



Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Sunday, January 15th, 2023

Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Community Worship Service
Second Sunday after the Epiphany, January 15th

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

Hymn Douglas E. Wagner

GREETING

*I waited patiently for GOD; who turned to me and heard my cry,
who lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire;
and set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.*

We sing a new song!

Our mouths are full of the praise of God.

*Blessed are we when we make the Lord our trust;
when we do not turn aside to false gods.*

***We sing of all your many wonders, O God,
too many to declare them all.***

*Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but our ears you have pierced and a body you have prepared for us.*

We sing, "Here I am, I have come—

***I desire to do your will, O my God;
your law is in my heart."***

HYMN #140

Great is Thy Faithfulness

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

OPENING PRAYER (*Please be seated*)

God of Isaiah, you are our God, too.

You spoke to the prophets, but your message did not end with them.

There is still work to be done, and we pray to hear your call afresh.

***Help us joyfully claim our role as your beloved servants,
knowing that you provide all that we need to do your work.***

***You walked with us before we were even born, and you continue to hold us
by the hand every day of our lives.***

We pray with the confidence of those who have been filled with your light.

We pray with the assurance of those who have been called into fellowship with your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 49:1-7

- 49:1 Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
- 49:2 He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.
- 49:3 And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
- 49:4 But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God."
- 49:5 And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength-
- 49:6 he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."
- 49:7 Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Psalms 40:1-11 (Psalter Lesson ~ Please read the bold text)

- 40:1 I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- 40:2 He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.
- 40:3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.**
- 40:4 Happy are those who make the LORD their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.
- 40:5 You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.**
- 40:6 Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.
- 40:7 Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.**
- 40:8 I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

40:9 I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.

40:10 I have not hidden your saving help within my heart, I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

40:11 Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

1 Corinthians 1:1-9 (Epistle Reading)

1:1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

1:2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

1:3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

1:4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus,

1:5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind

1:6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you

1:7 so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1:8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1:9 God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 1:29-42 (Please stand for the Gospel)

1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

1:30 This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'

1:31 I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."

1:32 And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.

1:33 I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

- 1:34 And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."
- 1:35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples,
- 1:36 and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"
- 1:37 The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.
- 1:38 When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?"
- 1:39 He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.
- 1:40 One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.
- 1:41 He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed).
- 1:42 He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

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.)

***Faithful God,
you call us to be saints,
but we are more comfortable with the role of sinner;
you call us to be your servants,
but we worry that we lack the skills to do your work;
you put a new song of praise in our mouths,
but we stumble on unfamiliar words;
you show us the work to be tackled,
but we turn away defiant,
insisting we have more important things to do.
Put your song on our lips and in our hearts,
and remind us of the joy that awaits us
when we put our trust in you.
Guide us into the light
of your unwavering, never-ending,
and grace-filled love. Amen.***

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*God is faithful and ever-present.
The God who knew us before our birth
loves us still and strengthens us,
that we will one day be blameless.
Through the gift of Jesus Christ,
God offers forgiveness, grace, and mercy.
Enter into the light!*

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

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH #880 (The Nicene Creed – Please stand)

***We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen and unseen.***

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.***

Through him all things were made.

***For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.***

***For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.***

***On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.***

***We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.***

***With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.***

***We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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 #500

Spirit of God, Descend Upon my Heart
Located in the back of the bulletin - (Printed w/ permission)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Meditation on "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

DOXOLOGY #95 *(Please be stand)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Good and generous God, we bring our gifts to you this day and pray you might dedicate them to your work. We confess that we have too often missed being the church you wanted and needed, and we have placed the blame on "not having enough" money, members, talent, time, or power. We needed to be reminded by the apostle Paul that we have all that we need, whatever our circumstances. Renew us, loving God, and give us a new day and another chance. In Christ's holy name, we pray. 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 #396

O Jesus, I have Promised

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude in Classic Style Gordon Young

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers on the Altar:

The flowers on the altar today are in loving memory of Robert Ellyson from his wife, Marilyn. A celebration of life service, is being held this afternoon in Miami, FL.

2022 Year End Giving Statements:

If you have moved in 2022 and have made offerings/donations to LTUMC, please be sure to e-mail Saunders with your winter mailing address. She will ensure our CPA has your current address for the year end giving statement to be mailed out in time for your taxes. Saunders Grommesh: administrator@laketoxawayumc.org

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. Especially for Katherine Jeter to repair a broken hip and a full recovery for a cracked rib.

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.

Please continue to pray for our student scholars, our local students, teachers and staff as they are in their Spring semester.

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: Andy Harvill: 828-884-3548

Liturgist: John Lefler

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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
 2. Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
 3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en - dur-eth, thine own dear

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright

pas-sions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
 hope for to - mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy

hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923 (Lam. 3:22-23)
 MUSIC: William M. Runyan, 1923

FAITHFULNESS
 11 10.11 10 with Refrain

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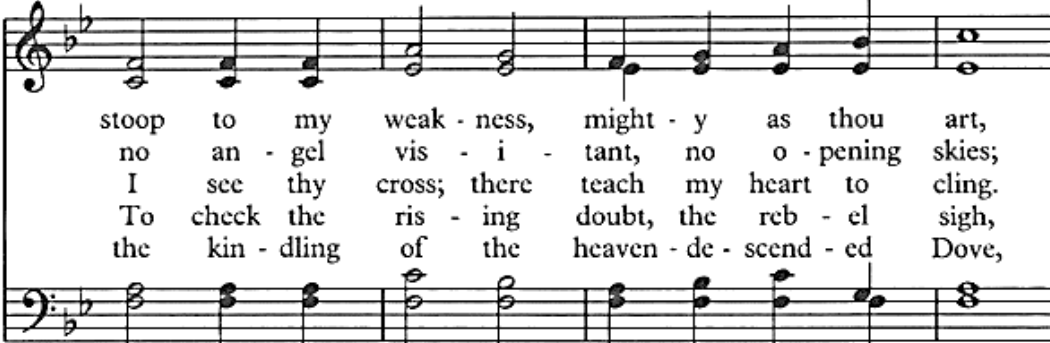
500 Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart




1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3. Hast thou not bid me love thee, God and King?
 4. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;
 5. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,



wear it from earth; through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind.
 teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear.
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;



stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;
 I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh,
 the kin - dling of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,



and make me love thee as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
 teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

WORDS: George Croly, 1867 (Gal. 5:25)
 MUSIC: Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870

MORECAMBE
 10 10.10 10

O Jesus, I Have Promised

396

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