



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, March 27th 2022

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 27th

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

Softly and Tenderly arr. Dale Wood

GREETING

L: Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

P: For once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have been found and welcomed home.

L: Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

P: We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

L: Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

P: AMEN!

HYMN #181

Ye Servants of God

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

OPENING PRAYER *(Please be seated)*

Merciful God, you seek the lost sheep of your pasture; you call out to all who have strayed. As the father welcomed the prodigal son home, receive us back into your loving arms. Your steadfast love, O God, knows no bounds. Your loving embrace is always there for us. Be with us in our time of worship, that we may feel your presence and know that you are our true home. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Joshua 5:9-12

- 5:9 The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.
- 5:10 While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal, they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho.
- 5:11 On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain.
- 5:12 The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Psalm 32 (Please read the bold text)

- 32:1 Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.**
- 32:2 Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit, there is no deceit.
- 32:3 While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.**
- 32:4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah
- 32:5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah**
- 32:6 Therefore, let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.
- 32:7 You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. Selah**
- 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- 32:9 Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.**
- 32:10 Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.
- 32:11 Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

- 5:16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.
- 5:17 So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!
- 5:18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;
- 5:19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.
- 5:20 So, we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
- 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 (Please stand for the Gospel)

- 15:1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.
- 15:2 And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."
- 15:3 So, he told them this parable:
- 15:11b "There was a man who had two sons.
- 15:12 The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So, he divided his property between them.
- 15:13 A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living.
- 15:14 When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need.
- 15:15 So, he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs.
- 15:16 He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.
- 15:17 But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger!
- 15:18 I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you;
- 15:19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'"
- 15:20 So, he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him.
- 15:21 Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

- 15:22 But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.
- 15:23 And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate;
- 15:24 for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.
- 15:25 "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing.
- 15:26 He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on.
- 15:27 He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.'
- 15:28 Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.
- 15:29 But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.
- 15:30 But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!'
- 15:31 Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.
- 15:32 But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

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.)*

Lord, it is interesting that it is easy for us to identify with today's scripture about the "Prodigal Son". Some of us are easily reminded of our own selfishness and stubbornness when we willfully sought our own way. Others are reminded about how angry we were when others were not held accountable for their actions, when we have been so careful not to displease anyone. Still others can identify with the father who, feeling the loss of his son, welcomes him home again, reminding the brother that he has always been in the love and care of the Father. We hear this story and it's a pleasant memory. But do we really understand what it is about? Do we know that we have also been stubborn and selfish, angry and unforgiving, sorrowful and caught between two conflicting factions? We are no different from these characters, in our own unique way. Yet, in God's infinite love, we also are

forgiven and healed. We are called to turn our lives back to God's care, which is always extended to us. Forgive us and heal us, gracious God. Open our hearts and our spirits to truly receive the blessings of your healing love. For it is in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, that we pray. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Once we were "dead" to all the things that God hoped for us; but in God's love we are again brought to life. Rejoice, my sisters and brothers, you are forgiven!

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 #348

Softly and Tenderly

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

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus arr. Robert J. Powell

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Long-suffering God, we hear the words of the familiar parable and, at different times, see ourselves as either son. We have received—or demanded—blessings to which we were not entitled and squandered them in self-indulgent living. We have also looked out from our place of superiority and favor and have been indignant over your lavish dispensing of love and mercy. As we bring our gifts this day, we do so in the humble gratitude and recognition that any and all blessings in our life come as your gift of grace. We pray in the name of your greatest gift, Jesus our redeemer. 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 #368

My Hope is Built

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Wondrous Love arr. David P. Dahl

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*Thank you to everyone who has written a devotional or two for our Lenten 2022 journey. 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 first and last name you go by to Saunders at administrator@laketoxawayumc.org.** 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 in the Fellowship Hall after the service

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 nsalyer@aol.com**

Monthly Fellowship Cover Dish/Potluck Dinners

The first fellowship dinner on Ash Wednesday was a wonderful time had by all. 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.**

Support for Ukraine

If you are interested in learning more about how LTUMC's Outreach committee is supporting Ukraine and how you can support individually please reach out to **Fred Markert, the Outreach Committee Chair at fredmarkert47@gmail.com.**

Announcement Deadline Reminder

Please submit your announcements to Saunders by Tuesday at 5:00 PM in order to meet our print deadline.

PRAYER CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Please pray for John & Sue Thomas, Marty Young, Dale and Leigh Ashman, Sherry Minnich's brother-in-law and sister, 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, Donna Parker, Chad & Anne Zimmerman, 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.

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: Carole Guffey

Hymns are located on the next few pages.

Ye Servants of God

1. Ye ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
 2. God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save,
 3. "Sal - va - tion to God, who sits on the throne!"
 4. Then let us a - dore and give him his right,

and pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful name;
 and still he is nigh, his pres - ence we have;
 Let all cry a - loud and hon - or the Son;
 all glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might;

the name all - vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol,
 the great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
 the prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
 all hon - or and bless - ing with an - gels a - bove,

his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all.
 as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our King.
 fall down on their fac - es and wor - ship the Lamb.
 and thanks nev - er ceas - ing and in - fi - nite love.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1744 (Rev. 7:9-12)
 MUSIC: Attr. to William Croft, 1708

HANOVER
 10 10.11 11

348 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing,
 2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing,
 3. Time is now fleet - ing, the mo - ments are pass - ing,
 4. O for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised,

call - ing for you and for me; see, on the por - tals he's
 plead - ing for you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and
 pass - ing from you and from me; shad - ows are gath - er - ing,
 prom - ised for you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has

wait - ing and watch - ing, watch - ing for you and for me.
 heed not his mer - cies, mer - cies for you and for me?
 death - beds are com - ing, com - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cy and par - don, par - don for you and for me.

Refrain

Come home, come home; you who are
 Come home, come home;

WORDS: Will L. Thompson, 1880
 MUSIC: Will L. Thompson, 1880

THOMPSON
 11 7.11 7 with Refrain

INVITATION

wea-ry, come home; ear - nest-ly, ten - der - ly,
Je - sus is call-ing, call-ing, O sin-ner, come home!

The musical score is written in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 2/4 time signature. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The first system contains the lyrics 'wea-ry, come home; ear - nest-ly, ten - der - ly,'. The second system contains the lyrics 'Je - sus is call-ing, call-ing, O sin-ner, come home!'. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords and some melodic movement in the right hand. The vocal line is simple and direct, with some phrasing slurs and accents.

My Hope Is Built

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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