

*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church**  
**Community Worship Service**  
**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Aug 25th**

**9:30 A.M. Livestream is available on the LTUMC YouTube channel:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgtuJe20i8DN7S\\_Cfg1sWCg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgtuJe20i8DN7S_Cfg1sWCg)**

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

**PRELUDE**

Come Thou, Almighty King    Albert L. Travis

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

*L: Though storms rage around me, I will clothe myself with the whole armor of God.*

***P: I will fasten the belt of truth about my waist.***

*L: I will place strength and determination as my shoes to aid me in my ministry and mission for God.*

***P: I will take up the shield of faith with which I shall defend against evil ways.***

*L: I will pray diligently at all times, offering prayers and supplication to God.*

***P: The helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit will accompany me on my journey.***

*L: Be strong in the Lord who provides for your every need.*

***P: I place my confidence and trust in God always. AMEN.***

**HYMN # 61**

Come, Thou Almighty King  
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

**OPENING PRAYER (*Please be seated*)**

***How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!***

***We long to be where You are;***

***to stand in Your very presence,***

***and to behold You, face to face!***

***And so we have come to this place today;***

***we have gathered together to worship You—***

***to offer the praise which belongs to You alone.***

***Bless us as we worship You together,***

***and as we open our hearts and minds***

***to Your presence among us.***

***For You alone are God,***

***the One in whom we trust. Amen.***

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### **1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11), 22-30, 41-43 - Solomon's prayer at the temple dedication**

- 8:1 Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion.
- 8:6 Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim.
- 8:10 And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD,
- 8:11 so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.
- 8:22 Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands to heaven.
- 8:23 He said, "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love with your servants who walk before you with all their heart,
- 8:24 the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand.
- 8:25 Therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.'
- 8:26 Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed that you promised to your servant my father David.
- 8:27 "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built!
- 8:28 Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O LORD my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today,
- 8:29 that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward this place.
- 8:30 Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling place; hear and forgive.
- 8:41 "Likewise when foreigners, who are not of your people Israel, come from a distant land because of your name
- 8:42 --for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm--when foreigners come and pray toward this house,
- 8:43 then hear in heaven your dwelling place and do whatever the foreigners ask of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and so they may know that your name has been invoked on this house that I have built.

**Psalm 84 (Pg. 805 in the Hymnal) - How dear is God's dwelling (Psalter Lesson)**

***(Please read the bold text)***

84:1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

**84:2 My soul longs, indeed it faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

84:3 O Lord of hosts, my King and my God, at your altars even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young.

**84:4 Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!**

84:5 Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

**84:6 As they go through the valley of tears, they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.**

84:7 They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

**84:8 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!**

**84:9 Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed.**

84:10 For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

84:11 For the Lord God is a sun and shield, and bestows favor and honor.

**No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly.**

**84:12 O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.**

**Ephesians 6:10-20 Put on the armor of God (Epistle Reading)**

6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power;

6:11 put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil,

6:12 for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm.

6:14 Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness

6:15 and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace.

6:16 With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

6:17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

- 6:18 Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.
- 6:19 Pray also for me, so that when I speak a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,
- 6:20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

**John 6:56-69 The bread of eternal life (Gospel) (Please stand as you are able)**

- 6:56 Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me and I in them.
- 6:57 Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me.
- 6:58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which the ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."
- 6:59 He said these things while he was teaching in a synagogue at Capernaum.
- 6:60 When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?"
- 6:61 But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you?"
- 6:62 Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?"
- 6:63 It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.
- 6:64 But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who were the ones who did not believe and who was the one who would betray him.
- 6:65 And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."
- 6:66 Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him.
- 6:67 So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?"
- 6:68 Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life.
- 6:69 We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

*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.)*

***Patient Lord, we are a culture that wants the quick and easy answers to all of life's problems. We want to be able to open the Bible and place our fingers on the passage that will answer all our questions and heal all our hurts. It is difficult for us to deal with the knowledge that discipleship requires patience and perseverance. Jesus' own disciples struggled with his teachings. It took a long time for them to understand fully what Jesus was saying and how they were to respond. We are no different. The words of Jesus take time for us to comprehend. Forgive us, Lord, when we are so impatient; when we just want to "get on with it", and be where the action is. Help us to understand the commitment we make in discipleship, through the rocky times and the smooth seas alike. Push us in our ministry of help and compassion to do more than we ever thought we could do in helping others. Give to us that extra measure of faith and commitment that we may truly serve you by serving others. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.***

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*Even though you doubt and question, God's love is poured on you, in you, and through you to others. Rest assured in God's presence and love for you, that will never fail or abandon you. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are healed, restored, and forgiven.  
AMEN!*

***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 #600**

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

**OFFERING**

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

**OFFERTORY**

Simple Gifts    Kenneth T. Kosche

**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)**

***Eternal God, as we bring forth our offerings today, we are reminded of your  
enduring presence among us. With hearts full of gratitude, we offer these  
gifts as a symbol of our commitment to live lives of worship, not just within  
these walls but in every moment of our existence. May our actions, our  
words, and our very lives be a testament to your glory, shining forth your  
love and grace to all we encounter. 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 #369 (Please stand as you are able)**

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

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE (Please be seated)**

Trumpet Tune     Wayne L. Wold

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Guest Pastor**

Please welcome back **Rev. Andrew Crimmins**. He is celebrating today's service with us. He is the pastor of St. Timothy UMC in Brevard.

