



*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020*

*Dear Lake Toxaway UMC family and friends,*

*Waiting has dominated many of our lives this year. I sat in a dentist's chair Friday morning and waited because one of the dental assistants was late, so I waited. Waiting has always been a common experience for most of us; some of us have more difficulty than others with waiting. Patience is a spiritual discipline and a spiritual gift.*

*I will preach from the Old Testament lesson this week and speak about waiting as a "threshold" experience. For months now, we have found ourselves in a wilderness experience of uncertainty and unfamiliarity. We are waiting for our lives to return to some semblance of normalcy. Yet, the Apostle Paul reminds us "to not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)*

*Paul is defining joy in the verses in the Epistle lesson appointed for us this week, and I need this list in a time of waiting! Paul states joy comes in gentleness, in how we treat those around us, in how we reach out to those who hurt. Joy is found in the knowledge and experience of the nearness of God, a nearness that diminishes anxiety and brings out a willingness to connect with God with gratitude and with hope. Joy is found in that communion, that peaceful confidence that comes from the living Christ.*

*Paul inserts an important reminder in verse 4, "always." Really, Paul? This seems unreachable, impossible. This passage is a wonderful boost of reminding us to find joy. I can imagine singing these verses akin to Mary Poppins words "a spoon full of sugar..." But this word, "always", challenges me.*

*Hear this one phrase again: "Rejoice in the Lord." Surely, we can keep reminding each other of the source of this joy: The Lord Jesus. We can remember a time when there was joy in the Lord, in worship, in fellowship. And Paul wants to remind us to let joy in the Lord spill out; it is a gift not just for ourselves but for all. May our gentleness be known. Place worry in prayer. Focus on whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, excellent. Paul encourages us to think about these things and concludes with the reminder the God of peace will be with you! And as we think on these things, we are strong enough to "press on" in our waiting.*

*I look forward to seeing many of you and worshipping with all of you in the various ways available to us in this time! May God's joy be present with us!*

*I love you and hold you in my heart!*

*Marcus*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church  
Community Worship Service  
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
October 11th, 2020**

<b>9:00 A.M. Livestream link: <a href="https://youtu.be/I_U60XHdrME">https://youtu.be/I_U60XHdrME</a></b>
---

**PRELUDE**

Softly and Tenderly      arr. Dale Wood

**GREETING**

*Praise the Lord.*

*Give thanks for God's goodness.*

***God's steadfast love endures forever.***

*Happy are those who observe justice,  
who do righteousness at all times.*

***Save us, O Lord,  
and gather us from among the nations,  
that we may give thanks to your holy name,  
and glory in your praise.***

*L. Come and worship God!*

***P. AMEN.***

**HYMN #158**

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

**Opening Prayer**

***Gracious God,  
when the world's noise is turned up high,  
we come not to escape, but to seek wisdom,  
and to focus on things that are worthy.  
Dial down the distractions in our minds.  
Tune our senses to your word  
and our hearts to your praise.  
In your holy name we pray. Amen.***

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### **Exodus 32:1-14**

- 32:1 When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."
- 32:2 Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me."
- 32:3 So, all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron.
- 32:4 He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"
- 32:5 When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD."
- 32:6 They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.
- 32:7 The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely;
- 32:8 they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'"
- 32:9 The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are.
- 32:10 Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."
- 32:11 But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?
- 32:12 Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people.
- 32:13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'"

32:14 And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

**Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 (read responsively)**

106:1 Praise the LORD! O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

**106:2 Who can utter the mighty doings of the LORD, or declare all his praise?**

106:3 Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

**106:4 Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your people; help me when you deliver them;**

106:5 that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage.

**106:6 Both we and our ancestors have sinned; we have committed iniquity, have done wickedly.**

106:19 They made a calf at Horeb and worshiped a cast image.

**106:20 They exchanged the glory of God for the image of an ox that eats grass.**

106:21 They forgot God, their Savior, who had done great things in Egypt,

106:22 wondrous works in the land of Ham, and awesome deeds by the Red Sea.

