



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
September 15th, 2024

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Sept 15th

**9:30 A.M. Livestream is available on the LTUMC YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgtuJe20i8DN7S_Cfg1sWCg**

RINGING OF THE BELL – *Please observe silence as we prepare for the service.*

PRELUDE

What a Friend We Have in Jesus Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Please stand as you are able*)

The heavens are telling the glory of God.

The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

Day pours forth speech,

and night declares knowledge of our God.

God's wisdom is written in the stars.

It is seen and heard to the ends of the earth.

When we see God's teachings in the clouds,

or hear them in the symphonies of the birds,

our minds are enriched,

our eyes are enlightened,

our souls are revived,

and our hearts rejoice.

Then we shall bless God's name with our words,

and with the silence between them.

HYMN # 145

Morning Has Broken

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

OPENING PRAYER (*Please be seated*)

God of wisdom and truth, speak to us now. Inspire us with your word.

Speak clearly to our hearts, that we may walk in your ways and live in your love. In the name of Christ, our Messiah, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Proverbs 1:20-33 - *Wisdom's rebuke to the foolish*

- 1:20 Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice.
- 1:21 At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates, she speaks:
- 1:22 "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?
- 1:23 Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you.
- 1:24 Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded,
- 1:25 and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof,
- 1:26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you,
- 1:27 when panic strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.
- 1:28 Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently but will not find me.
- 1:29 Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD,
- 1:30 would have none of my counsel and despised all my reproof,
- 1:31 therefore, they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices.
- 1:32 For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them;
- 1:33 but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease without dread of disaster."

Psalms 19 - *The commandments give light to the eyes (Pg.750 UMH) (Psalter Lesson)* ***(Please read the bold text)***

- 19:1 The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.
- 19:2 Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.**
- 19:3 There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
- 19:4 **yet their voice goes out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world.** In them God has set a tent for the sun,
- 19:5 which comes forth like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and runs its course with joy like a strong man.
- 19:6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and there is nothing hid from its heat.**
- 19:7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; **the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;**

- 19:8 the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; **the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;**
- 19:9 the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever; **the ordinances of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.**
- 19:10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; **sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.**
- 19:11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.
- 19:12 But who can understand one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults.**
- 19:13 Also keep back your servant from the insolent; let them not have dominion over me! **Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.**
- 19:14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

James 3:1-12 - Dangers of the unbridled tongue (Epistle Reading)

- 3:1 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will face stricter judgment.
- 3:2 For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is mature, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle.
- 3:3 If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies.
- 3:4 Or look at ships: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.
- 3:5 So also, the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!
- 3:6 And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of life, and is itself set on fire by hell.
- 3:7 For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species,
- 3:8 but no one can tame the tongue--a restless evil, full of deadly poison.
- 3:9 With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse people made in the likeness of God.
- 3:10 From the same mouth comes a blessing and a cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so.
- 3:11 Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water?
- 3:12 Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives or a grapevine fig? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Mark 8:27-38 - Peter's confession of faith (Gospel) (Please stand as you are able)

- 8:27 Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi, and on the way, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"
- 8:28 And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."
- 8:29 He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah."
- 8:30 And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.
- 8:31 Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again.
- 8:32 He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.
- 8:33 But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."
- 8:34 He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.
- 8:35 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.
- 8:36 For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?
- 8:37 Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?
- 8:38 Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

P: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Please be seated)*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(Let us offer our silent confessions.)

Wise, knowing God, you see our hearts so clearly.

You speak to our lives so profoundly.

And yet, we are often unable or unwilling to hear your truth and go where you lead.

Even as we praise you with our mouths, we disgrace ourselves in words spoken to others with tongues of vicious fire.

Forgive us for our hard hearts and stubborn ears.

Forgive us for our hateful words and cruel gossip.

Forgive us for our willful ignorance of the joy and gift you offer in your law of love.

Help us live in your love and walk in your truth, that we might be your people, and you might be our God. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Those who listen to God's wisdom
live secure and at peace,
without dread of disaster.*

Christ is our wisdom and our way.

In Christ, we are forgiven!

