



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
October 19, 2025



*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 Sonatine III for Violin (Allegro giusto) Franz Schubert

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord!

People: O Lord, hear our voices! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of our pleas for mercy!

Leader: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

People: We wait for the Lord, our souls wait, and in his word, we hope;

Leader: Our souls wait for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

People: For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all their iniquities.

HYMN #463 Lord, Speak to Me

OPENING PRAYER *(Please be seated)*

Come, Holy Spirit, and renew us in this hour of celebration.

We rejoice that you make us your partners in pursuit of a just and peaceful world.

**With Jesus, we ask the question,
"Will there be faith on earth?"
Will we settle for mere beliefs,
or will we yield to the deep longing
for your will to be done, here and now?
Teach us to hope, work, and cry out
for your justice and peace to be made real.
Walk with us, Jesus, until we joyfully reach that day
when all God's children belong
to your eternal family. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 31: 27-34/ Promise of a New Covenant

²⁷ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. ²⁸ And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. ²⁹ In those days they shall no longer say: "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." ³⁰ But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of the one who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge.

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Psalm 119: 97-104/Your Words are Sweeter than Honey

⁹⁷ Oh, how I love your law!

It is my meditation all day long.

⁹⁸ **Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,
for it is always with me.**

⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your decrees are my meditation.

¹⁰⁰ **I understand more than the aged,
for I keep your precepts.**

¹⁰¹ I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.

¹⁰² **I do not turn away from your ordinances,
for you have taught me.**

¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴ **Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.**

2 Timothy 3: 14-4:5/Christ the Judge

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Luke 18: 1-8/A Widow Begs for Mercy

18 Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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.)

Lord Jesus Christ, you have said to us "You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it." We admit those times when we fail to ask you for good things – that it can be easier to trust you with eternity than trust you with tomorrow.

We also admit that far too often we seek first our own kingdoms, and not yours. Too often the desires of our hearts mean that we ask in our own name, rather than yours. Too often we are content to do what is easy, rather than what is right.

Have mercy on us Lord. Pour out your Spirit on us and renew us, that we might live as people of your resurrection, even here and even now. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news – God is not silent, nor is God deaf. The one who watches over you does not sleep or slumber. God hears your prayers, even in those moments when you don't know what to pray. And God speaks – the same God who commands the wind and the waves says to you: "your sins are forgiven. You are loved, cherished, held, precious to God." Know that your God cares about the big and the small things in your life, and in Christ there is nothing to fear – even death has lost its power over you. Be at peace.

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

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH #884 Korean Methodist Church

(Please stand as you are able)

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.

HYMN #601 Thy Word is a Lamp

OFFERTORY Sonatine III for Violin (Andante) Franz Schubert

OFFERING

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

DOXOLOGY #95 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

Persistent and just God, you do not turn away when your people cry out. Receive these gifts as acts of our faith—faith that keeps moving, faith that keeps hoping, faith that keeps working for justice, even when the world says it's too late or too little. Make us a people who do not lose heart. Shape our prayers into action and our generosity into grace, until your kingdom comes—on earth, as it is in heaven. In the name of Christ, who still stands and knocks. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN #593 Here I Am, Lord

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sonatine III for Violin (Allegro moderato) Franz Schubert
(Please be seated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Hunter Holbert

A warm welcome to violinist Hunter Holbert. Hunter is a Hendersonville native and has undergraduate and graduate degrees in music from Appalachian State University. He plays regularly with the Hendersonville Symphony, Brevard Philharmonic, and Symphony of the Mountains.

Flowers on the Altar

The altar flowers are given by Nancy Salyer and Scott Walter in loving memory of their mothers, Burlah Salyer and Maria Walter, whose faith, grace, and love continue to bless our lives each day.

Potluck Dinner on October 27 at 6 PM

"Cameo, Jonagold, Rome!" What's your favorite apple? Come and find out at our next church potluck dinner on October 27 at 6 PM. We will be

doing an apple tasting. Bring along a dish to share. Sign up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall or RSVP to LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com.

Volunteers needed for LTUMC Offering Collection Process

If you are interested in being a counter for contributions and making deposits, please reach out to John Lefler, LTUMC treasurer at jdlefler013@gmail.com.

Administrative Council Meeting – Friday, October 24th

This is the last meeting of 2025. The meeting will be at 10:00 AM in the Minnich conference room.

The Prayer Ministry meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 9:30 AM in the sanctuary. Please e-mail prayer requests to LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com.

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

AA Meetings Thursday Nights

AA meets 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

Steve and John Haraschak, brothers of Joe Haraschak
Sally and Doug Bailey, Adam Prusiecki, Leslie Brown, Saunders Grommesh
Our summer residents who are returning to their winter homes
Numerous silent requests, especially those with chronic illnesses
and dementia

STAFF & LAY VOLUNTEERS

Pastor: Marcus Dodson: 828-553-0282, marcus61dodson@gmail.com

Organist: Bob Kintner: 828-329-2457

Church Administrator: Saunders Grommesh: Medical Leave

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

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

Liturgist: Scott Walter

Guest Violinist: Hunter Holbert