist Doug Grimm

A warm welcome to Doug Grimm who is singing again in our summer services. Highly trained vocally with a graduate degree and a wide range of experience singing Opera and Oratorio. Doug is presently the Director of Vocal Arts at Brevard Middle School.

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 flowers on the altar 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.

Please pray for those having or had a surgery, acute illness or injury and their recovery. We pray for full healing from hand and wrist surgery for Paula Markert.

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: Bob Kintner

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