



*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church**  
**Community Worship Service & Communion**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 7<sup>th</sup>**

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

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**PRELUDE**

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship    John Carter

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Please stand)*

*L: The Lord is our refuge.*

***P: We can find peace in God's abiding love.***

*L: When troubles assail us, we call upon the Lord.*

***P: When joys abound, we call upon the Lord.***

*L: Welcome this day to God's house, one of many dwellings of the Almighty One.*

***P: We thank you and praise God for his refuge and sanctuary. AMEN.***

**HYMN #101**

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

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

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

***O God of all creation,  
become for us once again  
the solid foundation upon which we build  
our daily lives.***

***We gather before you,  
this first day of the week,  
to align our lives to the strong teaching  
and life of Jesus Christ, our Cornerstone.***

***Receive our praise and thanksgiving  
as expressions of faith and love.***

***We come to you, O Lord,  
as people who desire to learn and serve like Christ.***

***We are ready to receive your blessing  
and direction today. Amen.***

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Acts 7:55-60

- 7:55 But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.
- 7:56 "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"
- 7:57 But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him.
- 7:58 Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.
- 7:59 While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."
- 7:60 Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

### Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (Psalter Lesson ~ Please read the bold text)

- 31:1 In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.
- 31:2 Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.
- 31:3 You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me,**
- 31:4 take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.
- 31:5 Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.**
- 31:15 My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.
- 31:16 Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.**

### 1 Peter 2:2-10 (Epistle Reading)

- 2:2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation-
- 2:3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.
- 2:4 Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and
- 2:5 like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- 2:6 For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."
- 2:7 To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,"
- 2:8 and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

- 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
- 2:10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**John 14:1-14 (Please stand for the Gospel)**

- 14:1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.
- 14:2 In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?
- 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.
- 14:4 And you know the way to the place where I am going."
- 14:5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"
- 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- 14:7 If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."
- 14:8 Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."
- 14:9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"
- 14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.
- 14:11 Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.
- 14:12 Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.
- 14:13 I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- 14:14 If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

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

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

**SERMON**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH #880 (*The Nicene Creed – Please stand*)**

*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.*

**THE GLORIA PATRI #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.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Please be seated*)**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
(Let us offer our silent confessions.)*

***Living God, in times of spiritual homelessness,  
we long to hear Jesus's assurance  
that he has prepared a place for us;  
we yearn to be formed by the Master Builder  
into spiritual houses, like living stones.  
Grant us the courage of Stephen  
and the confidence of Peter,  
as we strive to be a holy priesthood,  
In your blessed name, we pray. Amen.***

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Believe in God and place your faith in Christ.  
Make your petitions known  
and the one who is faithful will answer.*

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

## **OFFERING**

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

## **OFFERTORY**

Let us Ever Walk with Jesus      Robert J. Powellwien

## **DOXOLOGY #95**

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***Redeeming God, the gifts we bring to you this day, we dedicate to the work  
of kingdom building. Even more, we offer ourselves as material for this work.  
Imperfect as we are, we know with Christ as the cornerstone, you can build  
your vision of mercy, love, forgiveness, peace, and compassion here in our  
midst. We pray in Christ, our rock and redeemer. Amen.***

## **HYMN OF PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION #618**

Let us Break Bread Together  
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Please be seated)***

*The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.*

*Lift up your hearts.*

***We lift them up to the Lord.***

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*The pastor gives thanks and remembers God's acts of salvation, and concludes:...and so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest.***

*The pastor continues the thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled. The pastor concludes:...and so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering*

*for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:*

***Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.***

*The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding:...all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER #895**

***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.***

## **BREAKING THE BREAD**

## **GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP**

## **COMMUNION PRAYER**

***Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

## **CLOSING HYMN #545**

The Church's One Foundation  
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed with permission)

## **BENEDICTION**

### **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #393**

***Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Amen.***

### **POSTLUDE (*Please be seated*)**

Postlude on a Shape Note Tune Bradley C. Hunnicutt

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Memorial Service for Ed Castle:**

