



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Seventh Sunday of Easter

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service & Communion
Seventh Sunday of Easter, June 1st**

**10:00 A.M. Livestream is now available via the LTUMC YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgtuJe20i8DN7S_Cfg1sWCq**

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Prayer at Notre-Dame Leon Boellman

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Welcome friends, family, and neighbors. Today we worship, pray, sing, and receive the sacrament of Holy Communion.

All: It is a gift to be called and gathered, to be able to worship God in community.

L: We gather and remember the words Jesus spoke, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

All: His words opened their minds to understand the scriptures. It changed their lives forever.

L: May the Spirit open our minds today as we hear the gospel of Jesus in many forms.

All: May our lives be changed as we worship God together.

HYMN #731

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious Creator, you invite us into relationship with every breath. Settle us, center us, and calm us to the ever-moving flowing of your Spirit calling us to become one with you. We pray in humility and hope of grace. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

***Forgiving and merciful God, from the demons that haunt our lives, deliver us.
From the self-judgment and shame that dim the light within us,
save us.
From the hurts and sorrows that harm us, heal us.
Cover us with your forgiveness, comfort, grace, and love,
that we may shine with your glory and grace.
We humbly pray in the name of the Christ.
Amen.***

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Let the thirsty come.
For in Christ's grace, we receive the water of life.
In God's mercy, we receive forgiveness and love.*

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

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #881 (The Apostles' Creed) ***(Please stand as you are able)***

***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.***

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 16:16-34 - A jailer is baptized

- 16:16 One day as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a female slave who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling.
- 16:17 While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation."
- 16:18 She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.
- 16:19 But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities.
- 16:20 When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men, these Jews, are disturbing our city
- 16:21 and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us, being Romans, to adopt or observe."
- 16:22 The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods.
- 16:23 After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely.
- 16:24 Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.
- 16:25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.
- 16:26 Suddenly there was an earthquake so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened.
- 16:27 When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped.
- 16:28 But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here."
- 16:29 The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.
- 16:30 Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
- 16:31 They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."
- 16:32 They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house.

- 16:33 At the same hour of the night, he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay.
- 16:34 He brought them up into the house and set food before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Psalm 97 - Light springs up for the righteous
(UMH Pg. 816) (Psalter Lesson) (Please read the bold text)

- 97:1 The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
- 97:2 Clouds and thick darkness surround the Lord; righteousness and justice are the foundation of God's throne.**
- 97:3 Fire goes before the Lord, and burns up his adversaries round about.
- 97:4 The Lord's lightnings illumine the world; the earth sees and trembles.**
- 97:5 The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.
- 97:6 The heavens proclaim God's righteousness, and all the peoples behold his glory.**
- 97:7 All worshipers of images are put to shame, who make their boast in worthless idols; all gods bow down before the Lord.
- 97:8 Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O God.**
- 97:9 For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
- 97:10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; he preserves the lives of his faithful; and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**
- 97:11 Light dawns for the righteous and joy for the upright in heart.
- 97:12 Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name!**

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21 - Blessed are those who wash their robes
(Epistle Reading)

- 22:12 "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work.
- 22:13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."
- 22:14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.
- 22:16 "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let everyone who hears say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

22:20 The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

22:21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

John 17:20-26 - Christ's prayer for his disciples (Gospel)
(Please stand as you are able)

17:20 "I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word,

17:21 that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

17:22 The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one,

17:23 I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

17:24 Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

17:25 "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me.

17:26 I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them."

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

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please be seated)*

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Rejoice Greatly, O My Soul Sigfried Karg-Elert

DOXOLOGY #94 *Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow*

(Please stand as you are able)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Transforming God, we have come to your house as children.

The table is ever-growing

And we revel in your gifts for us.

Receive our simple offerings,

That they may be used to faithfully serve in building your kingdom come.

We pray in the name of our Savior, Jesus the Christ.

Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION #617

I Come with Joy

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 #130

God Will Take Care of You

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*)

Improvisation Hymn Tune Martin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Bible Study

The summer Bible Study is Sunday mornings, at 8:45 AM in the Bill Minnich Conference room. This is a come as you can Bible Study and a study guide will be provided. It is led by Don Henderson. Please reach out to him if you have questions at bacpac@comporium.net.

Administrative Council Meetings

The following dates have been scheduled for the remaining Administrative Council meetings for 2025: Friday, June 6; Friday, August 22; and Friday, October 24. The meeting times are 10:00 AM in the Bill Minnich conference room.

30 Year Anniversary Luncheon Celebration for Rev. Dodson

On Sunday, June 29th, we are going to host a celebration for Pastor Marcus in honor of his 30 years of service to Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church. After church, a BBQ luncheon will take place in the Dice Hall. Please RSVP to Saunders by noon Wednesday, June 25th at administrator@laketoxawayumc.org so we can get a head count. For questions, please reach out to

Mandy Stahl at LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com. We need help with sides and desserts like potato salad, baked beans, pies and cookies. More details to come.

Coffee Hour after Today's Service

Please join us in the Dice Hall after today's service for coffee and snacks. This is a great way to see friends and make new ones. Please sign up to host one.

Flowers & Coffee Hour Sign-Up Calendars

The sign-up calendars are located in the Parish Hall. For Coffee Hour, please reach out to Nancee Salyer at nsalyer331@aol.com and for Flowers please e-mail Beth Holimon at roxy1011@gmail.com and for flower wording for the bulletin please reach out to Saunders at administrator@laketoxawayumc.org before 5:00 PM the Wednesday prior.

Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Ministry meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 9:30 AM in the church. If you have a prayer request and cannot make it in person, please e-mail it 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 on Thursdays.

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please pray for those who have long-term illness, health concerns and special intentions.

Please pray for those having or had a surgery, acute illness or injury and their recovery. We pray for Don Scholl, Lysa Riggs' husband who has been diagnosed with throat cancer.

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.

STAFF & LAY VOLUNTEERS

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

Organist/Music Director: Bob Kintner

Church Administrator: Saunders Grommesh, 469-569-2314, administrator@laketoxawayumc.org

Lay Leader: Paula Markert: 828-553-9434 & Maria Buehler: 828-553-2128

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

Liturgist: Stephen Wood