



*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church**  
**Community Worship Service**  
**First Sunday in Lent, February 26th**

**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**

My Song is Love Unknown    Charles Callahan

**GREETING**

*Welcome pilgrims on the way to the cross.*

***We are learning to follow Jesus.***

*For those who feel Christ near,*

***May we not turn away from the discomfort of the journey ahead.***

*For those who feel as far from Christ as the desert is from the ocean,*

***May we find Christ in the wilderness with us.***

*For all of us who stumble and fall in our silence, indifference, and lack of generosity,*

***May we reach for the hand of Christ, who raises us up to continue on the journey.***

*Pilgrims on the way, come let us worship God!*

***We come to worship God as we learn to live inside out! Amen.***

**HYMN #73**

O Worship the King

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

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

***Holy Father,***

***Artist of souls,***

***you sculpted a people for yourself***

***out of the rocks of wilderness and fasting.***

***Help us as we take up your invitation to prayer and simplicity,***

***that the discipline of these forty days***

***may sharpen our hunger for the feast of your holy friendship,***

***and whet our thirst for the living water you offer***

***through Jesus Christ. Amen.***

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

- 2:15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.
- 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden;
- 2:17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."
- 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?"
- 3:2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden;
- 3:3 but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'"
- 3:4 But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die;
- 3:5 for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
- 3:6 So, when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate.
- 3:7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

### **Psalm 32 (Psalter Lesson ~ Please read the bold text)**

- 32:1 Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- 32:2 Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- 32:3 While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.**
- 32:4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah
- 32:5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah**
- 32:6 Therefore, let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.
- 32:7 You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. Selah**
- 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- 32:9 Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.**
- 32:10 Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.

**32:11 Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

**Romans 5:12-19 (Epistle Reading)**

- 5:12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-
- 5:13 sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law.
- 5:14 Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.
- 5:15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.
- 5:16 And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification.
- 5:17 If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.
- 5:18 Therefore, just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all.
- 5:19 For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

**Matthew 4:1-11 (Please stand for the Gospel)**

- 4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
- 4:2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.
- 4:3 The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."
- 4:4 But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"
- 4:5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple,
- 4:6 saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"
- 4:7 Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"
- 4:8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor;
- 4:9 and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."
- 4:10 Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"
- 4:11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

*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.)*

***O God, you offer us so much,  
forgive us for sharing so little.  
You have called us to your ways,  
forgive us for ignoring your call.  
You have given us the gift of family,  
forgive us for not giving thanks.  
You have given us countless blessings,  
forgive us for taking your love for granted.  
And now, gracious God, be merciful to us  
in our sin and indifference, through Christ,  
our Savior.***

***Amen.***

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*We worship the one who forgives our transgressions  
and covers our sin.*

*Rejoice and be glad,  
for God's mercy is greater than our failings;  
God's grace is greater than our sin.*

***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 #472**

Near to the Heart of God  
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

#### **OFFERING**

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

#### **OFFERTORY**

There is a Fountain Sam Batt Owens

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

#### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***Generous God, as we remember Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, we acknowledge the temptation that pursues so many of us: to measure our worth, our power and our security by what we have. As we offer these gifts to you this morning, we pray that you might deliver us from the temptation of building our lives around what belongs to us. Continually lead us to the conviction that what matters is that we belong to you. We pray in the name of our Savior and Redeemer. 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 #377**

It is Well with My Soul  
Located in the back of the bulletin - (printed w/permission)

#### **BENEDICTION**

## POSTLUDE

A Solemn Postlude Robert J. Powell

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

*The flowers on the altar are from John & Judy Lefler to bless all the LTUMC community who have passed in the last few years, and their families.*

#### **Memorial Service for Renée Alexander:**

*A memorial service is scheduled for March 11, 2023 at 2 PM at St. Giles Chapel at Deerfield 1617 Hendersonville Hwy., Asheville, 28803. A reception will follow the service at Deerfield Community Center. Please text Roger Alexander (828-553-2435) to RSVP by March 2 (No calls please).*

#### **Outreach update – The Haven**

*Thank you to the volunteers who signed up to feed those at The Haven, the homeless shelter LTUMC assists throughout the year.*

**Our Daily Bread Devotionals:** for March, April, and May are available in the Sanctuary and 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 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: Carole Guffey

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

## O Worship the King

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1. O wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove,  
 2. O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,  
 3. The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,  
 4. Thy boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?  
 5. Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love;  
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,  
 Al - might - y, thy power hath found - ed of old;  
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
 in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;

our Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
 whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,  
 hath stab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,  
 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,  
 thy mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.  
 and dark is God's path on the wings of the storm.  
 and round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.  
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.  
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

WORDS: Robert Grant, 1833 (Ps. 104)  
 MUSIC: Attr. to Johann Michael Haydn; arr. by William Gardiner, 1815

LYONS  
 10 10.11 11



## Near to the Heart of God

D B<sup>7</sup>/D<sup>#</sup> Em A A<sup>7</sup> D

1. There is a place of qui-et rest, near to the heart of God;  
 2. There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God;  
 3. There is a place of full re-lease, near to the heart of God;

D D B<sup>7</sup>/D<sup>#</sup> Em A D/A A<sup>7</sup> D

a place where sin can - not mo - lest, near to the heart of God.  
 a place where we our Sav-ior meet, near to the heart of God.  
 a place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God.

*Refrain* G G/D D D/A A<sup>7</sup> D/A A<sup>7</sup> A D

O Je-sus, blest Re-deem-er, sent from the heart of God,

G D A A<sup>7</sup> D

hold us who wait be - fore thee near to the heart of God.

*United Methodist Hymnal* 472

WORDS: Cleland B. McAfee, 1903

MUSIC (McAFEE, CM with Refrain): Cleland B. McAfee, 1903

377

## It Is Well with My Soul

1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way,  
 2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come,  
 3. My sin, oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought!  
 4. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,

when sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll; what - ev - er my  
 let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ has re -  
 My sin, not in part but the whole, is nailed to the  
 the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall re -

lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is  
 gard - ed my help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own  
 cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the  
 sound, and the Lord shall de - scend, e - ven so, it is

*Refrain*

well with my soul.  
 blood for my soul. It is well with my soul,  
 Lord, O my soul!  
 well with my soul. It is well with my soul,

it is well, it is well with my soul.

WORDS: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873  
 MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss, 1876

VILLE DU HAVRE  
 11 8.11 9 with Refrain