*A memorial service for Ed Castle, a long time LTUMC church member is scheduled for **Saturday, June 10, 2023 at 2 PM** at Lake Toxaway UMC.*

### **Monthly Potluck/Covered Dish**

*Our next potluck will be **Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your friends and neighbors.*

***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.***

## **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: Beth Holimon

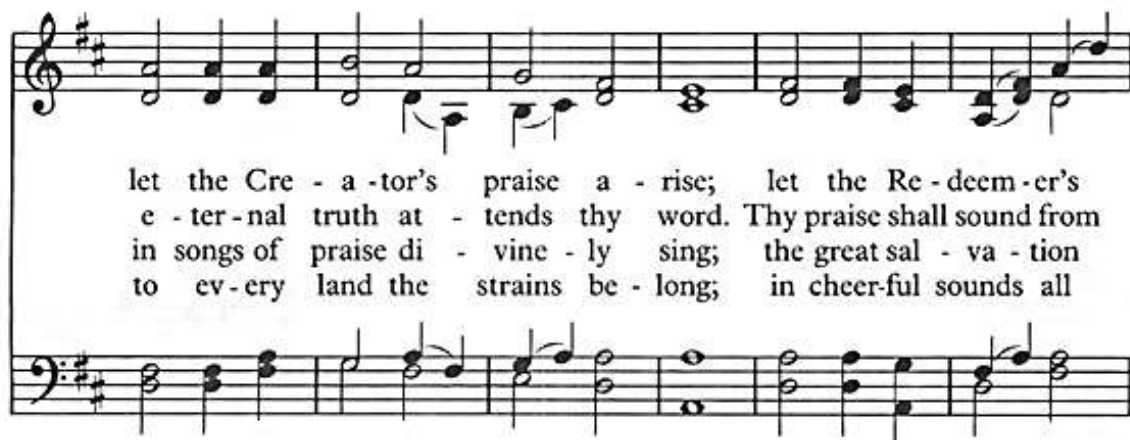
***Hymns are located on the next few pages and used with permission via One License #737113-A***




## From All That Dwell Below the Skies 101



1. From all that dwell be - low the skies,  
 2. E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord;  
 3. Your loft - y themes, ye mor - tals, bring,  
 4. In ev - ery land be - gin the song;



let the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise; let the Re - deem - er's  
 e - ter - nal truth at - tends thy word. Thy praise shall sound from  
 in songs of praise di - vine - ly sing; the great sal - va - tion  
 to ev - ery land the strains be - long; in cheer - ful sounds all



name be sung, through ev - ery land by ev - ery tongue.  
 shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no more.  
 loud pro - claim, and shout for joy the Sav - ior's name.  
 voic - es raise, and fill the world with loud - est praise.

WORDS: Sts. 1-2, Isaac Watts; sts. 3-4, anon., ca. 1781 (Ps. 117)  
 MUSIC: John Hatton, 1793

DUKE STREET  
 LM

# 618 Let Us Break Bread Together

1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees, (on our knees)  
 (2. Let us) drink wine to - geth - er on our knees, (on our knees)  
 (3. Let us) praise God to - geth - er on our knees, (on our knees)

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)  
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)  
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)

When I fall on my knees with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me) 2. Let us  
 3. Let us

me) 4. Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees, (on our knees)

let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees. (on our knees)

When I fall on my knees with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer-cy if you please. (if you please)

