



*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, 6-22-25*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church**  
**Community Worship Service**  
**Sunday, June 22nd**

**10:00 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 –** *To allow all worshippers to reflect and prepare for the service, please observe silence during the prelude.*

**PRELUDE - Aria**    Gordon Young

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*L: Come, let us worship the Lord our God, whose love quenches our thirst.*

***P: We are parched and thirsty for God's healing word.***

*L: Let us praise God who is with us always.*

***P: We seek the one who will not desert us.***

*L: Let us open our hearts to God who calls us by name.*

***P: We come, seeking reconciled relationship with God. AMEN.***

**HYMN #57 - O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

Ladies, please sing verse #4

Men, please sing verse #5

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

***Beckoning God, as you moved in the lives of Elijah and Elisha,  
move in our lives today in our worship of You, inviting us to journey to  
unknown territory, to listen for your voice,  
and to speak your prophetic word in a world that does not want to hear.  
Empowered by your Spirit, grant us the courage we need  
to journey, trust, listen, speak, and accept your commission  
to be your faithful servant people. Amen.***

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### **1 Kings 19:1-4, (5-7), 8-15a - *Elijah hears God in silence***

- 19:1 Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.
- 19:2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow."
- 19:3 Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.
- 19:4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."
- 19:5 Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat."
- 19:6 He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. He ate and drank and lay down again.
- 19:7 The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, or the journey will be too much for you."
- 19:8 He got up and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.
- 19:9 At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"
- 19:10 He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."
- 19:11 He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake,
- 19:12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.
- 19:13 When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

19:14 He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

19:15a Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus.

**Psalm 42 and 43 - *Send out your light and truth (UMH Pg. 777)***  
**(Psalter Lesson) (Please read the bold text)**

42:1 As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

**42:2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?**

42:3 My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, "Where is your God?"

**42:4 These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.**

42:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? **Hope in God, for I shall again praise,**

42:6 **my help and my God.** My soul is cast down within me; therefore, I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

**42:7 Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts; all your waves and your billows have gone over me.**

42:8 By day the Lord commands his steadfast love, and at night God's song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

**42:9 I say to God, my rock: "Why have you forgotten me? Why do I mourn because of the oppression of the enemy?"**

42:10 Like a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me; **they say to me continually, "Where is your God?"**

42:11 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? **Hope in God, whom again I shall praise, my help and my God.**

43:1 Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; from the deceitful and unjust deliver me!

**43:2 For you are the God in whom I take refuge; Why have you cast me off? Why must I mourn because of the oppression of the enemy?**

43:3 O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!

**43:4 Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.**

43:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? **Hope in God, whom again I shall praise, my help and my God.**

**Galatians 3:23-29 - *Clothed with Christ in baptism (Epistle Reading)***

3:23 Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed.

3:24 Therefore, the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous by faith.

3:25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian,

3:26 for in Christ Jesus, you are all children of God through faith.

3:27 As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

3:28 There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

3:29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

**Luke 8:26-39 - *Jesus casts out demons truth (Gospel)***  
***(Please stand as you are able)***

8:26 Then they arrived at the region of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.

8:27 As he stepped out on shore, a man from the city who had demons met him. For a long time, he had not worn any clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs.

8:28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, shouting, at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me,"

8:29 for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.)

8:30 Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him.

8:31 They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

8:32 Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding, and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So, he gave them permission.

8:33 Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd stampeded down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

- 8:34 When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country.
- 8:35 Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they became frightened.
- 8:36 Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed.
- 8:37 Then the whole throng of people of the surrounding region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, for they were seized with great fear. So, he got into the boat and returned.
- 8:38 The man from whom the demons had gone out begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying,
- 8:39 "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So, he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

*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.)*

***Loving and holy God, we confess that we hold tightly to our pride and resist your transforming grace. You offer us freedom and a welcome place in your family, yet we struggle, trying to earn what you have already given. We cling to our old ways of doing and thinking. You call us your beloved children. Help us hear and claim our new identity. Free us from the bonds of limited imagination and empower us to thrive in your life of faith and grace. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen. Loving and holy God, we confess that we hold tightly to our pride and resist your transforming grace. You offer us freedom and a welcome place in your family, yet we struggle, trying to earn what you have already given. We cling to our old ways of doing and thinking. You call us your beloved children. Help us hear and claim our new identity. Free us from the bonds of limited imagination and empower us to thrive in your life of faith and grace. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.***

