



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, August 29th 2021

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 29th

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

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here Robert J. Powell
The Gift of Love John Carter

GREETING

Look to the mountains; look to the hills!

Love comes to us with joy!

The world is filled with beauty.

***Flowers appear on the earth,
birdsong brightens the day.***

*Crops yield their produce in abundance,
the air is filled with sweetness.*

The summer of God's love is with us.

Let the oil of gladness anoint your souls.

Arise and sing for joy!

HYMN #92

For the Beauty of the Earth

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

OPENING PRAYER *(Please be seated)*

Creating God,

you are the source of summer's splendor—

***the beauty and fragrance of delicate flowers,
and sweet sound of birdsong.***

We come to you this morning

with delight and gladness,

grateful for your wonders.

As the fields produce their harvest,

may your love grow within us,

*that we too may produce a harvest
of love, hope, and joy. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

- 2:8 The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.
- 2:9 My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.
- 2:10 My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;
- 2:11 for now, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.
- 2:12 The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.
- 2:13 The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 (Please read responsively the bold text)

- 45:1 My heart overflows with a goodly theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
- 45:2 You are the most handsome of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore, God has blessed you forever.**
- 45:6 Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever. Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;
- 45:7 you love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;**
- 45:8 your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;
- 45:9 daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.**

James 1:17-27

- 1:17 Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.
- 1:18 In fulfillment of his own purpose, he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.
- 1:19 You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger;
- 1:20 for your anger does not produce God's righteousness.

- 1:21 Therefore, rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.
- 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.
- 1:23 For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror;
- 1:24 for they look at themselves and, ongoing away, immediately forget what they were like.
- 1:25 But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act--they will be blessed in their doing.
- 1:26 If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.
- 1:27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (Please stand for the Gospel)

- 7:1 Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him,
- 7:2 they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them.
- 7:3 (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders;
- 7:4 and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)
- 7:5 So, the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?"
- 7:6 He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;
- 7:7 in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.'
- 7:8 You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."
- 7:14 Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand:
- 7:15 there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."
- 7:21 For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder,
- 7:22 adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly.
- 7:23 All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

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.)

Forgiving God,

When the busyness of our lives erodes the intentions of our hearts:

Merciful God, forgive us.

When our personal agendas take precedence over reaching out to others:

Merciful God, forgive us.

When we keep putting off being more active "doers of the word":

Merciful God, forgive us.

When we resist change, knowing that our acting and thinking are limited by our prejudice and ignorance:

Merciful God, forgive us.

When we only half-listen to those who cry out to be fully heard:

Merciful God, forgive us.

Gracious and merciful God,

forgive us for past faults

and help us in the present and future

***to make ourselves more available to the hurting world that surrounds us—
the world that begins on our doorsteps.***

Equip us to be patient and compassionate listeners,

proclaiming the gospel not in overbearing ways but sensitively and lovingly.

***Strengthen us with the Holy Spirit to be fruitful and active witnesses to Jesus
in all we do and say.***

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

As we become doers of the word and not merely hearers, we discover that it is "in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive"—surely evidence of "the implanted word that has the power to save our souls"—Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Thanks be to God!

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH #880 (Nicene Creed)

We believe in one God,

***the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen and unseen.***

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.***

***Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.***

***For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.***

***We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.***

***We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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 #402

Lord, I Want to be a Christian

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Wonderful Words of Life Robert J. Powell

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***God of light and beauty, every gift is from you.
Even our ability to give is a blessing of your love.
We offer you what we have and what we are.
Use our gifts to give birth to a world of righteousness
where none are in need and where all draw close to your grace.
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 #408

The Gift of Love

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Tocatta in A minor

Johann A. Koblrich

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the altar

The arrangement on the altar is from Sandra Dillion in loving memory of her late husband, Lyman Dillon.

Ushers needed

We need your assistance with handing out bulletins at the beginning of the service and helping with communion at the first Sunday of the month. We welcome existing and new usher volunteers. Please contact John Shoemaker at 828-553-5754 or trestlegap@gmail.com.

Staying safe with the Delta variant

If you have been vaccinated you are free not wear your mask but feel free to if you want. If you have not been vaccinated, we ask you to please wear your mask. We are actively monitoring the Bishop's and Governor's advice.

Announcement Deadline

If you have an announcement for the bulletin, please send your brief announcement via e-mail (Please no texts as they are read and deleted) by 5:00 PM on Tuesday to Saunders at saunderv@hotmail.com

Outreach Thanks YOU

Thank you for everyone who brought items for the hygiene drive.

Thank you to the following volunteers who signed up to feed those staying at The Haven.

Louis Spencer – August 15th, breakfast only for Sunday

John & Char Holbrook – October 3rd, breakfast only for Sunday

John & Judy Lefler – November 14th, breakfast only for Sunday

Coffee Hour is after today's service in the Fellowship Hall

*Please join us for coffee hour after today's service to meet and see old new friends. Thank you to those of you who have signed up. The sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall as **we still need sign-ups for future Sundays!***

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please pray for Chad Barber, Jack Jeter, Sherry Minnich, Donna Parker, Mary Collins, Thomas Blackstock, Cathie Fussell's brother, Lonnie Taylor and nephew, Jeff Tilley, Chad & Anne Zimmerman, John & Sue Thomas, Marty Young, Conor, Cynthia Wood's friends' two-year-old son, Bill Holden and Frank Hardin.

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

Please pray for those about to have surgery, their recoveries and spouse/caregiver(s). Especially for Caleb Weingartz, a former employee at LTCC who had hand surgery but does not have insurance.

Please pray for our student scholars, students, educators and flood victims in our community.

Please pray for Afghanistan and those in the path of Hurricane Ida.

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

Liturgist: Beth Holimon

For the Beauty of the Earth

92

1. For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
 2. For the beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,
 4. For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5. For thy church, that ev - er - more lift - eth ho - ly hands a - bove,
 6. For thy - self, best Gift Di - vine, to the world so free - ly given,

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies;
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light;
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight;
 friends on earth and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild;
 of - fering up - on ev - ery shore her pure sac - ri - fice of love;
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven:

Refrain

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.
 * Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

*For Holy Communion

WORDS: Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1864
 MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; arr. by W. H. Monk, 1861

DIX
 77.77.77

Hymn 402 - Lord, I want to be Christian *(text only)*

1 Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

2 Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

3 Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

4 Lord, I want to be like Jesus
in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

The Gift of Love

1. Though I may speak with brav - est fire,
 2. Though I may give all I pos - sess,
 3. Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol,

and have the gift to all in - spire,
 and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,
 our spir - its long to be made whole.

and have not love, my words are vain,
 but not be given by love with - in,
 Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;

as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
 the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
 by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

WORDS: Hal Hopson, 1972 (1 Cor. 13:1-3)
 MUSIC: Trad. English melody; adapt. by Hal Hopson, 1972

GIFT OF LOVE
 LM

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