



*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 2023*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church**  
**Community Worship Service**  
**Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany, February 12th**

**9:30 A.M. Livestream is available on the LTUMC YouTube channel:**  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgtuJe20i8DN7S\\_Cfg1sWCg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgtuJe20i8DN7S_Cfg1sWCg)

**RINGING OF THE BELL – *Please observe silence as we prepare for the service.***

**PRELUDE**

O Master, Let me Walk with Thee Dale Wood

**GREETING**

*Come, walk in the way that leads to life.*

***It is better to be reconciled with another  
than to be proven right.***

*Come, choose to live a genuine life.*

***Life is too short for petty resentments.***

*Come, walk in the way Christ invites us to travel.*

***We give thanks for Christ's way,  
and for the freedom to follow!***

**HYMN #568**

Christ for the World We Sing

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

**OPENING PRAYER *(Please be seated)***

***Come, Holy One:***

***teach us your ways,***

***lead us in your paths,***

***guide us on our journey.***

***Speak to us your words of life,***

***for you offer us direction and wholeness***

***when we hear your voice***

***and follow.***

***You bless us with your love,***

***shower us with your grace,***

***and help us grow in faith.***

***We seek you, O God,***

***with all our hearts.***

***Be near us this day and may our worship be pleasing to You. Amen.***

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Deuteronomy 30:15-20

- 30:15 See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity.
- 30:16 If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.
- 30:17 But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them,
- 30:18 I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.
- 30:19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live,
- 30:20 loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

### Psalm 119:1-8 (Psalter Lesson ~ Please read the bold text)

- 119:1 Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD.
- 119:2 Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart,**
- 119:3 who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways.
- 119:4 You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.**
- 119:5 O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!
- 119:6 Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.**
- 119:7 I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances.
- 119:8 I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.**

### 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 (Epistle Reading)

- 3:1 And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ.
- 3:2 I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready,
- 3:3 for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations?
- 3:4 For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?
- 3:5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each.
- 3:6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.

3:7 So, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.

3:8 The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each.

3:9 For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

**Matthew 5:21-37 (Please stand for the Gospel)**

5:21 "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.'

5:22 But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire.

5:23 So, when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you,

5:24 leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

5:25 Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison.

5:26 Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

5:27 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.'

5:28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

5:29 If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

5:30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

5:31 "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'

5:32 But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

5:33 "Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.'

5:34 But I say to you, do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,

5:35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

5:36 And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.

5:37 Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

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

***P: Thanks be to God.***

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Please be seated)*

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

*(Let us offer our silent confessions.)*

***Loving God,  
you call us into community,  
teach us your ways,  
and bless us with abundant life.  
Yet we turn aside to follow other paths:  
we take the easy way out,  
listening to the world's call  
rather than your call to commitment;  
we quarrel with one another,  
letting differences divide us;  
we cherish our resentments,  
shutting off our hearts  
from forgiveness and reconciliation;  
we cling to petty jealousies,  
feeling we deserve more than we have.  
Forgive us when we wander from your love.  
Draw us into community with each other,  
and feed us with the milk of your grace,  
that we may grow in faithfulness  
and work together in peace. Amen.***

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*God is at work, nurturing our growth  
and showing us the ways that lead to life.  
God is at work, reconciling us to one another  
and teaching us the paths of love.  
God is at work, hearing our confessions,  
forgiving our disobedience,  
and blessing us in love.  
Thanks be to God!*

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

**HOMILY**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH #887 (*Affirmation from Romans 8:35, 37-39*)**

*Leader:*

*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?*

*Shall tribulation or distress,*

*or persecution or famine,*

*or nakedness or peril or sword?*

***People:***

***No,***

***In all things we are more than conquerors***

***Through the One who loved us.***

***We are sure that neither***

***death nor life,***

***nor angels, nor principalities,***

***nor things present, nor things to come,***

***nor powers, nor height, nor depth,***

***nor anything else in all creation,***

***will be able to separate us from the love of God***

***in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

***Thanks be to God! 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 #430**

O Master, Let me Walk with Thee

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

**OFFERING**

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

**OFFERTORY**

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus Robert J. Powell

**DOXOLOGY #95 (*Please be stand*)**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Holy God, as we offer to you gifts from the abundance you have provided us, we recognize that the offering that concerns you is more than what is in our wallets and purses, but in our hearts. You desire from us hearts that are a fit place for you to live and dwell. Help us to clear out long-held anger, resentments, prejudice, and hate. Help us to furnish our hearts with love, mercy, justice, compassion, and forgiveness so they might be a place where you feel welcome and at home. Help us present this offering as well. In Jesus, we pray. Amen.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please be seated)*

