



*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, November 1st 2020*

*Dear Lake Toxaway UMC family and friends,*

*All Saints Day actually falls on Sunday this year! John Wesley considered it one of the greatest celebrations in the life of the church. Wesley is quoted as saying in 1756, "how superstitious are they who scruple giving God solemn thanks for the lives and deaths of his saints!" I, like John Wesley, see this day as a great festival for the church.*

*I enjoy the remembrance of the saints of the church! It seems especially important to me to observe All Saints this year. In previous years, the communion ritual allowed for a time where we named the saints who had entered eternal life within the past year. Now, due to our fast from the Eucharist and the inability to have held normal memorial services, we need to take the opportunity to grieve together and to reclaim the hope of the Resurrection, even as we acknowledge the legacy that remains from our blessed saints of the Church.*

*All Saints Day is about acknowledging those who have died recently as well as those who have died throughout history. It allows us to acknowledge those who are no longer a part of this congregation but also those who are a part of the larger congregation of the body of Christ.*

*This day also provides an opportunity to remember the promises of eternity! It is a way of looking through all that is surrounding us now into a future that looks significantly different. It is not an escape! All Saints Day is a call to action, to live into this possible future, the kingdom of God, where, as the Scripture lessons remind us, "there is no hunger or thirst, and there is comfort for those who mourn and whose who suffer in the hands of God!" However, we envision this hope, it is a GRACE to cling to in uncertain times. We look toward the multitudes who have gone before as a promise and a beacon of light in our darkness. These are they who have gone before; let us celebrate them, even as we honor them by how we live.*

*Thanks be to God for them! Thanks be to God for their Resurrection in Christ! Thanks be to God for the ever-present comfort of the Holy Spirit as we grieve and live into the future! May we be found faithful by those who come behind us!*

*I loved each of these persons; they gave so many gifts to me and to us as a congregation. I love each of you. We are blessed to be in this ministry of following a Risen Lord in uncertain days! May we hold fast to Jesus!*

*Marcus*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church  
Community Worship Service  
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost  
All Saints Day - November 1st, 2020**

**9:30 A.M. Livestream link: <https://youtu.be/wLWrL9AFEpg>**

**PRELUDE**

Deep River, My Home is Over Jordan      arr. Marianne Kim

**GREETING**

Leader: We have come to affirm our historic faith.

**People: To worship the God of our mothers and fathers.**

Leader: We have come to remember God's benefits to us the living.

**People: To respond in thanksgiving to the mighty works of God in our lives.**

Leader: We have come to affirm our trust in the God of all futures,

**People: To whose name be blessing and honor, glory and power forever and ever. Amen.**

**HYMN #160**

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

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

**OPENING PRAYER**

*We seek and find you in Creation, O God,  
in the world you have made and the people you have called.  
Your vulnerable, powerful Lamb is our shepherd and guide,  
leading us to share the shelter of your abundant life.  
Let us recognize you here  
in the beauty of this morning and in its challenge;  
May the Risen One, your Shepherd-Lamb,  
lead us to act for your salvation and peace:  
so that all may drink from your springs of the waters of life,  
and find their tears of sorrow and pain wiped away.  
In the name of the Risen One we pray: Amen.*

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Revelation 7:9-17

- 7:9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.
- 7:10 They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"
- 7:11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,
- 7:12 singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
- 7:13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?"
- 7:14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- 7:15 For this reason, they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
- 7:16 They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;
- 7:17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

### Psalms 34:1-10, 22 *(read responsively - text in bold)*

- 34:1 I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- 34:2 My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.**
- 34:3 O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.**
- 34:5 Look to him, and be radiant; so, your faces shall never be ashamed.
- 34:6 This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD, and was saved from every trouble.**
- 34:7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.
- 34:8 O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.**

34:9 O fear the LORD, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.

