



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, April 16th, 2023

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Second Sunday after Easter, April 16th

9:30 A.M. Livestream is available on the LTUMC YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgtuJe20i8DN7S_Cfg1sWCg

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

PRELUDE

Alleluias Robert Lau

GREETING

Protect us, O God, for in you we take refuge;

Let us say to God, "You are our Lord; we have no good apart from you."

Today, we come to worship God in truth and turn away from worshiping the idols all around us.

God delights in our sincere worship, but sorrow visits those who give their worship to idols.

We bless the Lord who gives counsel, who instructs our hearts in the secret of the night.

We keep the Lord always before us so that we shall not be moved from God's ways.

Our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest secure,

Because God keeps us from destruction in this life and the next.

God shows us the path of life,

And in God's presence is the fullness of joy forevermore.

And so, we say to God,

"You are our Lord; we have no good apart from you." Amen.

HYMN #304

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

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

OPENING PRAYER *(Please be seated)*

***Good and gracious God,
Our most glorious Creator,
As we greet the signs in nature around us:
Of Spring once again regaling us in bloom,
In the songs of returning birds and fields soon to be planted,
We give you praise for an even greater sign of new life: the resurrection of
your Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ, that we especially celebrate at this time.
The sadness and despair of his death has given way to the bright promise of
immortality.
For the Resurrection is our guarantee that justice will triumph over treason,
Light will overcome
darkness, and love will conquer death.
As we celebrate, we also dare to ask for your grace that we may live the
promise given to us,
By imitating the life of Jesus in reaching out to the poor, the marginalized,
the least among us as we strive to be neighbor to all those we meet.
We praise you in this Easter season. Change our lives, change our hearts to
be messengers of
Easter joy and hope.
We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord forever.
Amen.***

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

- 2:14a But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them,
2:22 "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man
attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through
him among you, as you yourselves know-
2:23 this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of
God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.
2:24 But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for
him to be held in its power.
2:25 For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right
hand so that I will not be shaken;
2:26 therefore, my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in
hope.
2:27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience
corruption.
2:28 You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with
your presence.'

- 2:29 "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.
- 2:30 Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne.
- 2:31 Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'
- 2:32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

Psalm 16 (Psalter Lesson ~ Please read the bold text)

- 16:1 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- 16:2 I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."
- 16:3 As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my delight.**
- 16:4 Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.
- 16:5 The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.**
- 16:6 The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.
- 16:7 I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also, my heart instructs me.**
- 16:8 I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
- 16:9 Therefore, my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.**
- 16:10 For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.
- 16:11 You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

1 Peter 1:3-9 (Epistle Reading)

- 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
- 1:4 and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,
- 1:5 who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
- 1:6 In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials,
- 1:7 so that the genuineness of your faith--being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire--may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.
- 1:8 Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,
- 1:9 for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

John 20:19-31 (Please stand for the Gospel)

- 20:19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."
- 20:20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
- 20:21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
- 20:22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
- 20:23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."
- 20:24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.
- 20:25 So, the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."
- 20:26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."
- 20:27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."
- 20:28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"
- 20:29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."
- 20:30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.
- 20:31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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.)

***God of mercy and grace, you understand us completely.
Yet there are times when we do not understand
this life of faith.***

***We do not understand how Jesus rose from the dead.
We do not understand how the resurrected Christ
comes to us today.***

Moments of doubt and disbelief sap our strength.

***Forgive and restore us.
Help us trust you and your love for us.
And help us trust the ways of Christ. Amen.***

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Jesus said to the disciples,
"If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven."
Beloved children of God, you are forgiven.
May this forgiveness bring peace to your souls,
your minds, and your body. Amen.*

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

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH #884 (The Korean Creed)

We believe in the one God, creator and sustainer of all things, Father of all nations, the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love. We believe in Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, our teacher, example, and Redeemer, the Savior of the world. We believe in the Holy Spirit, God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength. We believe in the forgiveness of sins, in the life of love and prayer, and in grace equal to every need. We believe in the Word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments as the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice. We believe in the church, those who are united in the living Lord for the purpose of worship and service. We believe in the reign of God as the divine will realized in human society, and in the family of God, where we are all brothers and sisters. We believe in the final triumph of righteousness and in the life everlasting. 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 #310

He Lives

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

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

This Joyful Eastertide Charles Callahan

DOXOLOGY #95 (Please be stand)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Holy One, we give you thanks and praise
for your promise of new life.*

We thank you for these gifts.

*As we offer them into your hands,
may they bring hope and new life
to those in need.*

In the name of the resurrected Christ, 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 #318

Christ is Alive

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune C. S. Lang

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monthly Potluck/Covered Dish

Our next potluck will be Tuesday, May 8th at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great time to see others in a smaller gathering, and we encourage to bring your friends and neighbors. There is no sign-up.

Future potluck dates*: 6/13/23, 7/11/23, 8/8/23, 9/12/23, 10/10/23, 11/14/23, 12/12/23 (*subject to change).

Western NC UMC Charge Conference

Our Western NC UMC Charge Conference will be held on May 5th to discuss our Fellowship Hall future renovation.

Sign-up Sheets in the Fellowship Hall

If you would like to volunteer as an usher, sign up to sponsor, bring food for a coffee hour after our Sunday service, or have flowers/plant on the altar please look at the sign-up sheets or reach out to Saunders.

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. Especially for our student scholars who are completing their last month of college classes and looking for work during the summer.

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: Andy Harvill: 828-884-3548

Liturgists: Scott Walter

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Easter People, Raise Your Voices 304

1. Eas - ter peo - ple, raise your voic - es, sounds of heav - en in
 2. Fear of death can no more stop us from our press - ing
 3. Ev - ery day to us is Eas - ter, with its res - ur -

earth should ring. Christ has brought us heav - en's choic - es;
 here be - low. For our Lord em - pow - ered us to
 rec - tion song. When in trou - ble move the fast - er

heav - en - ly mu - sic, let it ring. Al - le - lu - ia!
 tri - umph o - ver ev - ery foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 to our God who rights the wrong. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Eas - ter peo - ple, let us sing.
 Al - le - lu - ia! On to vic - tory now we go.
 Al - le - lu - ia! See the power of heav - en - ly throngs.

WORDS: William M. James, 1979
 MUSIC: Henry T. Smart, 1867

REGENT SQUARE
 67.87.87

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He Lives

1. I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, he's in the world to - day;
 2. In all the world a - round me I see his lov - ing care,
 3. Re - joice, re-joyce, O Chris-tian, lift up your voice and sing

I know that he is liv - ing, what - ev - er foes may say,
 and though my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair,
 e - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

I see his hand of mer - cy, I hear his voice of cheer,
 I know that he is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast;
 The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;

and just the time I need him, he's al - ways near.
 the day of his ap - pear - ing will come at last.
 none oth - er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.

WORDS: Alfred H. Ackley, 1933

MUSIC: Alfred H. Ackley, 1933

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ACKLEY

76.76.76.74 with Refrain

Refrain

He lives, he lives, Christ Je - sus lives to - day!

He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way.

He lives, he lives sal - vation to impart!

You ask me how I know he lives? He lives with - in my heart.

Christ Is Alive

318

1. Christ is a - live! Let Chris-tians sing. His cross stands
 2. Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3. Not throned a - far, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -
 4. In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 5. Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the
 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet
 this and ev - ery age, till earth and all cre -

prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.
 here and now and dwell in ev - ery place and time.
 midst of life, our Sav - ior in the God-head reigns.
 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.
 a - tion ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1968, alt.
 MUSIC: *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

TRURO
 LM

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