### 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 #557

Blest be the Tie That Binds  
Located in the back of the bulletin - (printed w/permission)

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune Robert J. Powell

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Flowers on the Altar:**

*The flowers this morning are in memory of John and Betsy McColskey's daughter Elaine.*

### **Outreach volunteers needed to provide food to The Haven:**

*We have the following dates available to sign-up to feed The Haven for the weekends of: **August 11<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup>**. They ask to bring two breakfast and dinner meals. **Please contact Fred Markert for examples and details at 828-553-3303 if you can lend a hand.***

**Outreach Update:** *Our 2023 Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church Outreach committee again has a financial goal of sharing with others 50% or more of the church's general collections (operating budget). Most of your outreach dollars are gifted to our ten (10) not for profit Transylvania County partners: Sharing House, The Haven, Bread of Life, The Children's Center, Safe, The Women's Center, The Family Place, Cops for Kids, God's Way Food Pantry and North Toxaway Baptist Church Food Pantry. Additionally, the Minnich and church scholarship programs support approximately twenty-two (22) young adults wishing to further their education after high school graduation.*

**Combined February & March Potluck:**

The next potluck will be combined for February & March and will be held on **February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM.**

**Ash Wednesday – February 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

The Ash Wednesday service will be on **Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> around 7:15 PM** immediately following the potluck.

**New Devotional Available:**

If you are interested in a devotional following the weekly lectionary text, please email Marcus.

**New sign-up sheets:**

The 2023 sign-up sheets for flowers and coffee hour are in the Fellowship Hall.

**PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY**

***Please pray for those who have long-term illness, health concerns and special intentions. Especially for Renee Alexander who is under Hospice Care, and for Roger Alexander.***

***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. Especially for Willette Taylor, Michael Taylor's mother who passed away recently at her home in Greenville, SC. She was 98 years old. We continue to pray for Shirley, Stephen Wood's mother.***

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

Audio/Visual for Livestream Chair: Andy Harvill: 828-884-3548

Liturgist: John Lefler

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



# Christ for the World We Sing 568

1. Christ for the world we sing, the world to  
 2. Christ for the world we sing, the world to  
 3. Christ for the world we sing, the world to  
 4. Christ for the world we sing, the world to

Christ we bring, with lov - ing zeal; the poor, and  
 Christ we bring, with fer - vent prayer; the way - ward  
 Christ we bring, with one ac - cord; with us the  
 Christ we bring, with joy - ful song; the new - born

them that mourn, the faint and o - ver - borne,  
 and the lost, by rest - less pas - sions tossed,  
 work to share, with us re - proach to dare,  
 souls, whose days, re - claimed from er - ror's ways,

sin - sick and sor - row - worn, whom Christ doth heal.  
 re - deemed at count - less cost, from dark de - spair.  
 with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.  
 in - spired with hope and praise, to Christ be - long.

WORDS: Samuel Wolcott, 1869  
 MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1769

ITALIAN HYMN  
 664.6664

# O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee 430

The musical score is written in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are arranged in four numbered verses.

1. O Mas-ter, let me walk with thee in low - ly  
2. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,  
3. Teach me thy pa-tience; still with thee in clos - er,  
4. In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice free; tell me thy se - cret;  
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward  
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith  
fu - ture's broad - ening way, in peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.  
fect to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.  
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong;  
thou canst give, with thee, O Mas-ter, let me live.

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

MARYTON  
LM

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in  
 2. Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our  
 3. We share each oth - er's woes, our mu - tual  
 4. When we a - sun - der part, it gives us

Chris - tian love; the fel - low - ship of  
 ar - dent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our  
 bur - dens bear; and of - ten for each  
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.  
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

WORDS: John Fawcett, 1782  
 MUSIC: Johann G. Nägeli; arr. by Lowell Mason, 1845

DENNIS  
 SM