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

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH #883 (SOF of the United Church of Canada)

(Please stand as you are able)

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

***who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.***

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

***to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.***

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. 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 #415

Take up Thy Cross

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

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Meditation Robert Hebble

DOXOLOGY #95 *(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 *(Please continue standing)*

Glorious God, your teachings are more to be desired than gold or silver. May these gifts be transformed into your gifts for all the world. May our lives drip with the sweetness of your truth. May our love flow with the honey of your grace. Bless these gifts and bless our lives, that all may glorify you. In trust, we pray. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please be seated)*

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 #419 *(Please stand as you are able)*

I Am Thine, O Lord

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *(Please be seated)*

Prelude in C Major Johann Krebs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the Altar

*The flowers on the altar are given by **Bob Cowan** for his lovely wife, in honor of their wedding anniversary.*

Administrative Council Meeting

*The next Administrative Council meeting will be **Friday, September 20th at 10:00 AM in the Minnich Conference room.** Please reach out to **Scott Walter** with questions.*

Bible Study – Sunday Mornings

*The Bible study meets on **Sundays at 8:15 AM** in the Minnich conference room and is not consecutive; come as you can. **Don Henderson** is leading this Bible Study.*

Bible Study – Tuesday Afternoons Concluded & Thank You

The six-week Bible Study of Luke has concluded. Thank you to Lysa Riggs for leading this Bible Study.

The Prayer Ministry

They meet the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at 9:30 AM in the church. Please e-mail prayer requests to LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com

Livestream Volunteers Needed

*We need more volunteers to help provide the livestream. It is not a hard task and you will be trained. If you are interested, please reach out to **Joe Haraschak** at joe10066@outlook.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.

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

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

We pray for Doug & Sally Bailey. Doug is undergoing some tests and is waiting on results and next steps. Sally has a long-term health condition. Their address is Doug & Sally Bailey, 3 Seaside Ln., Unit 701, Belleair, FL 33756.

We pray for Thomas Blackstock, Tom and Kay's son as he has been diagnosed with B-cell lymphoma. Marcus announced how they may like cards. Their address is Tom, Kay & Thomas Blackstock, 208 Hidden Lane #58, Sapphire, NC 28774.

We pray for the Harvill family as Andy is in hospice care. Their address is Anita & Andy Harvill, P.O. Box 5, Sapphire, NC 28774.

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

Please pray for Char Holbrook for continued healing from a blood clot that went from her leg to a lung. Their address is John & Char Holbrook 1900 N. Atlantic Ave., Unit #702, Daytona Beach, FL 32118.

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

Organist: Charlie Steele: cwsorgan@comporium.net

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

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

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

Liturgist: Cynthia Wood

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

Morning Has Broken

145

Unison
C Am Dm G F C

1. Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en,
3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing

Am Em/G F Em Dm G

black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
born of the one light E - den saw play!

C F C Am Dm/F

Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery morn - ing,

D7/F# C/G F G7 C

Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
sprung in com - plete - ness where his feet pass.
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931 (Lam. 3:22-23)
MUSIC: Trad. Gaelic melody; harm. by Carlton R. Young, 1988

BUNESSAN
55.54 D

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Take Up Thy Cross

415

1. "Take up thy cross," the Sav - ior said, "if thou wouldst
 2. Take up thy cross, let not its weight fill thy weak
 3. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame, nor let thy
 4. Take up thy cross and fol - low Christ, nor think till

my dis - ci - ple be; de - ny thy - self, the
 spir - it with a - larm; his strength shall bear thy
 fool - ish pride re - bel; thy Lord for thee the
 death to lay it down; for on - ly those who

world for - sake, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."
 spir - it up, and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.
 cross en - dured, to save thy soul from death and hell.
 bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

WORDS: Charles W. Everest, 1833 (Mt. 16:24-25; Mk. 8:34-35; Lk. 9:23-24)
 MUSIC: William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

GERMANY
 LM

I Am Thine, O Lord

1. I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it
 2. Con - se - crate me now to thy ser - vice, Lord, by the
 3. O the pure de - light of a sin - gle hour that be -
 4. There are depths of love that I can - not know till I

told thy love to me; but I long to rise in the
 power of grace di - vine; let my soul look up with a
 fore thy throne I spend, when I kneel in prayer, and with
 cross the nar - row sea; there are heights of joy that I

arms of faith and be clos - er drawn to thee.
 stead - fast hope, and my will be lost in thine.
 thee, my God, I com - mune as friend with friend!
 may not reach till I rest in peace with thee.

Refrain

Draw me near - er, near - er, bless - ed Lord, to the
 near - er, near - er,

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875 (Heb. 10:22)
 MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1875

I AM THINE
 10 7.10 7 with Refrain