**Flowers on the Altar**

The flowers on the altar are given **to the glory of God for His beautiful gardens by Carl & Donna Shealy**.

**BLT Dinner at the Markerts**

**Paula and Fred Markert** are hosting a Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato sandwich dinner on **Wednesday, 8/28 from 6-8 PM**. Their address: 427 Eagle Drive, Bear Wallow Springs in Lake Toxaway. 828-553-3303

**2024-2025 Scholarship bookmarks**

The new bookmarks are in and are at each entrance of the church. We encourage you to take one and pray for our scholarship recipients.

**Bible Study – Finding Balance**

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 – Luke**

It meets on **Tuesdays, at 1:00 PM in the Minnich Conference room**. There is limited homework. Please see **Lysa Riggs** to sign up or email: **lysariggs@gmail.com**.

**Livestream Volunteers Needed**

Have you enjoyed watching our Sunday service when you are ill, traveling or over the winter months? This is available thanks to the volunteers, but we need more volunteers. 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**.

**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**

**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. Especially for Thomas Blackstock, Tom and Kay's son as he has been diagnosed with B-cell lymphoma at this point. He will need more tests and chemo treatments for his long journey.***

***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 as they prepare for the new school year.***

## **STAFF & LAY VOLUNTEERS**

Pastor: Marcus Dodson: 828-553-0282, [marcus61dodson@gmail.com](mailto:marcus61dodson@gmail.com)

Organist: Charlie Steele: [cwsorgan@comporium.net](mailto:cwsorgan@comporium.net)

Church Administrator: Saunders Grommesh, 469-569-2314, [administrator@laketoxawayumc.org](mailto: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: Lysa Riggs

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

## Come, Thou Almighty King

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1. Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy  
 2. Come, thou in - car - nate Word, gird on thy  
 3. Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred  
 4. To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

name to sing, help us to praise! Fa - ther all  
 might - y sword, our prayer at - tend! Come, and thy  
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour. Thou who al -  
 prais - es be, hence, ev - er - more. Thy sov - ereign

glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,  
 peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;  
 might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,  
 maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days!  
 Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend!  
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power!  
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore!

WORDS: Anon.  
 MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1769

ITALIAN HYMN  
 664.6664

Alt. tune: AMERICA

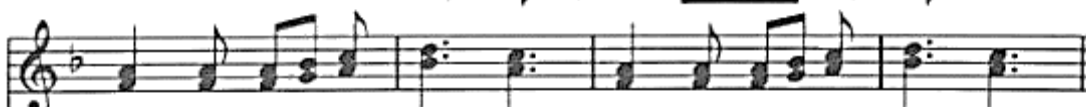
Wonderful Words of Life



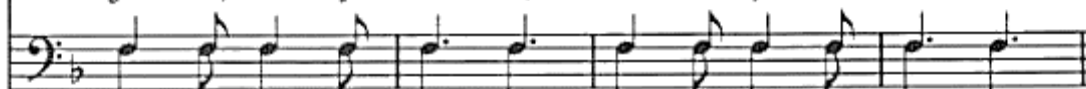
1. Sing them o - ver a - gain to me, won - der - ful words of life;  
 2. Christ, the bless - ed one, gives to all won - der - ful words of life;  
 3. Sweet - ly ech - o the gos - pel call, won - der - ful words of life;



let me more of their beau - ty see, won - der - ful words of life;  
 sin - ner, list to the lov - ing call, won - der - ful words of life;  
 of - fer par - don and peace to all, won - der - ful words of life;



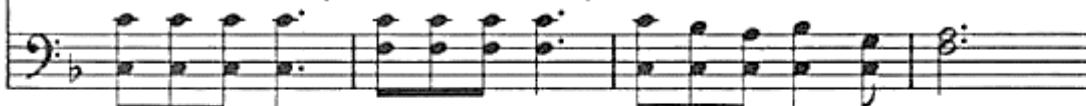
words of life and beau - ty teach me faith and du - ty.  
 all so free - ly giv - en, woo - ing us to heav - en.  
 Je - sus, on - ly Sav - ior, sanc - ti - fy for - ev - er.



*Refrain*



Beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of life.



Beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of life.



WORDS: Philip P. Bliss, 1874  
 MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss, 1874

WORDS OF LIFE  
 86.86.66

## Blessed Assurance

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine!  
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light,  
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest;

O what a fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine!  
 vi - sions of rap - ture now burst on my sight;  
 I in my Sav - ior am hap - py and blest,

Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God,  
 an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove  
 watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove,

born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.  
 ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.  
 filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*

This is my sto - ry, this is my song,

prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;

this is my sto - ry, this is my song,

prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.