



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, November 13th, 2022

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service – Proper 28
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost, November 13th

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

GREETING (*Please stand*)

We gather in this historical space

To worship an amazing God.

Surrounded by art and craft made by hands like ours

To give praise to the source of all our gifts

We are blessed to have this space to call our church home.

We are more blessed to be disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let us worship in this place, giving praise to God

We will worship in joy and in truth. Amen.

HYMN #98 (*Please remain standing*)

To God be the Glory

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

OPENING PRAYER (*Please be seated*)

Our loving and caring God,

we need this time together

to be united with our sisters and brothers

in the faith;

we need this time of worship

to be comforted and strengthened

in your presence.

We hear of wars and rumors of wars.

We read of persecution and oppression.

Remind us again of your vision,

that all might live in a world

of peace and mercy and love

as we await the Kingdom of God.

May this time together

*imprint this vision and promise on our hearts,
that we may live into this beloved community. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS *(Please remain seated)*

Isaiah 65:17-25

- 65:17 For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.
- 65:18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.
- 65:19 I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress.
- 65:20 No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
- 65:21 They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
- 65:22 They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
- 65:23 They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD-- and their descendants as well.
- 65:24 Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear.
- 65:25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent--its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

Isaiah 12 *(Psalter Lesson ~ Please read the bold text)*

- 12:1 You will say in that day: I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, and you comforted me.
- 12:2 Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.**
- 12:3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
- 12:4 And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.**
- 12:5 Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.
- 12:6 Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 (Epistle Reading)

- 3:6 Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us.
- 3:7 For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you,
- 3:8 and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you.
- 3:9 This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate.
- 3:10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat.
- 3:11 For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work.
- 3:12 Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.
- 3:13 Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Luke 21:5-19 (Please stand for the Gospel)

- 21:5 When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said,
- 21:6 "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."
- 21:7 They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?"
- 21:8 And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.
- 21:9 "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately."
- 21:10 Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;
- 21:11 there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.
- 21:12 "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name.
- 21:13 This will give you an opportunity to testify.
- 21:14 So, make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance;

- 21:15 for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict.
- 21:16 You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death.
- 21:17 You will be hated by all because of my name.
- 21:18 But not a hair of your head will perish.
- 21:19 By your endurance you will gain your souls.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

Merciful God, we come before you this day as those who are often afraid to confess all the many ways in which we have disappointed and betrayed You. You have given us continual opportunities to serve and love others, but we have withdrawn into lives of selfishness and greed. We have turned our backs on others in need. We have denied the gifts you have given us. Where can we turn now that we have run from you? Your voice calls to us to come home, to come to you unafraid, to receive forgiveness and healing. Open our hearts this day to receive these magnificent blessings. Help us understand the many ways in which you love us and help us share that love with all those whom we meet. For we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Even though we have turned away from God, yet God is faithful to us. We are beloved of God and recipients of God's love and blessings. Rejoice, children of God! For God's mercies are ever before us. AMEN.

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

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH #885 (A Modern Affirmation – Please stand)

Pastor:

*Where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is the one true church, apostolic and universal,
whose holy faith let us now declare:*

Pastor and People

***We believe in God the Father,
infinite in wisdom, power and love,
whose mercy is over all his works,
and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.***

***We believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of man,
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,
the ground of our hope,
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.***

***We believe in the Holy Spirit
as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance
of the truth of Christ,
and find strength and help in time of need.***

***We believe that this faith should manifest itself
in the service of love
as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,
to the end
that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.***

HYMN #368

My Hope is Built

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

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY *(Please stand)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Holy God who calls us to the journey: it is so easy for us to become distracted so that we wander off the path you have put before us. The chaos of the world around us catches our attention, and we neglect the inner journey that keeps us closer to you. As we set aside this time to bring our gifts to you, may you draw our attention back to the wisdom and guidance that you put before us, and may it lead us to endurance that will carry us to kingdom presence! In Christ, we pray. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 #438

Forth in Thy Name

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *(Please be seated)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Finance Committee Update

The Finance Committee would like to update the congregation on the financial condition of the Church and our current performance. Let us start with our assets. We have a very strong balance sheet. At the end of September our total assets were \$809,052, of which \$215,792 were restricted, meaning that they can only be used for specific purposes. As we mentioned in our last update the Church consistently has a strong balance sheet. Because of this, the Church Council at the end of 2020 decided to increase the amount of Outreach that we give each year and adopted a policy that it would be at least 50% of our annual budget.

