



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, April 4th, 2021

Dear Lake Toxaway family and friends,

Last Easter we gathered around computer screens as we celebrated Easter. We were early in the pandemic and confusion was all around us. I am thankful we can have an Easter service this year with people gathered in the sanctuary and also by means of our virtual service. Confusion continues to surround us as it relates to the pandemic and when we might return to our normal routines.

I am emphasizing confusion because that was one of the emotions the women and The Disciples experienced after receiving the message of the Resurrection. Our Gospel lesson from Mark records the reaction of the women in this way: "So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them... and they were afraid (Mark 16:8)."

This Easter, I pray we do not experience confusion or fear. Instead, I pray we find hope and joy mingled with amazement at what God in Christ has done for us. Because of Christ's death and his invitation to receive salvation, we live in confidence in the mass confusion that surrounds us. We know God's ability to overcome sin, death, and destruction. We know God's love for us and his redemption and adoption. We live in the promise of the resurrection of all believers from the dead and eternal life.

While Easter is a time to celebrate, may we remember we direct our celebration, our praise, our worship to Christ! May we find ourselves caught up in the music and story and find ourselves in the process of an ongoing transformation into the image of Christ our Lord.

So, I invite all of us to worship with a boldness that defies the confusion and uncertainty of the world. Let us worship God with a heart of joy and thanksgiving for Christ and his redemption and resurrection from the grave. Shout the Good News together: He is Risen! He is Risen indeed.

Marcus

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Easter Sunday, April 4th**

9:30 A.M. Livestream link: <https://youtu.be/imHRjb9o7mU> & 11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

Jesus Christ is Risen Today arr. Dallas Blair

GREETING

L: The darkness is gone!

P: Bright light floods into this new day of hope.

L: Those who went to the tomb received good news.

P: Christ was not there!

L: Christ is risen in our hearts and our spirits!

P: Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia!

L: Christ is risen!

P: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE #302

Christ the Lord is Risen Today (Stanzas 1-4)

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

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND PRAISE

***Loving, Powerful God, joy floods over our souls on this day! Christ is risen!
Fear is vanquished! Open our hearts and our spirits to receive fully the joy
which has been given for us! Let us celebrate the victory of Christ and the
hope for the future! Amen.***

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Acts 10:34-43

- 10:34 Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality,
- 10:35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.
- 10:36 You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all.

- 10:37 That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:
- 10:38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.
- 10:39 We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree;
- 10:40 but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,
- 10:41 not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.
- 10:42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.
- 10:43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (Please read responsively the bold text)

- 118:1 O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!
- 118:2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."**
- 118:14 The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.
- 118:15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;**
- 118:16 the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."
- 118:17 I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD.**
- 118:18 The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.
- 118:19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.**
- 118:20 This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.
- 118:21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.**
- 118:22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- 118:23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.**
- 118:24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

- 15:1 Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,
- 15:2 through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you--unless you have come to believe in vain.
- 15:3 For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,
- 15:4 and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,
- 15:5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.
- 15:6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.
- 15:7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.
- 15:8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.
- 15:9 For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.
- 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them-- though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.
- 15:11 Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Mark 16:1-8 *(Please stand for the Gospel)*

- 16:1 When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him.
- 16:2 And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb.
- 16:3 They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?"
- 16:4 When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back.
- 16:5 As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

- 16:6 But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him.
- 16:7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you."
- 16:8 So, they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

SOLO Polish Easter Carol arr. Mary E. Caldwell

SERMON

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(The 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. Amen.***

Hymn # 322

Up from the Grave He Arose

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

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.

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing arr. Charles Callahan

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)

Mighty God of Resurrection power: We so desperately need the "Alleluia!" morning! We have lived with death for so long; we have been trapped in our tombs so long, we could not be more anxious to hear the report from Mary, "I have seen the Lord!" We know in our hearts that you have been with us through all the past year has handed us, and we have seen you in the generosity of heart that has brought us through these days. As we give back to you this day, may we do so as those convinced that light will always wash away darkness, and life will always defeat death! In the name of our risen Savior, we pray. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #308

Thine be the Glory

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune by John Stanley

STAFF & LAY VOLUNTEERS

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

Organist: Charlie Steele: cwsorgan@comporium.net

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

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

Audio/Visual for Livestream Chair: Andy Harvill

Soloist/Vocalist: Jacolyn Campbell

Guest trumpeter: Nick Baker, a music major at Western Carolina University

Liturgists: 9:30 AM – Scott Walter 11:00 AM – Carole Guffey

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please pray for Katherine Jeter, Kitty Neff, Marcus' nephew Steven Hudson, Marty Young, Thomas Blackstock, Chad & Anne Zimmerman, Madison Coleman & the Jeter family, Frank Hardin and Cathie Fussell's nephew, Jeff Tilley, Jan Crocker and for Cynthia Wood's friends' two-year-old son Conor.

Please pray for those with illness, upcoming surgery and recovery. Please pray for Mary Collins and her recovery.

Please pray for our student scholars in their Spring semester.

Please continue to pray for those who have had the death of a loved one in the recent weeks and months; especially the family of Ellen Gause, Cathy Fussell's niece and Fred Collins for the passing of his mother on March 29th.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today 302

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!
 * 5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Al - le - lu - ia!
 * 6. King of glo - ry, soul of bliss, Al - le - lu - ia!

Earth and heaven in cho - rus say, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Praise to thee by both be given, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ev - er - last - ing life is this, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Once he died our souls to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Made like him, like him we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Thee we greet tri - um - phant now, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Thee to know, thy power to prove, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Where's thy vic - tory, boast - ing grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Hail the Res - ur - rec - tion, thou, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Thus to sing, and thus to love, Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1739
 MUSIC: *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

EASTER HYMN
 77.77 D

C F/C F/C C G⁷ F/C C

1. Low in the grave he lay, Je - sus my Sav - ior,
 2. Vain - ly they watch his bed, Je - sus my Sav - ior;
 3. Death can - not keep its prey, Je - sus my Sav - ior;

5 F C/E C Am/C G/D D⁷ G

wait - ing the com - ing day, Je - sus my Lord!
 vain - ly they seal the dead, Je - sus my Lord!
 he tore the bars a - way, Je - sus my Lord!

Refrain
 C C C F

9 Up from the grave he arose, with a mighty triumph o'er his
 (he a-rose)

12 C G⁷ Am F C

foes; he a-rose a vic-tor from the dark domain, and he
 (o'er his foes)

15 F D⁷ G Am G⁷ C

lives for - ev - er, with his saints to reign. He arose! He a-
 (he arose)

18 F C/G G⁷ C

rose! (he a-rose) Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!

Thine Be the Glory

1. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son;
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb;
 3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life!

end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.
 lov - ing - ly he greets thee, scat - ters fear and gloom.
 Life is naught with - out thee; aid us in our strife.

An - gels in bright rai - ment rolled the stone a - way,
 Let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph sing,
 Make us more than con - querors, through thy death - less love;

kept the fold - ed grave - clothes where thy bod - y lay.
 for our Lord now liv - eth; death hath lost its sting.
 bring us safe through Jor - dan to thy home a - bove.

Refrain

Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son;

end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

WORDS: Edmond L. Budry, 1904; trans. by R. Birch Hoyle, 1923
 MUSIC: *Harmonia Sacra*, ca. 1753; arr. from G. F. Handel, 1747

JUDAS MACCABEUS
 55.65.65.65