



*Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church*  
*Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023*

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church**  
**Community Worship Service**  
**Third Sunday after Pentecost, June 18th**

**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**

Wonderful Words of Life    Robert J. Powell

**GREETING *(Please Stand)***

*Welcome, you who are called as disciples of Christ! Is anything too wonderful for our God?*

***Nothing is too wonderful for God who saves us and calls us!***

*We remember the goodness of God who promised Abraham a multitude of descendants and then showed up at Abraham's door to announce that the promise would be fulfilled.*

***Nothing is too wonderful for God who promises and fulfills promises!***

*We remember the compassion of Jesus who noticed the distress of his neighbors and acted to bring them healing and wholeness.*

***Nothing is too wonderful for God who heals and restores the distressed!***

*We remember the invitation the Spirit extends to us to join in God's work of building the body of believers.*

***Nothing is too wonderful for God who empowers us to transform strangers into community through active love.***

*As we worship, may we receive the promise, the compassion, and the invitation to be disciples of Christ who join in God's work of making disciples for the transformation of our households, our community, and our world.*

***Because nothing is too wonderful for our God! Amen.***

**HYMN #98**

To God be the Glory

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

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

***Lord, this day we will hear of the miracles that have inspired people to be your disciples. We will hear of Sarah, who in her old age, conceived a son; we will hear of the disciples who are given the mandate to heal, to raise the dead, to proclaim the kingdom and the good news of God's redeeming love. We stand in that long line of those who are called. We are ready to work for you that this broken world may be healed. Hold us up in your powerful hands***

***and renew us again in worship that we might give the full measure of our devotion. Revive us again! We pray in the name of the one who redeemed us, Jesus the Christ. AMEN.***

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7)**

- 18:1 The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day.
- 18:2 He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground.
- 18:3 He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant.
- 18:4 Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree.
- 18:5 Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on--since you have come to your servant." So, they said, "Do as you have said."
- 18:6 And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes."
- 18:7 Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it.
- 18:8 Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.
- 18:9 They said to him, "Where is your wife, Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent."
- 18:10 Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him.
- 18:11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.
- 18:12 So, Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?"
- 18:13 The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?'
- 18:14 Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son."
- 18:15 But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."
- 21:1 The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised.
- 21:2 Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him.
- 21:3 Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him.

- 21:4 And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.
- 21:5 Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.
- 21:6 Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me."
- 21:7 And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

**Psalm 116:1-2, 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.**
- 116:12 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!**

**Romans 5:1-8 (Epistle Reading)**

- 5:1 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
- 5:2 through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.
- 5:3 And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,
- 5:4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,
- 5:5 and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.
- 5:6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.
- 5:7 Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person--though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.
- 5:8 But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

**Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23) (Please stand for the Gospel)**

- 9:35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.
- 9:36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.
- 9:37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;
- 9:38 therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."
- 10:1 Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.
- 10:2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;
- 10:3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;
- 10:4 Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.
- 10:5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans,
- 10:6 but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
- 10:7 As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'
- 10:8 Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.
- 10:9 Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts,
- 10:10 no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food.
- 10:11 Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave.
- 10:12 As you enter the house, greet it.
- 10:13 If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.
- 10:14 If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.
- 10:15 Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.
- 10:16 "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.
- 10:17 Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues;
- 10:18 and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles.

- 10:19 When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time;
- 10:20 for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.
- 10:21 Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death;
- 10:22 and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.
- 10:23 When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

*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 Holy One, we call to you and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love. Yet there are times, O God, when we fail to recognize you in the dailyness of our lives. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us small, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness, and we degrade our own wisdom.***

***Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset, remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us. Free us from shame, self-doubt and sin. Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from our wisdom. We pray to the One who died for our forgiveness, Jesus. Amen***

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

*The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103)*

***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 #454**

Open My Eyes

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

**OFFERING**

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

**OFFERTORY**

Meditation Robert Hebble

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

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost*

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***God of eternity and God of the next moment: we offer our gifts today having heard your call through Jesus to follow. Remind us again this day that being a follower doesn't end at the offering plate. There is a weight to this call – one that demands we not only say "yes" to following but that we also say "no" to thousands of things that will lead us away from the discipleship path. Guide us that we might not wander off that road. In 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 #540**

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord  
Located in the back of the bulletin - (printed w/permission)

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

Trumpet Tune Douglas Wagner

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

*The flowers on the altar are given by Sandi Folken in loving memory of Dennis N. Folken. Denny loved this Church and served as Treasurer for several years.*

### **Commitment Sunday for the Capital Campaign:**

*We will be having a Commitment Sunday on Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> where all pledges for our Capital Campaign will be blessed.*

