



*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church**  
**Community Worship Service**  
**Transfiguration Sunday, February 19th**

**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**

Prelude on "Beach Spring". Gilbert M. Martin

**GREETING**

*God,*  
*we come to the mountaintop to be covered in your presence.*  
***We are comforted by your holiness and your glow;***  
***we are comforted by the hope of the mountain top,***  
***where you are so close, so accessible,***  
***where there is no doubt of your glory.***  
*The mountain top reminds us why we worship you.*  
***We witness your bright power,***  
***and your plan for the nations of the earth.***  
*As we prepare for worship,*  
*God bring us to the mountain top;*  
***bring us to the mountain top***  
***so that we may be inspired to do your work***  
***in the valley below.***

**HYMN #103**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

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

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

***Holy Father,***  
***We come before you,***  
***many of us feeling like we have climbed just a part of the mountain,***  
***and there is so much more of a climb left to even get to point***  
***to dream that we might be dazzled by what is Divine.***  
***Our loads are heavy, with worry, with regret,***  
***with fatigue, with illness, with despair for all in the world***  
***that is hurting, in danger, in bondage and more.***  
***We trudge ahead, following you, stumbling, hoping, praying...***

*breathing hard, hearts pounding, and yes, even some of us are nimble and skipping.*

*Lead us Lord, to the top of that mountain,  
where we might be dazzled by your Light, lifted by what is Divine,  
filled by the sheer delight of what is numinous and ethereal and grounded  
and real.*

*We pray this, for ourselves, for one another,  
and for the world in which we live in.*

*May our worship be ever directed to You, O Lord, Our Strength and  
Redeemer.*

*Amen.*

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Exodus 24:12-18**

- 24:12 The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction."
- 24:13 So, Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God.
- 24:14 To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."
- 24:15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.
- 24:16 The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud.
- 24:17 Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.
- 24:18 Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

### **Psalms 2 (Psalter Lesson ~ Please read the bold text)**

- 2:1 Why do the nations conspire, and the peoples plot in vain?
- 2:2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and his anointed, saying,
- 2:3 "Let us burst their bonds asunder, and cast their cords from us."**
- 2:4 He who sits in the heavens laughs; the LORD has them in derision.
- 2:5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying,**
- 2:6 "I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."
- 2:7 I will tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my son; today I have begotten you."**
- 2:8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

**2:9 You shall break them with a rod of iron, and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."**

2:10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

**2:11 Serve the LORD with fear, with trembling kiss his feet, or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way; for his wrath is quickly kindled. Happy are all who take refuge in him.**

**2 Peter 1:16-21 (Epistle Reading)**

1:16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty.

1:17 For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

1:18 We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

1:19 So, we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

1:20 First of all, you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation,

1:21 because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

**Matthew 17:1-9 (Please stand for the Gospel)**

17:1 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.

17:2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.

17:3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

17:4 Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

17:5 While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!"

17:6 When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.

17:7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid."

17:8 And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

17:9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

*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.)*

***Mighty and glorious God,  
even as we tremble in your presence,  
we rejoice in your willingness  
to live among and within us.***

***Forgive us when we act as if we can separate ourselves from your powerful presence.***

***Forgive us when we hide ourselves from you,  
forgetting that in you, nothing is hidden.***

***Lift our eyes to see your glory.***

***Lift our hearts to receive your grace.***

***Lift our lives to reflect the mountain of your love,  
that we may shine for all to see.***

***In your glory and grace, we pray. Amen.***

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*Don't be afraid.*

*We are beloved children of God*

*We belong to a God whose love and grace  
always draw us to our home in God.*

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

**HOMILY**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH #880** *(The 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**

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding  
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**

***Creator God of infinite patience, we see you in every plant that grows and  
blossoms, every creature that runs or flies, in mountains and sunsets and in  
every drop of rain that falls. Creation is not something that happened, but  
something that is happening every day. As we share our tithes and offerings  
today, we pray you, through Jesus, will continue the work of creation in us,  
that we might become more forgiving, more generous, and more loving. In  
the name of Jesus, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, 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 #189**

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

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

Trumpet Tune Robert J. Powell

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

*The flowers on the altar are from Kitty Neff in memory of her late husband, Paul Neff on his birthday.*

#### **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 11th and November 10th.** They ask to bring two breakfast and dinner meals. Please contact Fred Markert, Outreach Chair for examples and details at 828-553-3303 if you can help.*

#### **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.*

#### **Trustee Update:**

*The Trustee Committee is happy to report the new septic tank and drain field have been installed. Also three pews in the sanctuary had holes and have been replaced with new material this week.*

### **PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY**

***Please pray for those who have long-term illness, health concerns and special intentions. Especially for Nathalie Moffitt Britt.***

***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 pray for Roger Alexander as Renee, his wife passed away on 2/16/23.***

***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: Scott Walter

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

## Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 103

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3. To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

WORDS: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867 (1 Tim. 1:17)  
 MUSIC: Welsh melody from *Canidau y Cyssegr*, 1839; adapt. by John Roberts

ST. DENIO  
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## **We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding**

We have come at Christ's own bidding  
to this high and holy place,  
where we wait with hope and longing  
for some token of God's grace.  
Here we pray for new assurance  
that our faith is not in vain,  
searching like those first disciples  
for a sign both clear and plain.

Light breaks in upon our darkness,  
splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word,  
Moses and Elijah marvel  
as the heavenly voice is heard.  
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder  
how the Law and Prophets meet:  
Christ, with garments drenched in brightness,  
stands transfigured and complete.

Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,  
fearful lest our faith decline,  
we like Peter find it tempting  
to remain and build a shrine.  
But true worship gives us courage  
to proclaim what we profess,  
that our daily lives may prove us  
people of the God we bless.

Text by Carl Daw;  
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Tune: Beach Spring; public domain

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## Fairest Lord Jesus

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, rul - er of all na - ture,  
 2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the wood - lands,  
 3. Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light,  
 4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of all the na - tions!

O thou of God and man the Son, thee will I cher - ish,  
 robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,  
 and all the twink - ling star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,  
 Son of God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy and crown.  
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
 Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels heaven can boast.  
 praise, ad - o - ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine.

*United Methodist Hymnal 180*

WORDS: *Minster Gesangbuch*, 1677; trans. Joseph August Seim, 1873

MUSIC (ST. ELIZABETH 568.508): *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842; arr. by Richard Stearns Willis, 1959