



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, May 29th, 2022

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Ascension of the Lord/Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 29th

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

Prelude on "Land of Rest" Robert Lau

INTRODUCTION – *by Paula Markert for Rev. Kerry Purselle*

GREETING

L: Praise the Lord, all the people!

P: For our Savior has been raised on high!

L: Jesus Christ who was crucified and has risen from the dead

P: Now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

L: Jesus will come again, bringing the fullness of God's kingdom.

P: Praise be to our Lord! AMEN.

HYMN #154

All Hail the Poser of Jesus' Name

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

OPENING PRAYER (*Please be seated*)

Astounding God, we come before you this day as witnesses to Christ's ascension from this realm to the heavenly kingdom. We stand in awe and wonder at what we hear and see. Open the eyes of our hearts to see the power and truth of your words. Give us courage and joy that we might be witnesses to your eternal love through Christ Jesus our Lord. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 1:1-11

- 1:1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning
- 1:2 until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.
- 1:3 After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.
- 1:4 While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me;
- 1:5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."
- 1:6 So, when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"
- 1:7 He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.
- 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
- 1:9 When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.
- 1:10 While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.
- 1:11 They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Psalm 47 (Please read the bold text)

- 47:1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.**
- 47:2 For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.
- 47:3 He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.**
- 47:4 He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. Selah
- 47:5 God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.**
- 47:6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- 47:7 For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.**
- 47:8 God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.
- 47:9 The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted.**

Ephesians 1:15-23

- 1:15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason
- 1:16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.
- 1:17 I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him,
- 1:18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints,
- 1:19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.
- 1:20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,
- 1:21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.
- 1:22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church,
- 1:23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Luke 24:44-53 (Please stand for the Gospel)

- 24:44 Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you--that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."
- 24:45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
- 24:46 and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,
- 24:47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
- 24:48 You are witnesses of these things.
- 24:49 And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so, stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."
- 24:50 Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.
- 24:51 While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.
- 24:52 And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy;
- 24:53 and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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.)*

O Lord,

forgive us when we fail to respond to your call with faith.

Through your Spirit

we stand in the assurance of your acceptance.

Forgive us when we are shackled

by our narrow understandings of discipleship

and our clouded sense of purpose.

Through your Spirit

we are drawn into the illumination of your empowering love.

Forgive us when we are frightened of the future

or pull back from the demand of your calling.

Forgive us when we fail to sense your presence in our past,

to acknowledge your grace in the present moment,

and to trust you for our future.

Through your Spirit we offer ourselves in discipleship.

We stand together as your disciples.

We seek renewed and renewing faith.

Touch us now with your Spirit, Lord.

Touch us now with your Spirit. We pray in the name of the Risen Lord, Jesus.

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Jesus commanded the faithful ones to wait for the power from on high. Be patient.

God's love is given to you and the power of God will enable you to be witnesses for God in this world. Be of great courage. Be still. AMEN.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH #887 (Affirmation from Romans 8: 35, 37-39)

Leader:

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Shall tribulation or distress,

or persecution or famine,

or nakedness or peril or sword?

People:

No,

In all things we are more than conquerors

Through the One who loved us.

We are sure that neither

death nor life,

nor angels, nor principalities,

nor things present, nor things to come,

nor powers, nor height, nor depth,

nor anything else in all creation,

will be able to separate us from the love of God

in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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 #454

Open My Eyes, That I May See

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

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

Prayer Douglas E. Wagner

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of justice and mercy: The temptation is strong to make our gifts to you on Sunday feel as if we've done all that is expected, then wake up on Monday and live like all the rest of the world. Deep in our souls, we know that's not what Christ called us to do, but the safe road is so much easier. God of compassion, embolden us to be involved in some good work. Embolden us to stand out against the backdrop of a world that says, "take care of your own." Embolden us to use our voices to speak on behalf of the voiceless, to use our ears to hear the discouraged and defeated, and to use our arms to help the weak and powerless. In the name of the One who conquered death, Jesus. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Tom Blackstock, our Administrative Council Chair has an announcement followed by regular announcements from Rev. Kerry Purselle.

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

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name arr. Hal H. Hopson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are grateful to have Rev. Kerry Purselle with us again to celebrate today's service. She is a retired minister from the Western North Carolina Conference of the UMC. She is a second career minister; she worked in public schools in the Atlanta area in her first career. She attended Candler School of Theology at Emory and served churches in the North Georgia Conference before moving to Brevard where she served and continues to serve at First United Methodist Church Brevard. She and her husband, Dick, spent several years in an international appointment in Poland. She has served on numerous boards in Brevard including the Transylvania Christian Ministry. She has preached several times for us and it is a joy to welcome her again to Lake Toxaway UMC.

Scholarship Committee Update from Fred Markert, Outreach Chair

During the week of May 9, 2022, the LTUMC Outreach scholarship committee completed twelve interviews of student applicants (eleven from Rosman HS and one from Brevard HS). **We are pleased to announce that from those interviews a William R. Minnich Scholar recipient was selected. An additional seven LTUMC scholarship recipients were selected (six from RHS and one from BHS). Award ceremonies were May 13 and May 17, 2022.**

These students have exciting and diverse educational goals and paths. We all should be proud not only annual supporting them financially but acting as partners as they pursue their dreams.

Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall after our Service today

*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, please do so in the Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, please reach out to **Nancee Salyer at 314-443-1017***

Monthly Fellowship Covered Dish/Potluck Dinners

The June 7th dinner will be a BBQ dinner (meat provided) and we ask you to bring a side. Come hear an update from our building committee. PLEASE RSVP to Saunders by May 31st at administrator@laketoxawayumc.org

Administrative Council Meeting

*The Administrative Council will meet on **Friday, June 10th at 3:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. You may e-mail Tom at Tom.Blackstock@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 Marty Young, Dale and Leigh Ashman, Sherry Minnich's brother-in-law and sister, Jacob Jones, the nephew of John and Char Holbrook, Clyde Biddle, Janet 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.

We lift Sue Thomas in prayers as John passed away early Wednesday, 5/11/22. There will be a memorial service in September 2022. Sue is open to cards at this time and not phone calls.

We pray for Debra and Brian Singleton as Deb's father, Tommy Lambert passed away on May 5th.

We hold Cynthia and Stephen Wood in prayers for the recent passing of Cynthia's father Major General Carl H. McNair, Jr.

We pray for Laura Whitehurst and her family for the passing of her father, La'Bruce Hanahan.

Please pray for our student scholars who completed their Spring semester and for the Scholarship Committee who completed interviews for new 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.

154 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

1. All hail the power of Je-sus' name! Let an-gels pros-trate fall;
 2. Ye cho-sen seed of Is-rael's race, ye ran-somed from the fall,
 3. Sin-ners, whose love can ne'er for-get the worm-wood and the gall,
 4. Let ev-ery kin-dred, ev-ery tribe on this ter-res-trial ball,
 5. Crown him, ye mar-tyrs of your God, who from his al-tar call;
 6. O that with yon-der sa-cred through we at his feet may fall!

bring forth the roy-al di-a-dem, and crown him Lord of all.
 hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
 go spread your tro-phies at his feet, and crown him Lord of all.
 to him all maj-es-ty as-cribe, and crown him Lord of all.
 ex-tol the Stem of Jes-se's Rod, and crown him Lord of all.
 We'll join the ev-er-last-ing song, and crown him Lord of all.

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WORDS: Edward Perronet, 1779; alt. by John Rippon, 1787
 MUSIC: Oliver Holden, 1792

CORONATION
 CM

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

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 right - eous - 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 right - eous -

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