34:10 The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

**34:22 The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.**

### **1 John 3:1-3**

3:1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

3:2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

3:3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

### **Matthew 5:1-12**

5:1 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

5:2 Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

5:4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5:5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

5:7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

5:9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

5:10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

5:11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

5:12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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

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

## **A PRAYER MEDITATION FOR ALL SAINTS DAY**

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

***We give you thanks, O God, for all the saints who ever worshiped you,  
Whether in brush arbors or cathedrals,  
Weathered wooden churches or crumbling cement meeting houses,  
Where your name was lifted and adored.  
We give you thanks, O God, for hands lifted in praise:  
Manicured hands and hands stained with grease or soil,  
Strong hands and those gnarled with age,  
Holy hands,  
Used as wave offerings across the land.  
We thank you, God, for hardworking saints;  
Whether hard-hatted or steel-booted,  
Head ragged or aproned,  
Blue-collared or three-piece-suited,  
They left their mark on the earth for you, for us, for our children to come.  
Thank you, God, for the tremendous sacrifices made by those who have gone  
before us.  
Bless the memories of your saints, God.  
May we learn how to walk wisely from their examples of faith, dedication,  
worship, and love.  
Amen.***

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*Behold:  
there is a new heaven,  
a new earth  
and a new city,  
where the river of life flows,  
where the tree of life bears fruit in every season.  
This heaven,  
this city,  
this river,  
this tree  
are a vision of your life*

*reborn, restored, and renewed.*

***Thanks be to God!***

## **HOMILY**

### **STATEMENT OF FAITH (*Apostles' Creed Ecumenical Version*)**

***I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe 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, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and will come again to judge the living 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.***

### **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.***

### **LITANY FOR ALL SAINTS**

*We remember the great ancestors of our faith,  
from Abraham and Sarah, to Paul and Phoebe:  
**Ancestors of the faith, we remember you.***

*We remember the prophets and priests,  
the ministers and teachers who have taught us the way of God:  
**Teachers of the faith, we remember you.***

*We remember our grandparents and parents, aunts and uncles,  
those who have gone before us in our lifetime:  
**Family of our faith, we remember you.***

*We lift up the memories of children and grandchildren,  
brothers and sisters, husbands and wives and parents  
whose lives ended too soon:*

***Those close in our heart, we remember you.***

*We lift up to You, O God,  
the names of those we have lost in this past year from our lives and church community,  
knowing that they are with Your heart forever and dwell now in heaven.  
As we read these names, we will pause after every name  
to remember, pray, and give thanks for their life.*

Susan Bagwell  
Ruth Cech  
Wes Dickman  
Martha O'haus

Deb Bergren  
Bette Conningsby  
Mark Freeman

*(Invite names of loved ones and others from the congregation. We light candles and  
ring the bell in memory of the saints.)*

*We celebrate the lives of those we have named, O God,  
and lift up many more names in our hearts.*

***Family of God, we remember you, and we honor you.***

***We know you are with us in the spirit of worship,  
and you will not be forgotten.***

*We give thanks, O God,  
for all who have gone on to join with You beyond this life.  
We trust in the hope of resurrection and the promise of new life in Christ,  
and know that in our grief and celebration, O God,  
You are with us through it all, and we are not left alone.  
In the name of Christ, in whom love lives forever, we pray.*

***Amen.***

## **OFFERING**

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

## **OFFERTORY**

Blessing      John A. Behnke  
(Based on the tune of "Morning Has Broken")

## **DOXOLOGY**



## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*God of all generations, as we worship today, we offer our whole selves to you, all that we have and all that we are. Like your saints who have gone before us, we pray that you will help us be bold in our mission and in our witness. May we who have been given so much give freely, ministering in your compassion to the multitudes near to us and far from us; so that one day we may stand amidst the multitude that gathers at your heavenly throne. We pray this in the name of our Savior and Redeemer, Christ our Lord. 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 #384**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

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

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

Fanfare on "For All the Saints"      arr. Michael Helman

## **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

Liturgist: Fred Markert

## **Prayer Concerns of the Community**

**Please pray for Marty Young, Madison Coleman & the Jeter Family, Chad Zimmerman and Frank Hardin.**

**Those who were impacted by Hurricane/Tropical Storm Zeta**

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

## Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

1. Re - joice, ye pure in heart; re - joice, give  
 2. Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le -  
 3. Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing  
 4. At last the march shall end; the wea - ried  
 5. Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom

thanks, and sing; your glo - rious ban - ner  
 lu - ias loud; whilst an - swering ech - oes  
 as ye go; from youth to age, by  
 ones shall rest; the pil - grims find their  
 we a - dore, the Fa - ther, Son, and

wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
 up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.  
 night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.  
 heaven - ly home, Je - ru - sa - lem the blest.  
 Ho - ly Ghost, one God for - ev - er - more.