**106:23 Therefore, he said he would destroy them-- had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him, to turn away his wrath from destroying them.**

**Philippians 4:1-9**

4:1 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

4:2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.

4:3 Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice.

4:5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

4:6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

4:8 Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is

any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

4:9 Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

### **Matthew 22:1-14**

- 22:1 Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying:
- 22:2 "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son.
- 22:3 He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come.
- 22:4 Again, he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.'
- 22:5 But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business,
- 22:6 while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.
- 22:7 The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.
- 22:8 Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.
- 22:9 Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.'
- 22:10 Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so, the wedding hall was filled with guests.
- 22:11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe,
- 22:12 and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless.
- 22:13 Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
- 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen."

*L: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.*

***P: Thanks be to God!***

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

***Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.***

*(Let us offer our silent confessions.)*

***God of mercy,***

***in our impatience for answers,***

***we sometimes turn to idols of our own making***

***and forget our covenant with you.***

***Passionate for what is right,***

***we wrong those with whom we differ.***

***Pleased at the invitation to your banquet,***

***we fail to arrive with humility and thanksgiving.***

***Forgive us when our faith is weak***

***and our zeal too strong.***

***In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.***

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*Do not worry; the Lord is near.*

*God hears our prayers with compassion*

*and with abundant, steadfast love.*

*Rejoice, for in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!*

***In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. AMEN.***

## **HOMILY**

### **STATEMENT OF FAITH *(Korean 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.***

## **OFFERING**

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

## **OFFERTORY**

Be Thou With Me      J. S. Bach

## **DOXOLOGY**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***O God, creator of all that we have and all that we are,  
no one can utter all your mighty deeds  
or declare all your praise.  
Yet accept these gifts, we pray,  
both as tools of the work of the gospel  
and as signs of our pledge to be coworkers  
in Christ's name. Amen.***

## **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 #398**

Jesus Calls Us

Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed with permission)

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!      arr. Robert A. Hobby



## STAFF & LAY VOLUNTEERS

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

Organist: Charlie Steele: [cwsorgan@comporium.net](mailto:cwsorgan@comporium.net)

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

Lay Leaders: Barbara Kline: 828-862-5585 and Paula Markert: 828-553-9434

Audio/Visual for Livestream Chair: Andy Harvill

Liturgists: Drew Prusiecki – 9:00 AM & George Bagwell – 11:00 AM

Vocalist: Will Cowan

## Prayer Concerns of the Community

**Please pray for Madison Coleman/The Jeter Family, The Suggs Family, Fred Collins, Andy Marshall and Frank Hardin**

**Please continue to pray for those who have had the death of a loved one in the recent weeks and months.**

## Flowers on the altar

**The orchid arrangement is in honor of the wedding of Katie and Mitchell Davis and in appreciation for Pastor Marcus from Kellie and Drew Prusiecki.**

## Announcements

### NEW WORSHIP SERVICES & TIMES

We have two worship services 9:00 am & 11:00 am to accommodate more of you who want to attend church. We encourage you to e-mail your reservation for the next week even if you attended the week prior. We are excited to see more of you at church.

To reserve a place for 9:00 am or 11:00 am please contact Saunders at: [administrator@laketoxawayumc.org](mailto:administrator@laketoxawayumc.org).

***Reservations open: Sunday noon-Tuesday at 5:00 PM each week.*** If you make a reservation later in the week, we will reserve your spot if there is room. Saunders will need an e-mail with the following:

1. First & last name
2. E-mail address
3. How many attending
4. What service 9:00 AM or 11:00 AM.
5. If you are open to attending the other service please notate it

It will be first come first served and we are excited to see you.

1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 2. Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 3. Praise yet the Lord a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;  
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;  
 On heav-en's bliss - ful shore his good-ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra-cious choice. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

## Jesus Calls Us

398



1. Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our
2. As of old the a - pos - tles heard it by the
3. Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
4. In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5. Je - sus calls us! By thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his  
 Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and  
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol  
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in  
 may we hear thy call, give our hearts to



sweet voice sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me!"  
 toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.  
 that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more!"  
 cares and plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these!"  
 thine o - be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

