



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, September 3rd, 2023

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 3rd

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

God's Time is Best J. S. Bach

GREETING *(Please stand as you are able)*

Give thanks to the Lord.

Call on God's holy name.

Sing praises to the Lord.

Tell of God's wondrous deeds.

Let the faithful sing of the Lord's awesome power.

Let the hearts of the faithful rejoice.

Give thanks to the Lord.

Call on God's holy name.

HYMN #73

O Worship the King

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

OPENING PRAYER *(Please be seated)*

Great I AM, you come to us in unexpected ways.

Excite our curiosity,

that might turn aside and realize we are standing on holy ground.

Appear to us in fire and wonder,

that we might see worlds beyond the reaches of our imaginations.

Reveal the glory of your kingdom -

where love is genuine,

where evil is forsaken,

where mutual affection abides,

and hospitality is shown to strangers,

where all are made one. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 3:1-15

- 3:1 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.
- 3:2 There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed.
- 3:3 Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up."
- 3:4 When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."
- 3:5 Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."
- 3:6 He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.
- 3:7 Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.
- 3:8 The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them.
- 3:9 So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."
- 3:10 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"
- 3:11 He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."
- 3:12 But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?"
- 3:13 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"
- 3:14 God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b (Psalter Lesson ~ Please read the bold text)

- 105:1 O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 105:2 Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.
- 105:3 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.**
- 105:4 Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually.
- 105:5 Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,**
- 105:6 O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
- 105:23 Then Israel came to Egypt; Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham.**
- 105:24 And the LORD made his people very fruitful, and made them stronger than their foes,
- 105:25 whose hearts he then turned to hate his people, to deal craftily with his servants.**
- 105:26 He sent his servant Moses, and Aaron whom he had chosen.
- 105:45b Praise the LORD!**

Romans 12:9-21 (Epistle Reading)

- 12:9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;
- 12:10 Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.
- 12:11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.
- 12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
- 12:13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.
- 12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
- 12:15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.
- 12:16 Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.
- 12:17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.
- 12:18 If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.
- 12:19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."
- 12:20 No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads."
- 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21-28 (Please stand for the Gospel)

- 16:21 From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
- 16:22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you."
- 16:23 But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."
- 16:24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.
- 16:25 For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.
- 16:26 For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?
- 16:27 "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.
- 16:28 Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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.)

Lord of all, we truly desire to live in your Kingdom; yet we confess it often frightens us. We confess we are afraid to bless those who hurt us, to show hospitality to strangers, or to associate with the lowly. We like to talk about love, but so often our love is not genuine. Forgive us for when we fall short of living your way, on earth as it is in heaven.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Beloved Jesus Christ is patient and merciful. Through the incarnation, God knows our fears, God knows the brokenness of this world. God's grace is enough for us all. For those who earnestly confess and turn towards the way of Christ, God is quick to forgive and strengthen.

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

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH (*United Church of Canada*)

*We are not alone; we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. 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 #415

Take Up Thy Cross
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Reflection Douglas E. Wagner

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 new beginnings, receive the gifts of our hands, that hospitality might be extended to those in need. Bless today's offering, that the hungry may be fed, and the thirsty may be satisfied. May these gifts seal our commitment to do what is just and honorable in your sight. 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 #577

God of Grace and God of Glory
Located in the back of the bulletin - (printed w/permission)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *(Please be seated)*

Praise His Name in the Dance Douglas E. Wagner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guest Pastor

Please welcome **Rev. Andrew Crimmins** as our pastor today. He is the pastor of St. Timothy in Brevard for just over a year now.

Flowers on the Altar

The flowers on the altar are given by **Mimi & Peter Elder** in celebration of **Theodore Jonathan Pettibon**, their new grandson.

Our Daily Bread Devotionals

We have new copies of Our Daily Bread devotionals for September, October and November at both entrances of the church and in the Fellowship Hall.

Construction Update

Construction on the new Fellowship Hall will begin after Labor Day. **We will not have access to the buildings during the week. Saturdays will be used to prepare for Sunday service and we look forward to seeing you at 9:30 on Sundays with Coffee Hour following it. Come see the progress from week to week.**

Gas Fund for Scholars

If you are interested in helping with gas cards for our scholars please put "Gas fund for scholars" on the memo line. If you have any questions please contact **Bobbi Moore**, at bbolden1@hotmail.com.

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 as they prepare for the next school year.

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: Fred Markert: 828-553-3303

Liturgist: Lysa Riggs

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

Take Up Thy Cross

415

1. "Take up thy cross," the Sav - ior said, "if thou wouldst
 2. Take up thy cross, let not its weight fill thy weak
 3. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame, nor let thy
 4. Take up thy cross and fol - low Christ, nor think till

my dis - ci - ple be; de - ny thy - self, the
 spir - it with a - larm; his strength shall bear thy
 fool - ish pride re - bel; thy Lord for thee the
 death to lay it down; for on - ly those who

world for - sake, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."
 spir - it up, and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.
 cross en - dured, to save thy soul from death and hell.
 bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

WORDS: Charles W. Everest, 1833 (Mt. 16:24-25; Mk. 8:34-35; Lk. 9:23-24)
 MUSIC: William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

GERMANY
 LM

577 God of Grace and God of Glory

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3. Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to
 4. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us;
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the search for thy sal - va - tion

bring her bad to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom,
 free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wis - dom,
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,

grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
 grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
 grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
 grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour, (of this hour) for the fac - ing of this hour.
 days, (of these days) for the liv - ing of these days.
 goal, (king - dom's goal) lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 dore, (we a - dore) serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

WORDS: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930

MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA

87.87.87

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