

Lake Toxarvay United Methodist Church Sunday, November 5th, 2023

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church Community Worship Service & Communion All Saints Day - Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost, November 5th

9:30 A.M. Livestream is now available via the LTUMC YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqtuJe20i8DN75 Cfq1sWCq

RINGING OF THE BELL PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand)

On this All Saints Day, we gather to join the multitude of saints across the generations from all tribes, peoples, and languages, to proclaim:

Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb! We come to remember, to grieve, and to celebrate those saints who have come before, yet whose life and witness continues to teach us:

Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb! We gather today as the family of Christ, siblings and saints, diverse yet united by grace to live lives that declare:

Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb! May we be guided today by the Lamb who is our Shepherd, the one who gathers us, comforts us and tends us.

May we join in the work of the Shepherd to bring about a world with no more hunger, no more thirst, no more suffering, and no more pain that all the saints of the past, the present, and the future may share in God's abundant life. Amen.

HYMN #160

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

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

OPENING PRAYER (Please be seated)

God of gentle, loving guidance, who brought the Israelites into a new land, filled with new hope and promise: Be with us today, opening our hearts and spirits to an awareness of your abiding love and presence with us. Help us to place our trust solely in you; for we ask this in Jesus' Name, 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."

Psalm 34:1-10, 22 (Psalter Lesson ~ Please read the bold text)

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 (Epistle Reading)

- 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 (Please stand for the Gospel)

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

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #881 (The Apostles' Creed – Please stand)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And 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, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

THE GLORIA PATRI #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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please be seated)

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

We yearn to be counted among the saints of old, but the journey is long and difficult.
We long to love others as we should, even when they revile and hate us.
We seek to forgive those who wrong us, even when it means swallowing our pride.
We strive for the openness of spirit to pray for those who persecute us, even when we want to hold onto our wounds.
Guide us on this journey of discipleship, that we may grow as your children and live as saints of your love. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Beloved children of God, even when we fail, God's love never fails.

What we will be has not yet been revealed, but we know that we will be like Christ one day. Until that day, trust that we are surrounded by the love and tender mercies of our God.

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

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY #95

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 to 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 and far, so that one day, we may stand amid the multitude that gathers at your heavenly throne. We pray this in the name of our Savior and Redeemer, Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION #581

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Please be seated)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The pastor gives thanks and remembers God's acts of salvation, and concludes:...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The pastor continues the thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled. The pastor concludes:...and so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering

for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding:...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER #895

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.

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #430

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed with permission)

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #393

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Amen.

POSTLUDE (Please be seated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offsite Coffee Hour Today

Jon Finstrom & Brenda Morris are hosting a coffee hour at their home after church today. <u>Directions:</u> 2686 Kim Miller Road., Lake Toxaway, NC 28747

Coming from church turn left on NC 281 and then turn right (only option) on Kim Miller. After crossing the bridge and going up the hill, Kim Miller makes a left and then an immediate right. The driveway is on the outside radius of the curve to the right and there is a "2686" sign there as well. There are two metal "snowflake" sculptures. The driveway is 1/4 mile long, follow it through the gates and at the "Y" in the road stay left and continue to the "pond house" which is on the right. The pond house has heaters, and the sides have clear plastic to keep the heat in. You still may want a coat or jacket.

LTUMC MAILING ADDRESS

For those of you who mail your gifts in, please use our mailing address: P.O. Box 83, Lake Toxaway, NC 28747 to ensure proper delivery.

HAVE YOU RECENTLY MOVED?

If you moved during 2023 and your winter address has changed, please provide your new address to Saunders by e-mail at administrator@laketoxawayumc.org. This will help with getting your giving statement for 2023. The statements will be mailed to you in early 2024.

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please pray for those who have long-term illness, health concerns and special intentions.

Please pray for those having or had a surgery and their recovery.

Our heartfelt prayers for all who have experienced the recent passing of a loved one.

Please continue to pray for our student scholars, our local students, teachers and staff.

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: Paula Markert: 828-553-9434 & Scott Walter: 314-374-2969

Audio/Visual for Livestream Chair: Fred Markert: 828-553-3303

Liturgist: Beth Holimon

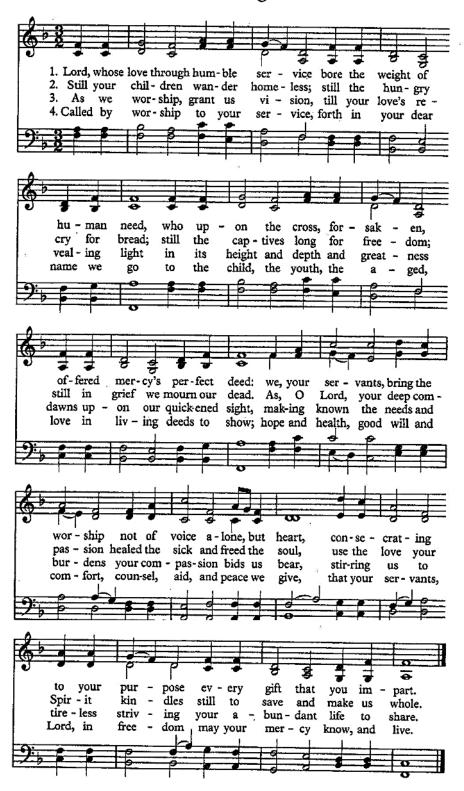
Hymns are located on the next few pages and used with permission via One License #737113-A

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart



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

581 Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service



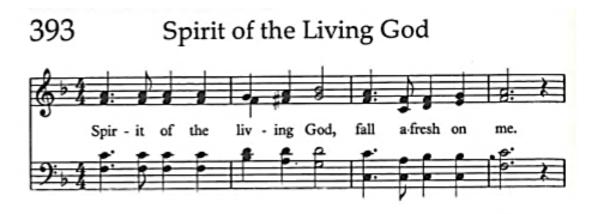
WORDS: Albert F. Bayly, 1961, alt. MUSIC: Attr. to B. F. White, 1844; harm. by Ronald A. Nelson, 1978

BEACH SPRING 87.87 D

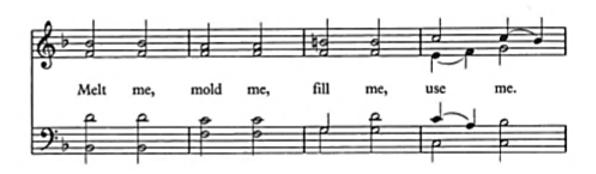
Words @ 1961 Oxford University Press; harm. @ 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship



WORDS: Washington Gladden, 1879 MUSIC: H. Percy Smith, 1874 MARYTON LM









WORDS: Daniel Iverson, 1926; adapt. (Acts 11:15) MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926 LIVING GOD 75.75.875