



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, April 23rd, 2023

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Third Sunday after Easter, April 23rd

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

Meditation on "Lift High the Cross" Charles Callahan

GREETING

Come! Lift your voices to the Lord who always hears us.

Listen, Lord. Hear our voices sing your praises.

Call on the Lord who bends low to hear us.

Listen, Lord. We lift our voices to you in praise.

Call on the name of the Lord, all people.

Listen, Lord. We call on your wonderful name. For you saved us, you raised us and turned our lives around. Let your name be praised in this congregation.

HYMN #303

The Day of Resurrection

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

OPENING PRAYER *(Please be seated)*

***Holy One, we are often confused
by the events in our world.***

Come and walk with us.

Open our hearts to hear your truth.

Plant the seed of new life within us.

In trust of your loving presence, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

- 2:14a But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them,
2:36 "Therefore, let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."
2:37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"
2:38 Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
2:39 For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him."
2:40 And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."
2:41 So, those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (Psalter Lesson ~ Please read the bold text)

- 116:1 I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.
116:2 Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.
116:3 The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.
116:4 Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, save my life!"
116:12 What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me?
116:13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,
116:14 I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.
116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.
116:16 O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.
116:17 I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD.
116:18 I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,
116:19 in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

1 Peter 1:17-23 (Epistle Reading)

- 1:17 If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile.
- 1:18 You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold,
- 1:19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.
- 1:20 He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.
- 1:21 Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.
- 1:22 Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart.
- 1:23 You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Luke 24:13-35 (Please stand for the Gospel)

- 24:13 Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,
- 24:14 and talking with each other about all these things that had happened.
- 24:15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them,
- 24:16 but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.
- 24:17 And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad.
- 24:18 Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?"
- 24:19 He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,
- 24:20 and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.
- 24:21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.
- 24:22 Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,
- 24:23 and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.
- 24:24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him."
- 24:25 Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!

- 24:26 Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?"
- 24:27 Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.
- 24:28 As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.
- 24:29 But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So, he went in to stay with them.
- 24:30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.
- 24:31 Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.
- 24:32 They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"
- 24:33 That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.
- 24:34 They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!"
- 24:35 Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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.)

Gracious God,

When we remember the journey of our faith, the story that we live with you and one another, we recall all the ways we have missed the mark.

We have failed to live our Christian story well.

We have neglected to listen to and believe the stories of our neighbors.

We have ignored how we contribute to the hardships that exist in our community.

We have turned away from the needs of the poor.

We have shied away from the suffering of our neighbors.

We have valued independence over interdependence and connection.

In so many ways, big and small, our lives have not demonstrated our testimony of new life in Christ.

Forgive us, we pray, that we, your Easter people, may testify the Good News with our voices and our lives. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: Out of God's great love for us, we have been ransomed by the precious blood of Jesus. Christ loosens the bonds of sin so that we may live our story of exuberant praise for the God who saves through radical love for God and one another.

In the Name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH #881 (The Apostles' Creed)

***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.

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 #175

Jesus, the very Thought of Thee
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Meditation on "Crown Him with Many Crowns" Charles Callahan

DOXOLOGY #95 (Please be stand)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Creator of all we know and all we don't know, as we bring our gifts this day, we ask you to help us trust you more. Forgive us when we entertain the thought that our future lies in bank balances and the accumulation of stuff. Remind us as Peter reminded the early followers that through Jesus, we "have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God" (1:21). May our lives reflect that trust to others. In the powerful name of 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 #369

Blessed Assurance

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name Hal H. Hopson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Western NC UMC Charge Conference

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

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).

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

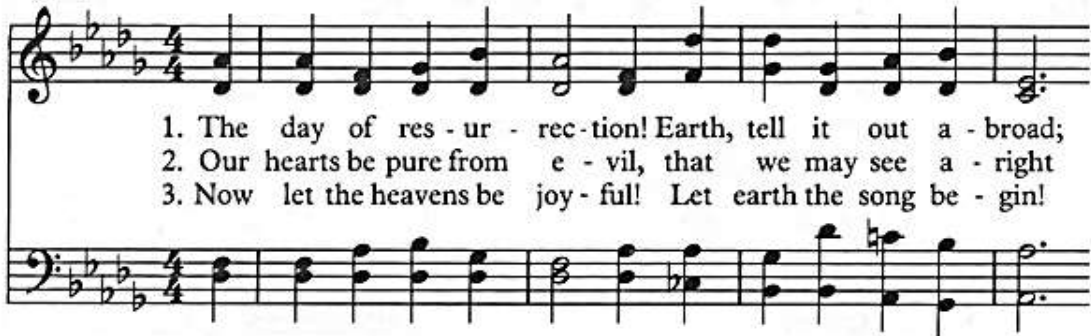
Lay Leaders: Paula Markert: 828-553-9434 & Scott Walter: 314-374-2969