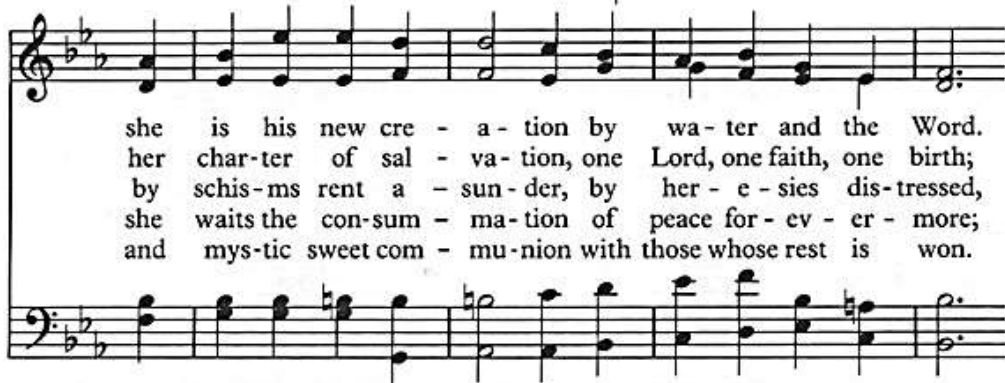
*Fine*

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual; MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual, adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1986.  
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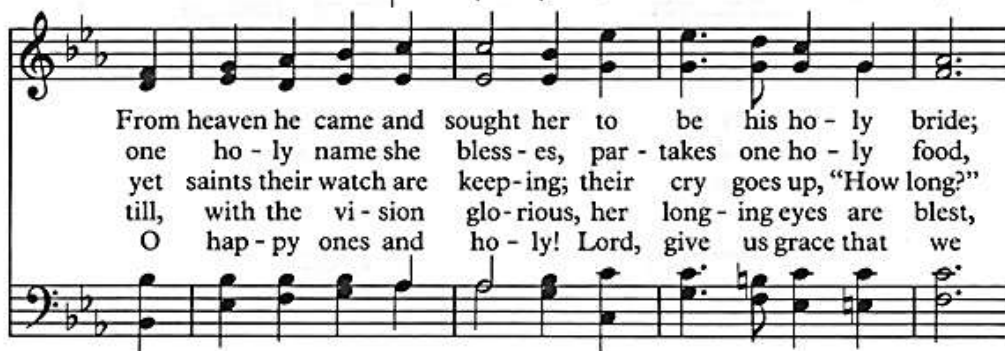
## 545 The Church's One Foundation



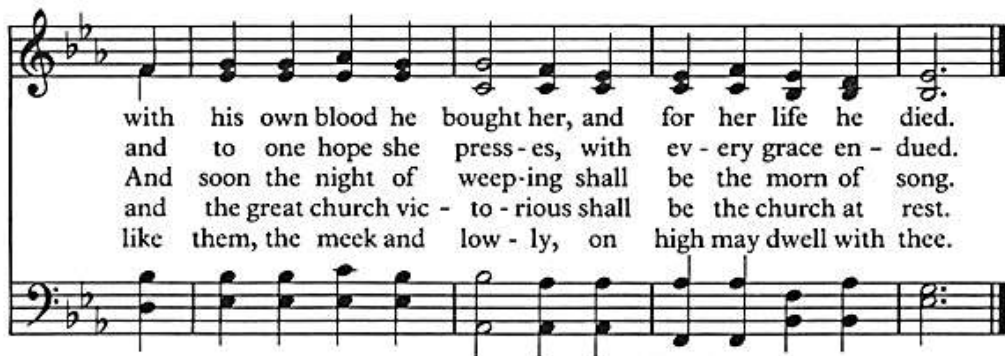
1. The church's one founda - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;  
 2. E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth;  
 3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der we see her sore op - pressed,  
 4. Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,  
 5. Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word.  
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
 by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;  
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up, "How long?"  
 till, with the vi - sion glo - rious, her long - ing eyes are blest,  
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.  
 And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.  
 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

WORDS: Samuel J. Stone, 1866  
 MUSIC: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

AURELIA  
 76.76 D

393

## Spirit of the Living God

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

WORDS: Daniel Iverson, 1926; adapt. (Acts 11:15)  
 MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926

LIVING GOD  
 75.75.875

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