



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, May 5th, 2024

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service & Communion
Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 5th**

**9:30 A.M. Livestream is now available via the LTUMC YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqtuJe20i8DN7S_Cfg1sWCq**

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Meditation on "How Great Thou Art" John Carter

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Welcome to the community of faith, the family of God!

P: We come as families, large and small in number, seeking God's love.

L: God's love is here for you.

P: Help us to understand how we are connected to God.

L: We abide in Christ Jesus, in love and compassion.

P: May our spirits be renewed and our connection to God be strengthened through our worship today. AMEN.

HYMN #73

O Worship the King

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

OPENING PRAYER

We, who so often take the wonders of creation for granted, welcome the opportunity to make a joyful noise before you, O God. We come here this morning to worship and to praise you, glad that we live in this country filled with such diverse and beautiful examples of your creation. Yet, joyful noises are not easy for everyone to make, as we come from differing situations and lifestyles. Some are burdened down with the stresses of daily living and all that involves; some wearied from tasks of serving others; some worried over the state of the world and where that is all leading. Speak to us all, O God, in the stillness of this time and remind us of Jesus' willingness to take our burdens upon himself and to learn from him - to experience his gentleness and steadfast love for all. Jesus also offers us his joy so that our joy might be complete. Confident in these promises, we offer this time of worship to you, O God, praying that it may reflect our praise and thanksgiving for the gifts of creation and for all that Jesus has done for us. This we pray in his name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 10:44-48

- 10:44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.
- 10:45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles,
- 10:46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said,
- 10:47 "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"
- 10:48 So, he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Psalm 98 (Psalter Lesson – Please read the bold text)

- 98:1 O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.
- 98:2 The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- 98:3 He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**
- 98:4 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
- 98:5 Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.**
- 98:6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.
- 98:7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.**
- 98:8 Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy
- 98:9 at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.**

1 John 5:1-6 (Epistle Reading)

- 5:1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.
- 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.
- 5:3 For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome,

- 5:4 for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith.
- 5:5 Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
- 5:6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

John 15:9-17 (Please stand for the Gospel)

- 15:9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.
- 15:10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
- 15:11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.
- 15:12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.
- 15:13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
- 15:14 You are my friends if you do what I command you.
- 15:15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.
- 15:16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.
- 15:17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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.)

Almighty God,

you love us, but we have not loved you;

you call, but we have not listened.

*We walk away from neighbors in need,
wrapped up in our own concerns.*

*We have gone along with evil,
with pride, quarrelling, and divisiveness.*

*Holy God, help us to face up to ourselves,
so that, as you move toward us in mercy,
we may repent, turn to you, and receive mercy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God has remembered God's steadfast love to all the people. We are healed and called to again be God's beloved children and witnesses. Receive that healing love and share the good news with all you meet, that God is love and in God there is no darkness or fear.

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

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Dearest Jesus, We are Here David Cherwien

DOXOLOGY #95

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of joy, we offer our gifts this day, as we reflect on the wisdom of your Word. Jesus urges us to hold onto him, to stay connected to his example, presence, and the fulfillment he brings. He reveals that our joy finds completeness when it is woven into his divine joy. Help us abide in him

through love, obeying his commandment to love one another. In acts of service, healing, and selfless generosity, may our joy be sustained, a shared and everlasting gift from the source of all joy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION #400

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
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 #557

Blest Be the Tie that Binds
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*)

Postlude on a Shape Note Tune Bradley C. Hunnicutt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upper Parking Lot Closed - May 6th – 10th weather permitted for resurfacing.

Administrative Council Meeting is May 17 at 10:00 AM in our new Conference room and Zoom. See Scott Walter with questions

Planting Volunteers Needed - May 18 and May 25 at 10:00 AM

We need volunteers to help plant on the new west rock wall and railroad tie wall around the church. Please bring your own gloves and garden tools. Please reach out to Scott Walter with questions.

Flowers & Coffee Hour Sign-Ups

Due to feedback, we have ordered flower and coffee hour calendars. They will be made available in the new space once they arrive. Those who e-mailed dates, will be transferred to the calendars and on put on the website calendar.

1st Coffee Hour & New Space Consecration Dates

*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.*

LTUMC 2024 Graduates

*The Outreach/Scholarship Committee is excited to announce the 2024 college graduates and we are grateful for our LTUMC congregation for the financial support for this endeavor. We celebrate and give thanks to God for the matriculation of **Callie Owen** (Gardner Webb University), **Brennan Chapman** (Mars Hill University) and **Wyatt Owen** (A-B Technical Community College). Each graduate, in addition to the annual financial support, has benefited from a church partner who provides prayer, encouragement and, in many cases, tangible gifts. All graduates receive an inscribed bible from LTUMC.*

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 John Haraschak, Joe's twin brother who has been fighting lung cancer since 2017. He has lost part of his right lung about a year ago. Now two more tumors in right lung, lower and upper. John is getting chemo and radiation through June 30th. 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.

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. We also pray for our LTUMC 2024 scholars who are graduating.

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

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

Liturgist: Scott Walter

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

O Worship the King

73

1. O wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove,
 2. O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
 3. The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4. Thy boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
 5. Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love;
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,
 Al - might - y, thy power hath found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
 in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;

our Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 hath stab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 thy mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 and dark is God's path on the wings of the storm.
 and round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

WORDS: Robert Grant, 1833 (Ps. 104)
 MUSIC: Attr. to Johann Michael Haydn; arr. by William Gardiner, 1815

LYONS
 10 10.11 11

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 400

1. Come, thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to
 2. Here I raise mine Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy
 3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con -

sing thy grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
 help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good plea - sure,
 strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter,

call for songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious
 safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
 bind my wan - dering heart to thee. Prone to wan - der, Lord, I

son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! I'm
 stran - ger, wan - dering from the fold of God; he, to res - cue
 feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O

fixed up - on it, mount of thy re - deem - ing love.
 me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

WORDS: Robert Robinson, 1758 (1 Sam. 7:12)
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

NETTLETON
 87.87 D

557 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 2. Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our
 3. We share each oth - er's woes, our mu - tual
 4. When we a - sun - der part, it gives us

Chris - tian love; the fel - low - ship of
 ar - dent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear; and of - ten for each
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

WORDS: John Fawcett, 1782
 MUSIC: Johann G. Nägeli; arr. by Lowell Mason, 1845

DENNIS
 SM

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

LIVING GOD
 75.75.875

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