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*Children of God: Faith has come, and we are free. Receive your forgiveness today.*

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

### **HOMILY**

## **STATEMENT OF FAITH #884 (Korean United Methodist Church)**

***We believe in the one God, creator and sustainer of all things, Father of all nations, the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love. We believe in Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, our teacher, example, and Redeemer, the Savior of the world. We believe in the Holy Spirit, God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength.***

***We believe in the forgiveness of sins, in the life of love and prayer, and in grace equal to every need. We believe in the Word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments as the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice. We believe in the church, those who are united in the living Lord for the purpose of worship and service. We believe in the reign of God as the divine will realized in human society, and in the family of God, where we are all brothers and sisters. We believe in the final triumph of righteousness and in the life everlasting. 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 #444 - O Young and Fearless Prophet**

## **OFFERING**

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

## **OFFERTORY - Allegro G. F. Handel**

## **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**

***Gracious and transforming God, you clothe us in grace and love. Receive these gifts as signs of our desire to live into Christ's vision of your beloved community. Baptized into your peace and justice, may we shed old divisions and embrace the unity you intend for all people. Use these offerings to build bridges, mend hearts, and proclaim that in Christ, all are one—equal, cherished, and free. May our giving reflect the boundless love you pour into us. We pray this in the name of the one who makes us whole. Amen.***

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **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 #548 - In Christ There Is No East or West**

**POSTLUDE - Fugue (Little) in B Flat J. S. Bach**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Flowers on the Altar**

*The flowers on the altar are given by Barbara and Doug Hill in recognition of Marcus Dodson's 30 years of dedication and service to LTUMC.*

### **Administrative Council Meeting**

*The June Administrative Council meeting is Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM in the Bill Minnich conference room.*

### **Feeding those at The Haven**

*Thank you to Maria and Jay Buehler, Louise Spencer and Tamsin Freeman for graciously volunteering to provide meals to The Haven.*

### **Summer Bible Study**

*The new summer Bible Study group meets on Sunday mornings at 8:45 AM in the 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](mailto:bacpac@comporium.net)*

### **30 Year Anniversary Luncheon Celebration for Rev. Dodson**

*On Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, we are going to host a celebration for Rev. Dodson in honor of his 30 years of service to Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church. After the church service, a BBQ luncheon will take place in the Dice Hall. Please RSVP to Saunders by noon Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at [administrator@laketoxawayumc.org](mailto:administrator@laketoxawayumc.org) so we can get a head count. If you can help with sides like baked beans and potato salad, please reach out to Mandy Stahl at [LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com](mailto:LTUMCPrayerRequests@gmail.com).*

### **Flowers on the Altar & Coffee Hour after Today's Service**

*Please join us in the Dice Hall after today's service for coffee and snacks. Please sign up to host one. While signing up, please consider signing up for flowers on the altar. Please let Saunders know by Wednesday at 5:00 PM on how you want it to read in the bulletin.*

### **The Prayer Ministry**

*Everyone is welcome to join the Prayer Ministry on 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 – 6:00 PM.*

### **PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY**

*Please pray for those who have long-term illness, health concerns and special intentions. We pray for Don Scholl, Lysa Riggs' husband as he undergoes cancer treatments. We also pray for Chip Dixon.*

*Please pray for those having or had a surgery, acute illness or injury and their recovery. We pray for Sarah Ward who had surgery. Please continue to pray for the Baileys and the Guffeys.*

*We continue to pray for those who have recently lost a family member. We pray for the family of Jackie Haraschak as she passed away last week. She was Joe Haraschak's sister-in-law. Joe & Liz Haraschak's address is: 996 Cold Mountain Rd., Lake Toxaway, NC 28747.*

*Please continue to pray for our student scholars, our local students, teachers and staff over the summer months.*

### **STAFF & LAY VOLUNTEERS**

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

Organist/Music Director: Bob Kintner

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 Chair: Joe Haraschak: 813-918-1916

Liturgist: Brian Singleton