



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, March 13th 2022

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Second Sunday in Lent, March 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

Wondrous Love arr. John Carter

GREETING

L: Today is a day to sing praise to God!

P: God continually blesses us, each and every day.

L: Even in the midst of cold and darkness, the warmth of God's love is real.

P: We can count on God to be here for us.

L: Let your hearts rejoice and your voices shout praise to God.

P: For God is great and worthy to be praised. AMEN.

HYMN #158

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

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

OPENING PRAYER *(Please be seated)*

***God of promises fulfilled,
we gather as descendants of Abraham;
we stand before you
as faithful testimony to your covenant;
we assemble as living proof
that your love for humanity
knows no limits.
When we feel overwhelmed
by the stresses of daily life,
we need only look at the stars in the sky
to remember your abiding faithfulness.
When we are overcome with despair
by the pain of war and poverty in our world,
we need only see the light of a single candle
to remember the one you sent
as our light, our strength, and our salvation.***

***We pray now in the name of that light,
Jesus Christ. Amen.***

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

- 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."
- 15:2 But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"
- 15:3 And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir."
- 15:4 But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir."
- 15:5 He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be."
- 15:6 And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.
- 15:7 Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess."
- 15:8 But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?"
- 15:9 He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon."
- 15:10 He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two.
- 15:11 And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.
- 15:12 As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.
- 15:17 When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.
- 15:18 On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates...."

Psalms 27 (Please read the bold text)

- 27:1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- 27:2 When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh-- my adversaries and foes-- they shall stumble and fall.**
- 27:3 Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.
- 27:4 One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.**
- 27:5 For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

27:6 Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

27:7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

27:8 "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, LORD, do I seek.

27:9 Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

27:10 If my father and mother forsake me, the LORD will take me up.

27:11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

27:12 Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

27:13 I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

27:14 Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Philippians 3:17-4:1

3:17 Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.

3:18 For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.

3:19 Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.

3:20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

3:21 He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

4:1 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Luke 13:31-35 (Please stand for the Gospel)

13:31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."

13:32 He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work.

13:33 Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.'

13:34 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

13:35 See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

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.)*

There is a certain winter in our spirits today, O Lord. We feel that the journey on which we have embarked will demand too much of us. There are so many other things in our lives which claim our spirits, our energy, hopes and fears. It is easy to be like Jerusalem, turning our backs on those whom you send. The world shouts its solutions to us and then deserts us when we are in need. Forgive us for the many times in which we have strayed from your pathway of life; when we have chosen not to hear the cries of those in need; when we have belittled the gifts and skills you have given us to avoid serving others. Heal us, O Lord. Place us back on your path to Jerusalem, to live, for we ask this in Jesus' name. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor:

When God called your name, God called you to a journey of faith. Do not be afraid to look inside to see those things which are holding you back from being who God created you to be. Place your trust in God who is always with you, loving you into wholeness. AMEN.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

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 #396

O Jesus, I Have Promised
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Be Thou with Me J. S. Bach

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Generous God, as we travel this Lenten journey, allow us to walk beside Jesus as he makes his journey into Jerusalem. As we offer our gifts this morning, may it be our way of saying we won't turn away from the problems and conflicts of this world; but like Jesus, we will walk toward them. All we take for the journey is the compassion, mercy, and sacrifice that he carried—moving toward what waited in the Holy City. We journey in Christ's steps and pray in Christ's holy name. 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 #419

I am Thine, O Lord
Located in the back of the bulletin - (printed w/permission)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude in E minor Johann Krebs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Daylight Savings Time Starts Sunday, 3-13-22

Please set your clocks ahead one hour (Spring forward) Saturday night 3-12-22 before you go to bed. We look forward to seeing you at church.

Flowers on the Altar

The azalea plant on the altar was donated by the Klines and Shoemakers in honor of their wedding anniversaries.

Lenten Devotionals

*We are asking the congregation to write a Lenten devotional like we did last year. We have had 12 devotionals submitted but still need 28 devotionals. Please discern and send your devotional to **Scott Walter at scotlaw@aol.com**. The Lenten devotionals will be available in three locations for you to read at your leisure; our website:*

<https://www.laketoxawayumc.org/index.php/lenten-devotionals-2022>, on our LTUMC app and on our Facebook page.