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

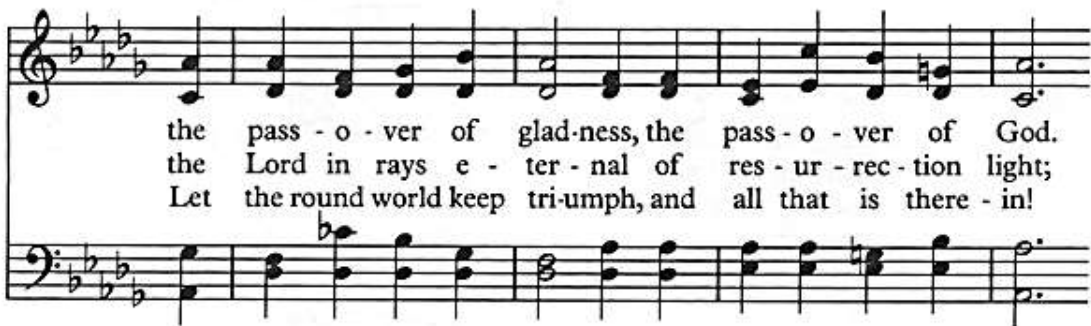
Liturgists: John Lefler

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

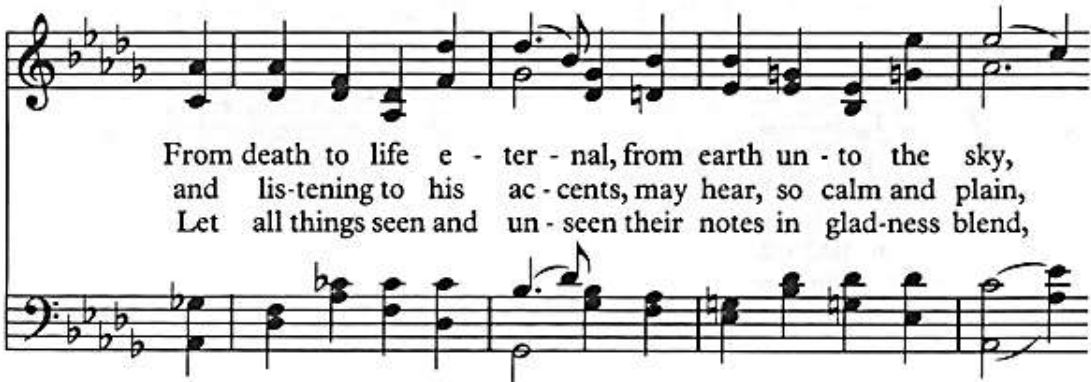
The Day of Resurrection



1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
 2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
 3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful! Let earth the song be - gin!



the pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the pass - o - ver of God.
 the Lord in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;
 Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is there - in!



From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
 and lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear, so calm and plain,
 Let all things seen and un - seen their notes in glad - ness blend,



our Christ hath brought us o - ver, with hymns of vic - to - ry.
 his own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
 for Christ the Lord hath ris - en, our joy that hath no end.

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee 175

1. Je - sus, the ver - y thought of thee
 2. O hope of ev - ery con - trite heart,
 3. But what to those who find? Ah, this
 4. Je - sus, our on - ly joy be thou,

with sweet - ness fills the breast; but sweet - er far thy
 O joy of all the meek, to those who fall, how
 nor tongue nor pen can show; the love of Je - sus,
 as thou our prize wilt be; Je - sus, be thou our

face to see, and in thy pres - ence rest.
 kind thou art! How good to those who seek!
 what it is, none but his loved ones know.
 glo - ry now, and through e - ter - ni - ty.

WORDS: Attr. to Bernard of Clairvaux, 12th cent.; trans. by Edward Caswall, 1849
 MUSIC: John B. Dykes, 1866

ST. AGNES
 CM

Blessed Assurance

1. Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine!
 2. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light,
 3. Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest;

O what a fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine!
 vi - sions of rap - ture now burst on my sight;
 I in my Sav - ior am hap - py and blest,

Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God,
 an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove
 watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove,

born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
 ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873
 MUSIC: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873

ASSURANCE
 9 10.9 9 with Refrain

Refrain

This is my sto - ry, this is my song,

prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;

this is my sto - ry, this is my song,

prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.