



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
22nd Sunday after Pentecost

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
November 9, 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

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light *Setting by John Benke*

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please respond with words in bold)*

Even though we don't always feel it, God is with us.

**The darkness and doubt of the world
can threaten to consume us.**

Yet God is with us.

All around us, there is fear and hopelessness.

God brings to us hope and peace.

We place our trust in God's abundant love.

**Let us freely and without fear open our hearts
to God's healing words of hope. AMEN.**

HYMN #610 We Know That Christ Was Raised

OPENING PRAYER *(Please be seated)*

God of faithful surprises,

**even as tumultuous winds shake us and the floor
beneath us quakes, you firmly hold us.**

**As the world around us rattles,
you erase fear from our hearts.**

Whether on earth or in heaven, your loving Spirit endures.

It pervades the limitless reaches of your creation.

**Enduring Spirit, lift us during times of trembling, and still
us during moments of uncertainty. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Job 19: 23-27a

²³ "O that my words were written down!
O that they were inscribed in a book!
²⁴ O that with an iron pen and with lead
they were engraved on a rock forever!
²⁵ For I know that my vindicator lives
and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;
²⁶ and after my skin has been destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God,
²⁷ whom I shall see on my side,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.

Psalm 150 UMH 862

(Please respond with the words in bold.)

1 Peter 1: 3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into
an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,
kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the
power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed
in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while
you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of
your faith—being more precious than gold that, though
perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise
and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.
⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him,
and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him
and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,
⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of
your souls.

Luke 24: 36-49

(Please stand as you are able.)

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus^[1] himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."^[m] ³⁷ They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see, for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.^[n] ⁴¹ Yet for all their joy they were still disbelieving and wondering, and he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish,^[o] ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah^[p] is^[a] to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses^[q] of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." 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.)

O Lord, we have not lived our lives as kingdom people.

We place our crowns on hopelessness, fear, and

selfishness. We are ruled by our schedules and our need

for control. We make kings of the things we acquire

and queens of our immediate desires. We forget that your

kingdom draws near to us on earth, as it is in heaven.

Forgive us, we pray. Come, Lord, and open in us

the gates of your kingdom. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The God of our Lord Jesus Christ blesses us
and calls us kingdom people.

In the name of the reigning Christ, we are forgiven.

**In the name of the reigning Christ,
we are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.**

HOMILY "Ghostbusters"

STATEMENT OF FAITH A Modern Affirmation UMH 885

(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 #314 In the Garden

OFFERTORY

Sarabande (*a slow dance*) Seth Bingham

OFFERING

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

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.
Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Faithful God, the One who stands with us in ruins and renewals alike, may your compassionate care continue to rain down on us. As we bring our offerings, we remember not only what was, but we dare to believe in what will be. You are our strength when we falter, our vision when the future feels uncertain. Use these gifts to rebuild your beloved community—not only in stone and structure, but in lives made whole, relationships restored, and justice pursued. May your peace dwell richly in what we offer and how we live, that the glory of this house—the people called by your name—might truly shine. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN #308 Thine Be the Glory

(Please stand as you are able)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

(Please be seated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the Altar

The altar flowers are given by Kay and Thomas Blackstock in celebration of their 49th wedding anniversary.

Welcome to Rev. Kelli Mullinix

Kelli serves as one of the chaplains at Givens Estates (A UMC Retirement Community in WNC). She also is an elder in the Western North Carolina Conference of the UMC. Kelli previously served as the Associate Pastor/Director of Contemporary Worship at First United Methodist Church in Hendersonville. She holds both a Master of Divinity and Master Degree of Sacred Music Degree. We are grateful for her presence with us today.

Advent Bible Study-open to all!

Kim Dodson will be facilitating a 4-week study for the season of Advent. We will be guided by the study "A Child is Born" by Amy-Jill Levine, renowned American Jewish scholar of the New Testament and Jewish studies, known for her work on Jewish-Christian relations and biblical interpretations. The study will consider birth narratives throughout the scripture and how they inform the faith narrative around Jesus' birth and our own faith understanding of what the birth of Jesus means for us. We will meet on Tuesdays from 10:00-11:15am beginning on November 25 and continuing through December 2, 9, and 16. Please contact Kim at mldkjd@comporium.net to let her know you are interested and if you would like a study guide.

Sunday Morning Bible Study meets before worship 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. Don Henderson facilitates this group. Please reach out to him if you have questions at bacpac@comporium.net.

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.

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

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

Charlotte Gilmore who remains in the hospital in Charlotte awaiting a liver transplant.

Steve and John Haraschak, brothers of Joe Haraschak

Sally and Doug Bailey, Adam Prusiecki, Leslie Brown, Saunders Grommesh

STAFF & LAY VOLUNTEERS

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

Organist: Bob Kintner: 828-329-2457

Church Administrator: Saunders Grommesh *on Medical Leave*

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

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

Scripture Liturgist: Beth Holimon

Worship Liturgist: Scott Walter

Guest Preacher: Rev. Kelli Mullinix