NEW LTUMC Magnetic Name Badges

*Thank you to Debbie Werrbach for wearing her UMC name badge and sharing the information with LTUMC. With Covid-19 and new homeowners in the area we are excited to see everyone. LTUMC will be ordering magnetic name badges we will leave at the church. This will not damage your clothes. However, if you have a medical device impacted by a strong magnet, we can order a different backing. Please send your preferred name you go by to Saunders at administrator@laketoxawayumc.org. We need to get a minimum of names before an order can be placed. We would like to have these ready for everyone in early June 2022. **This is available to anyone attending LTUMC and you do not need to be a formal member.***

Coffee Hour Resumes

*The smell of hot coffee after last week's service was a warm welcome. There were some wonderful introductions. Please stop in the Fellowship Hall to meet new old friends over a cup of coffee. If you want to sign-up to bring something, the sign-up sheet is in the Fellowship Hall. We ask you bring enough food for ~35 people. If you have any questions, please reach out to **Nancee Salyer at 314-443-1017 or nsalyer331@aol.com***

Mask Policy Update

Our LTUMC mask policy from the Worship Committee as of 3-1-2022

- We welcome all to worship our Lord and Savior.*
- Wearing masks in the sanctuary and fellowship hall are not required.*
- We remain committed to the Wesleyan call "to do no harm," and ask you to stay at home and worship virtually with us if you do not feel well.*

Monthly Fellowship Cover Dish/Potluck Dinners

We will have monthly fellowship dinners in the Fellowship Hall the first Wednesday of the month for April 6th and May 4th at 6:00 PM. We will then switch to the first Tuesday of the month for June 7th, July 5th, August 2 and September 6th at 6:00 PM.

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please pray for Dale and Leigh Ashman, Sherry Minnich's brother-in-law and sister, Don Guffey, La'Bruce & Suzanne Hanahan, Laura Whitehurst's parents, Jacob Jones, the nephew of John and Char Holbrook, Clyde Biddle, Janet & Ed English, Dee Seropian, Dave Wilkes, Jack Jeter, Renee Alexander, John & Sue Thomas, Donna Parker, Chad & Anne Zimmerman, Marty Young, Cathie Fussell's brother, Lonnie Taylor and nephew, Jeff Tilley, Bobbi Moore's sister, Nancy Schubert and Frank Hardin.

Please pray for those having or had surgery for recovery, those who have had the death of a loved one recently. Especially for the recent passing of Barbara Cline-Sanibel, Judy Lefler's friend.

Please pray for our student scholars.

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 and Scott Walter: 314-374-2969

Audio/Visual for Livestream Chair: Andy Harvill

Liturgist: Scott Walter

158 Come, Christians, Join to Sing

1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2. Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3. Praise yet the Lord a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Let prais-es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re-joice;
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
 On heav-en's bliss - ful shore his good-ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra-cious choice. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

WORDS: Christian Henry Bateman, 1843

MUSIC: Trad. melody; arr. by Benjamin Carr, 1824; harm. by Austin C. Lovelace, 1963

SPANISH HYMN

66.66 D

Harm. © 1964 Abingdon Press

O Jesus, I Have Promised

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1. O Je - sus, I have prom-ised to serve thee to the end;
 2. O let me feel thee near me! The world is ev - er near;
 3. O let me hear thee speak-ing in ac - cents clear and still,
 4. O Je - sus, thou hast prom-ised to all who fol - low thee

be thou for-ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt-ing sounds I hear;
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser-vant be.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if thou art by my side,
 my foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom-ised to serve thee to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if thou wilt be my guide.
 but Je - sus, draw thou near - er, and shield my soul from sin.
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.
 O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my Friend.

WORDS: John E. Bode, ca. 1866 (Lk. 9:57)
 MUSIC: Arthur H. Mann, 1881

ANGEL'S STORY
 76.76 D

I Am Thine, O Lord

1. I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it
 2. Con - se - crate me now to thy ser - vice, Lord, by the
 3. O the pure de - light of a sin - gle hour that be -
 4. There are depths of love that I can - not know till I

told thy love to me; but I long to rise in the
 power of grace di - vine; let my soul look up with a
 fore thy throne I spend, when I kneel in prayer, and with
 cross the nar - row sea; there are heights of joy that I

arms of faith and be clos - er drawn to thee.
 stead - fast hope, and my will be lost in thine.
 thee, my God, I com - mune as friend with friend!
 may not reach till I rest in peace with thee.

Refrain

Draw me near - er, near - er, bless - ed Lord, to the
 near - er, near - er,