So, how did we do last year? Our total yearend expenses were \$310,386 total, of which \$171,466 or 55% was Outreach. This year we budgeted \$160,648 for Outreach, which was 50% of our total budget. Year-to-date we have given our partner charities and student scholars \$125,605 which is 51% of our total spending. For the second year in a row, we will meet or exceed the 50% guideline. Despite Covid-19 our contributions continue to grow each year. As a result, we are well positioned to continue with this benevolent policy.

If making donations from your financial institutions or brokerage accounts please include your name and address and please use our mailing address of LTUMC, P.O. Box 83, Lake Toxaway, NC 28747 as we do not have a physical mailbox at the church. Thank you for your generous donations!

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please pray for Marilyn Ellyson, Jeanette Wilkes, Leigh Ashman, Susie Dickman, Jacob Jones, Dee Seropian, Jack Jeter, Renee Alexander, Donna Parker, Marty Young, Chad & Anne Zimmerman, Lonnie Taylor, Ted Mullett, Suzanne Forsyth, Rachel Johnson, Russ Nulph and Frank Hardin.

Please pray for those having or had a surgery and their recovery.

We lift up those who are actively searching for employment and pray for perseverance for them.

Our heartfelt prayers for all who have experienced the recent passing of a loved one. Especially for Bob Ellyson who died on 11/9/22.

Please continue to pray for our student scholars, local students, teachers and staff. A specific prayer request from Azilee Grace Owen - University of South Carolina Honors College BSE Chemical Engineering Class of 2023: "I would ask that you pray that God show me where I should be after college and provide opportunities so that I make it there. Also, pray for finals as they are coming up very quickly."

We are praying for all of you who were impacted by Hurricane Nicole.

STAFF & LAY VOLUNTEERS

Pastor: Marcus Dodson: 828-553-0282, marcus61dodson@gmail.com

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Church Administrator: Saunders Grommesh, 469-569-2314, administrator@laketoxawayumc.org

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

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

Liturgists: Stan & Bobbi Moore

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

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 - lies, 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

My Hope Is Built

368

1. My hope is built on noth - ing less than
 2. When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
 3. His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup -
 4. When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O

Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness. I dare not trust the
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace. In ev - ery high and
 port me in the whelm - ing flood. When all a - round my
 may I then in him be found! Dressed in his righ - teous -

sweet - est frame, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale, my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain

On Christ the sol - id rock I stand, all oth - er ground is
 sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

WORDS: Edward Mote, 1834
 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1863

THE SOLID ROCK
 LM with Refrain

438

Forth in Thy Name, O Lord

1. Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go, my dai - ly
 2. The task thy wis - dom hath as - signed, O let me
 3. Thee may I set at my right hand, whose eyes mine
 4. For thee de - light - ful - ly em - ploy what - e'er thy

6

la - bor to pur - sue; thee, on - ly thee, re -
 cheer - ful - ly ful - fill; in all my works thy
 in - most sub - stance see, and la - bor on at
 boun - teous grace hath given; and run my course with

11

solved to know in all I think or speak or do.
 pres - ence find, and prove thy good and per - fect will.
 thy command, and of - fer all my works to thee.
 e - ven joy, and close - ly walk with thee to heaven.

United Methodist Hymnal 438
 WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1749
 MUSIC (DUKE STREET, LM): John Hatton, 1793