



*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church**  
**Community Worship Service**  
**Proper 19, September 14th**



We have the closed hearing loop system. You may be able to turn your hearing device to the "T" setting.

***To allow all worshippers to reflect and prepare for the service,  
please observe silence during the prelude.***

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**PRELUDE** - Sonate pour Flute et Piano      Francis Poulenc  
*II Cantilena*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."*

***We proclaim that God's presence is real  
and alive and thriving!***

*Evildoers declare through their actions,  
"We go through life alone."*

***But we see God's grace, faithfulness,  
and steadfast love in our lives  
and in the world around us.***

*Praise be to God!*

**HYMN #98** - To God Be the Glory

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

***God of abundant grace,  
may your Holy Spirit be with us now  
as we worship you this day.***

***Open our eyes to truly see one another,  
that we might discover your presence  
in the smile of a neighbor.***

***Open our ears to the needs of the world,  
that we might hear your wisdom  
in the words spoken around us.***

***And open our hearts to your grace and love,  
that we might find guidance  
and strength for the journey,  
for ourselves and for one another. Amen.***

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 - *Judgment against Jerusalem***

- 4:11 At that time, it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward the daughter of my people, not to winnow or cleanse,
- 4:12 a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them.
- 4:22 "For my people are foolish; they do not know me; they are stupid children; they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good."
- 4:23 I looked on the earth, and it was complete chaos, and to the heavens, and they had no light.
- 4:24 I looked on the mountains, and they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro.
- 4:25 I looked, and there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled.
- 4:26 I looked, and the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the LORD, before his fierce anger.
- 4:27 For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation, yet I will not make a full end.
- 4:28 Because of this the earth shall mourn and the heavens above grow black, for I have spoken; I have purposed; I have not relented, nor will I turn back.

### **Psalms 14 - *God in the company of the righteous (Psalter Lesson)***

#### **UMH 746 (Please read the bold text)**

### **1 Timothy 1:12-17 - *Christ Jesus came for sinners (Epistle Reading)***

- 1:12 I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service,
- 1:13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,
- 1:14 and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

- 1:15 The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance; that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the foremost.
- 1:16 But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life.
- 1:17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Luke 15:1-10 - Lost sheep and lost (Gospel)**

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

- 15:1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.
- 15:2 And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- 15:3 So, he told them this parable:
- 15:4 "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?
- 15:5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.
- 15:6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.'
- 15:7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
- 15:8 "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?
- 15:9 And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.'
- 15:10 Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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

***P: Thanks be to God.***

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

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

***Gracious and loving God,  
we find it difficult at times  
to place our trust in you.  
Too often we look at the world,  
and see only violence, pain, destruction,  
and signs of hopelessness and despair.  
Too often we rely on our own strength,  
our own plans, our own devices,  
rather than trusting in your hand to hold us,  
your love to sustain us,  
and your wisdom to see us through.  
Forgive us, Holy One.  
Help us turn to you when we are lost,  
that we might find our way home.  
Help us navigate the treacherous waters of this world,  
that we might experience your abundant grace,  
Help us put our trust in you,  
that the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus  
may shine in our lives for all to see. Amen.***

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*Jesus said, "there will be more joy in heaven  
over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine  
righteous persons who need no repentance."  
My friends, experience God's forgiveness and joy—  
gifts that leads to new life!*

***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)***

### **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 #178** - Hope of the World

**OFFERTORY** - Sonata for Flute in b minor J. S. Bach

*II Largo e dolce*

## **OFFERING**

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

**DOXOLOGY #94 - 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**

*Steadfast and sheltering God, you are our refuge in every age, our hope when foolishness abounds and justice seems far off. Even when the world disappoints, you call us to faithfulness, to community, to generosity that reflects your own heart. Receive these offerings as signs of our trust in you and our desire to live differently, to live redemptively, and to live hopefully. Use them—and us—for the good that ripples outward, for the healing of hearts and the strengthening of your people. We give not because all is well but because you are good. Amen.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**CLOSING HYMN # 400** - Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

## **BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** – Suite Modale Ernest Bloch

*III Allegro Glorioso*

*(Please be seated)*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Flowers on the Altar**

*The flowers are given by Kay and Dan Johnson, to the glory of God and in memory of Dan's mother, Barbara Brasington.*

### **Guest Flautist Hannah Sonnerberg**

*Give a warm welcome to flautist Hannah Sonnerberg, a talented senior at Brevard College studying with Dilshad Posnock. She was raised in St. Petersburg, Florida and has studied flute for 12 years. After graduation she plans to pursue a masters in Music Performance and Administration.*

### **Potluck Dinner - September 15th at 6:00 PM**

*Our first potluck dinner will take place on Monday, September 15th at 6:00 PM and we are asking everyone to bring their favorite Fall dish. Sign-up sheets are available on the metal table in the kitchen. Please indicate the number of people coming as well as what you intend to bring. And brush up on your fall trivia! RSVP's can also be sent to Saunders at [administrator@laketoxawayumc.org](mailto:administrator@laketoxawayumc.org).*

### **John Rinker Memorial Video – September 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM**

*Please join us in celebrating the life of John Rinker in watching his memorial service on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM in the Dice Hall. Please RSVP by September 18th to the Rinker Foundation office at 561-471-8359.*

### **Outreach Committee Volunteers Needed**

*The Outreach Committee is looking for members to help plan future events at the church. If you are willing to help out, please contact Mandy Stahl at [LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com](mailto:LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com).*

### **Our Daily Bread Devotionals**

*The next quarter of Our Daily Bread devotionals are located at both entrances of the sanctuary and in the Dice Hall. Please help yourself.*

### **Student Scholar Bookmarks**

*We have our 2025-2026 student scholar prayer bookmarks available at both entrances of the church. Our scholars appreciate your prayers and support.*

### **Bible Study**

*The Bible Study meets on Sunday mornings at 8:45 AM in the Minnich Conference room. All are welcome! This is a come as you can Bible Study and a study guide is provided. It is led by Don Henderson. Please reach out to him if you have questions at [bacpac@comporium.net](mailto:bacpac@comporium.net)*

### **The Prayer Ministry**

*They meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 9:30 AM in the church. Please e-mail prayer requests to [LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com](mailto:LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com).*

### **AA Meetings Thursday Nights**

*The weekly AA meeting is every Thursday at 4:45 PM in the Dice Hall. To honor anonymity please do not go to the Parish building from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM.*

## **PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY**

*Please pray for those who have long-term illness, health concerns and special intentions. We especially pray for Chip Dixon, Bob Palmer, Don Scholl, Doug & Sally Bailey.*

*Please pray for those having or had a surgery, acute illness or injury and their recovery.*

*Our heartfelt prayers for all who have experienced the 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](mailto:marcus61dodson@gmail.com)

Organist: Bob Kintner: 828-329-2457

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

Lay Leaders: Paula Markert: 828-553-9434 and Maria Buehler: 828-553-2128

Audio/Visual & Livestream: Joe Haraschak: 813-918-1916

Liturgist: Brian Singleton