*Refrain*  
 Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks and sing.  
 Re-joice, re-joice, re-joice,

WORDS: Edward H. Plumptre, 1865 (Ps. 20:4; 147:1; Phil. 4:4)  
 MUSIC: Arthur H. Messiter, 1889

MARION  
 SM with Refrain

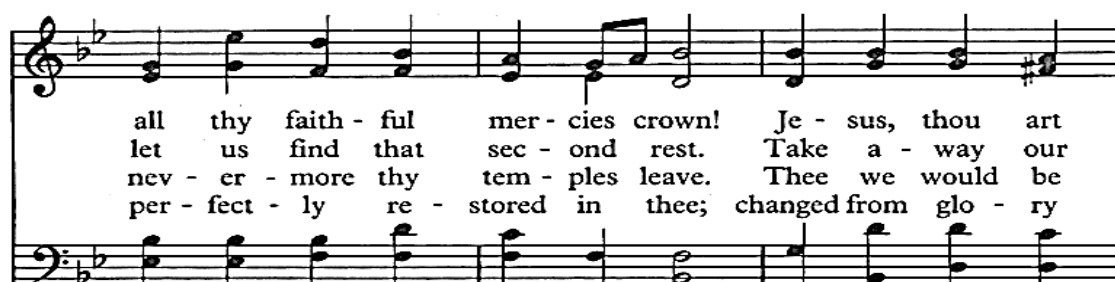
# 384 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



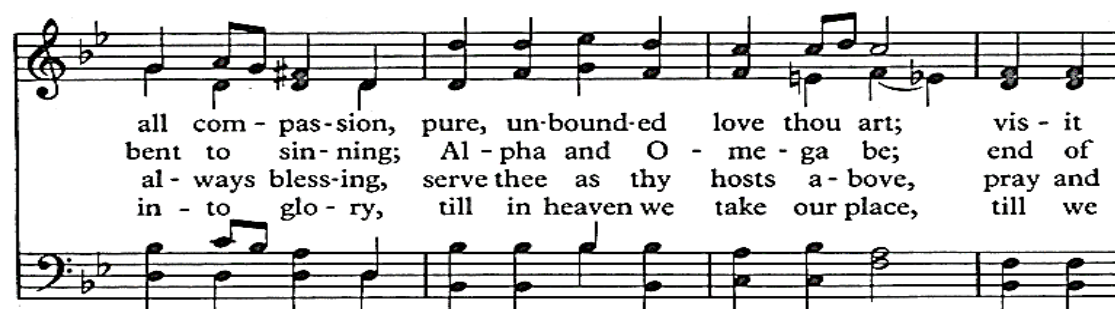
1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to  
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery  
 3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy  
 4. Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



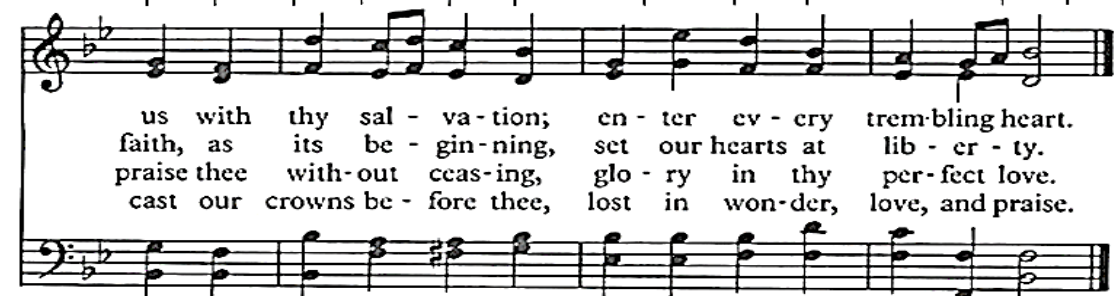
earth come down; fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing;  
 trou - bled breast! Let us all in thee in - her - it;  
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn and nev - er,  
 let us be. Let us see thy great sal - va - tion



all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown! Je - sus, thou art  
 let us find that sec - ond rest. Take a - way our  
 nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be  
 per - fect - ly re - stored in thee; changed from glo - ry



all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it  
 bent to sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of  
 al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray and  
 in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place, till we



us with thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
 faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1747  
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870

BEECHER  
 87.87 D

Alt. tune: HYFRYDOL