



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
April 21st, 2024

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Fourth Sunday after Easter, April 21st

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

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us Dale Wood

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

We gather in the presence of our God:

***where grieving people and children with skinned knees
have their tears wiped away.***

We gather as the little children of God:

***to worship the One who provides what we need,
not what we want.***

We gather as a part of the family of God:

to be reminded of the Good Shepherd, Jesus,

and to taste the goodness of God,

to drink deeply from God's mercy.

HYMN #559

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

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

OPENING PRAYER (*Please be seated*)

***Shepherding God, guardian of our souls,
you offer us rest in the safety of green pastures.***

***Show us with your love,
and offer us fullness of life in your name.***

***When our spirits are parched,
you lead us beside still waters
and quench our thirst for righteousness;***

***you restore our souls
and heal our battered spirits.***

***Touch our hearts and minds,
that your goodness and mercy may follow us
every day of our lives.***

***May we abide in your love and grace
for all eternity. Amen.***

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 4:5-12

- 4:5 The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem,
4:6 with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family.
4:7 When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?"
4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders,
4:9 if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed,
4:10 let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.
4:11 This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'
4:12 There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Psalm 23 (Psalter Lesson – Please read the bold text)

- 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
23:2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
23:3 he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
23:4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff-- they comfort me.
23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
23:6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

1 John 3:16-24 (Epistle Reading)

- 3:16 We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us--and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.
3:17 How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?
3:18 Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.
3:19 And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him
3:20 whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.
3:21 Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God;

- 3:22 and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.
- 3:23 And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.
- 3:24 All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

John 10:11-18 (Please stand for the Gospel)

- 10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
- 10:12 The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away--and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.
- 10:13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.
- 10:14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,
- 10:15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.
- 10:16 I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.
- 10:17 For this reason, the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.
- 10:18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

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.)*

Holy Comforter, we confess the emptiness of our souls which sends us searching for all those things which cannot nourish us. Our restless longing for the goods of the world fills us with every lust and envy. Our belief that still waters are stagnant causes us to thirst for whitewater thrills and adventures. Our trust in the hollow promises of our culture turns us away from the shelter you offer to us.

Forgive us, God Incarnate. Call us back from our wayward lives, so we may find rest in the stillness of your gentle heart; we may find healing from your scarred hands; we may find that life for which we yearn, together in you and through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

This is the good news: God will walk with us in every moment, God will fill us with goodness and mercy, God will bring us home to live forever.

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

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH #880 (*The Nicene Creed*)
(Please stand as you are able)

***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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.***

***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.
With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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 #381

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Land of Rest Sam Batt Owens

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)*

Gracious Provider, we gather with hearts filled with gratitude for the love and light you've shown us. Your Word reminds us that true love is seen in the self-sacrifice of Christ. As we offer our tithes and offerings, we are reminded of the importance of generosity and stewardship in every aspect of our lives. May these gifts be a reflection of the love we have experienced in Christ and our commitment to steward them faithfully for the work of your kingdom. Use these offerings to bring justice, mercy, and hope to a world in need. In your holy name, 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 #529 *(Please stand as you are able)*

How Firm a Foundation

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *(Please be seated)*

Go in the Strength of the Lord Douglas E. Wagner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the Altar

The flowers on the altar are given by Judy and John Lefler for the glory of God to the LTUMC congregation.

New Space Consecration Date & Construction Update

Things are in the home stretch with touch-ups, a new gate for the Memorial Garden and inspections this week. We will have our first Coffee Hour in our new space on Mother's Day after the Sunday service on May 12th. We will consecrate our new space on Sunday, June 30th in the afternoon. It will be open to the public.

General Conference 2024 to Convene April 23 - May 3 in Charlotte, NC

The **General Conference of The United Methodist Church** is a significant global gathering that convenes every four years.

General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church. The assembly meets at the beginning of each quadrennium to consider revisions to church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for church-wide programs for the next four years.

One pivotal aspect of this momentous occasion is the **24-hour prayer vigil scheduled for Sunday, April 21**. You can participate in this solemn and powerful observance. Let us unite in prayer, seeking God's guidance and wisdom as we approach the decisions and discussions that await us at the General Conference. Further details regarding the prayer vigil, including a downloadable sign-up sheet and sample prayer, can be found at <https://www.wnccumc.org/newsdetail/join-us-in-24-hours-of-prayer-for-general-conference-sunday-april-21-18326862>

The national media may be active during the conference and not always write fact-based articles. Use the links below to fact-check any of the resulting publications you may find puzzling. Please Google or search with your favorite browser the following links for more information:

www.wnccumc.org/gc2024

[General Conference \(umc.org\)](http://General Conference (umc.org))

Livestream Volunteers Needed

Have you watched our service live or wanted to catch a certain part again like Marcus' homily from one of your devices? If so, our Livestream/Audio & Visual volunteer team provides this for us. We have an urgent need for new volunteers to be trained and sign-up for weekends. Please call or text **Fred Markert at 828-553-3303** or **Marcus**.

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 weekend. If you are interested, please e-mail **Judy Lefler at judylefler1@gmail.com**. The current open weekend is July 5th.

Flowers Sign-Up

We are going digital for the flowers on the altar. Please look at our LTUMC calendar on our website: <https://www.laketoxawayumc.org/index.php> to check for open Sundays.

Please send an e-mail (not a text or phone call) to Saunders at administrator@laketoxawayumc.org. Be sure to include the date and what the flowers are for as it will be put in our bulletin. This will be a first come first serve and the sign-up is starting for May as April flowers have been filled.

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please pray for those who have long-term illness, health concerns and special intentions. We pray for Andy Harvill, and 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 has cancer.

Please pray for those having or had a surgery and their recovery. Especially for Sherry Minnich who had surgery on 4-9. Patricia Simmons who had surgery on 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

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: Andy Harvill - AV Scheduler: Fred Markert: 828-553-3303

Liturgist: Stephanie Taylor

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

559 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

1. Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2. To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
 3. Here vouch - safe to all thy ser - vants what they ask of
 4. Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or

cor - ner - stone; cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 Hosts, to - day! With thy faith - ful lov - ing - kind - ness
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee for - ev - er
 to the Son, laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,

bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 hear thy peo - ple as they pray, and thy full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter
 ev - er three and ev - er one; one in might and

help for - ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.
 one in glo - ry, while un - end - ing a - ges run.

WORDS: 7th cent. Latin; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1851
 (Eph. 2:20-22; 1 Pet. 2:4-7)
 MUSIC: Henry Purcell, ca. 1680; adapt. by Ernest Hawkins, 1842

WESTMINSTER ABBEY
 87.87.87

381 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

1. Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we
 2. We are thine, thou dost be - friend us, be the
 3. Thou hast prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and
 4. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly

need thy ten - der care; in thy pleas - ant pas - tures
 guard - ian of our way; keep thy flock, from sin de -
 sin - ful though we be; thou hast mer - cy to re -
 let us do thy will; bless - ed Lord and on - ly

feed us, for our use thy folds pre - pare.
 fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 lieve us, grace to cleanse and power to free.
 Sav - ior, with thy love our bos - oms fill.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus! Hear, O
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus! We will
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus! Thou hast

How Firm a Foundation

529

1. How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4. "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - ways shall lie,
 5. "The soul that on Je - sus still leans for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!
 for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can he say than to you he hath said,
 I'll strength - en and help thee, and cause thee to stand
 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

WORDS: "K" in Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787 (2 Tim. 2:19; Heb. 13:5; Is. 43:1-2)
 MUSIC: Early USA melody; harm. from *Tabor*, 1866

FOUNDATION
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