### **LTUMC Name Tags:**

*We are ordering LTUMC name tags. These are available to EVERYONE attending our church. They are magnet backs and are very strong; they are not designed for anyone with medical devices. We can order a pin back. Please email Saunders with your preferred first name and last name and name tag style.*

### **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.*



### **July Potluck/Covered Dish**

*Our next potluck will be **Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your friends and neighbors.*

### **Capital Campaign Pledge sheets & Thermometer**

*We have Capital Campaign pledge sheets in the Fellowship Hall and online under the Capital Campaign Please look at our Capital Campaign tab on the website or in the Fellowship Hall for the progress thermometer poster.*

### **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: Scott Walter

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

***LTUMC Pledge Card is at the end of the bulletin.***

98 To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He hath done; So loved He the  
 2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood, To ev - 'ry be -  
 3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, And great our re -

world that He gave us His Son, Who yield - ed His life an a -  
 liev - er the prom - ise of God; The vil - est of - fend - er who  
 joic - ing thro' Je - sus the Son; But pur - er, and high - er, and

tone - ment for sin, And o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
 tru - ly be - lieves, That mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.  
 great - er will be Our won - der, our vic - t'ry, when Je - sus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord,

praise the Lord, Let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther, thro'

Je - sus the Son, And give Him the glo - ry, great things He hath done.

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915  
 MUSIC: William H. Doane, 1832-1915

TO GOD BE THE GLORY  
 11.11.11.11. with Refrain

# 454 Open My Eyes, That I May See

1. O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth thou  
 2. O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou  
 3. O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth

hast for me; place in my hands the won - der - ful key  
 send - est clear; and while the wave - notes fall on my ear,  
 ev - ery - where; o - pen my heart and let me pre - pare

*Refrain*  
 that shall un - clasp and set me free.  
 ev - ery - thing false will dis - ap - pear. Si - lent - ly now I  
 love with thy chil - dren thus to share.

wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy will to see.

O - pen my eyes,  
 O - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!  
 O - pen my heart,

WORDS: Clara H. Scott, 1895  
 MUSIC: Clara H. Scott, 1895

OPEN MY EYES  
 88.98 with Refrain

# I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

540

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of two systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are arranged in five numbered lines, with the first line of lyrics appearing between the two systems. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

1. I love thy king-dom, Lord, the house of thine a - bode, the  
2. I love thy church, O God! Her walls be-fore thee stand dear  
3. For her my tears shall fall, for her my prayers as-cend, to  
4. Be - yond my high-est joy I prize her heaven-ly ways, her  
5. Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zi - on shall be given the

church our blest Re - deem-er saved with his own pre-cious blood.  
as the ap - ple of thine eye, and grav - en on thy hand.  
her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.  
sweet com - mu-nion, sol - emn vows, her hymns of love and praise.  
bright-est glo - ries earth can yield, and bright-er bliss of heaven.

WORDS: Timothy Dwight, 1801  
MUSIC: Aaron Williams, *The New Universal Psalmodist*, 1770

ST. THOMAS  
SM



## Capital Campaign Pledge for Fellowship Hall

Name of Contributor: *(please print)*

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Pledge by Year: 2023 \_\_\_\_\_ 2024 \_\_\_\_\_ 2025 \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that my pledge is to be used for the construction of the new Fellowship Hall and is in addition to my normal contributions that go to LTUMC for operating costs and outreach programs.

Should the capital campaign overrun its target goal the additional funds will be used to replace balance sheet reserves used to fund Fellowship Hall construction.

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Signature of Contributor

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Date

As you prayerfully consider your pledge the following resources may be helpful:

If you have questions about the project and want to discuss, then ask the Chair of the Building Committee, Scott Walter. He can be contacted by email at [scottnos@gmail.com](mailto:scottnos@gmail.com) or by phone at (314) 374-2969.

If you are considering various forms of a gift like appreciated assets, stocks, etc. and have questions, then contact John Lefler, Treasurer of LTUMC. John can be contacted by email at [jdlefler013@gmail.com](mailto:jdlefler013@gmail.com) or by phone at (850) 830-6399.

You may return your pledge cards to the church in various ways. You can put it in the offering plate during any church service. *You can mail it to Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church, PO Box 83, Lake Toxaway, NC 28747 Attn: Capital Campaign.*

You can scan and email the form to Tom Blackstock, Administrative Council Chair, at [Tom.Blackstock@gmail.com](mailto:Tom.Blackstock@gmail.com). Or, you can give it to Marcus or any of the contacts listed on this card.

**Upcoming Date for the Campaign:**

**June 24, 2023** – Commitment Sunday – All pledges will be received and blessed in the service

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