

Dear Lake Toxaway UMC Family and Community,

Hospitality is a word that gets used with many types of modifiers or adjectives: gracious hospitality, Southern hospitality or attentive, courteous, amiable, cordial, agreeable, gracious and welcoming. In Christian circles, we began to talk about practicing hospitality a few years ago in terms of radical hospitality and developed programs around welcoming new visitors in worship with a coffee mug and a follow-up phone call. At Lake Toxaway UMC, Coffee Hour served as a hospitality hour. Hospitality even describes several industries: Food and Beverage, Travel and Tourism, Lodging and Recreation.

This week in the Gospel lesson, Jesus speaks about hospitality and there is a phrase that has resonated with me since my days of working in New York City with "latch-key" children in tutoring and enrichment programs. One of the directors of the program reminded those of us who worked in this program much of our ministry with children from at-risk homes might best be described as "offering a cup of cold water to one of these little ones." I have used this metaphor for much of my ministry as a chaplain and pastor. In times of crisis, anxiety, tragedy, offering a "cup of cold water" literally or figuratively embodies the presence of Christ with me as one of Christ's disciples. The simple act may not be significant in my mind, but as the Holy Spirit blesses this act, it becomes a means of grace to the person or persons facing whatever the situation or need. (You have a preview of this week's homily.)

In the context of our nation and world today, Christian hospitality is the "balm of Gilead" we can offer. And to offer hospitality in our present context requires a creativity guided and directed by the Holy Spirit! The Apostle Paul wrestled with the Church at Colossae and its small flock around the supremacy of Christ and Christian ethics, which is another way of guiding our practice of Christian hospitality. Paul summarizes our Christian ethic in this way: "AS God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony... And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. (Colossians 3: 12-17)."

I, your pastor, fall short daily in practicing Christian hospitality. I fail to offer simple courtesies and kindness; I judge others quickly; I certainly become impatient. I am thankful God in Christ forgives my failures/sin in my words and deeds. I invite you to join me in seeking to find ways to practice hospitality creatively in the present world environment. I suggest we start by praying John Wesley's Rules of Christian living: *Do NO Harm, Do Good, and Stay in Love with God*. I am sorry if I hurt any of you; my love for you is constant! I want to continue to serve in ministry with you as we worship virtually. I want to be faithful in practicing Christian hospitality to you and to strangers. I believe what Jesus said about a cup of cold water!

The hospitality we receive is related to the hospitality we give. The love we give is related to the love we receive. That is how this works. We cannot scare people into the arms of God, but we can love them there. We cannot force people into the fellowship of the church, but we can welcome them there. This Gospel text tells us hospitality is not an add-on, not an extra in the busy-ness of our mission and ministry. It is core. It is what defines us! (A paragraph in the homily this week.)

May we seek to be disciples who understand a cup of cold water might be a means of grace to invite someone into a relationship with Jesus Christ!

May I also ask you give attention to the announcements in the bulletin (pretty please).

With a disciple's heart, I love you and seek to serve with you in this strange time,
Marcus

**Lake Toxaway United Methodist Church
Home Worship for Community Worship
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, June 28, 2020**

<https://youtu.be/5bxrZthkKvY>

If the Livestream is interrupted it cannot be restarted but we will have a backup of the recorded service on YouTube as soon as possible.

PRELUDE

Ivory Palaces arr. Smith and Hustad

GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: And also with you.

L: Rejoice in your salvation.

P: We will sing to God who has dealt bountifully with us.

HYMN 181

Ye Servants of God
(Printed w/ permission)

INVOCATION

Holy and Eternal God, who calls us into community, and invites us to welcome your prophets and messengers, let us experience your welcome to us gathered in various places but joined in this moment. Show us that we are beloved and honored in your presence and in this community. Show us how to put our resources at the service of all, help us know that the cup of water given in your name nourishes the one who gives and the one who receives. Satisfy our thirst to know your presence here and now. We pray in the name of Jesus, 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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 22:1-14

22:1 After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

- 22:2 He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."
- 22:3 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him.
- 22:4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away.
- 22:5 Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you."
- 22:6 Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together.
- 22:7 Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"
- 22:8 Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.
- 22:9 When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.
- 22:10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.
- 22:11 But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."
- 22:12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."
- 22:13 And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.
- 22:14 So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

Psalm 13 (Read Responsively)

- 13:1 How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?
- 13:2 How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all day long? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?**
- 13:3 Consider and answer me, O LORD my God! Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,
- 13:4 and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed"; my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.**
- 13:5 But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
- 13:6 I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.**

Romans 6:12-23

- 6:12 Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions.

- 6:13 No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness.
- 6:14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.
- 6:15 What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!
- 6:16 Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?
- 6:17 But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted,
- 6:18 and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.
- 6:19 I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.
- 6:20 When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.
- 6:21 So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death.
- 6:22 But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life.
- 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 10:40-42

- 10:40 "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.
- 10:41 Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous;
- 10:42 and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple -- truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

L: *Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.*

P: ***Thanks be to God!***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(Let us offer our silent confessions.)

Perfect Father, worthy Son, uniting Spirit, our love for you is not as worthy of you as it should be. Other loves compete in us for our response to your grace. Our feet have been set upon a new path of life through our baptism into Christ. We admit that we stray from that way, returning to the ways of death that should be left behind. We presume upon your grace by our sinning rather than draw upon the new life that is available to us in union with Christ Jesus. Forgive us for allowing your life and love to go so unrequited, for the sake of your devoted Son, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, hear the Good News! Remember that in baptism we were baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,

so that we may no longer be the slaves of sin, but alive to God.

Friends, believe the Good News!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

HOMILY

STATEMENT OF FAITH (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.

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY

My Shepherd Will Supply my Need arr. Charles Callahan

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, your hospitality has surrounded us and welcomed us, even when we only grudgingly extended hospitality to sisters and brothers who are also your children. May we grow each day in our willingness to be welcoming disciples, not just to those who look like us, talk like us, or think like us. May our offering this morning be received not just in gratitude for your hospitality, but as our way to extend comfort and welcome to those for whom your love is a mystery. We pray in Christ's holy name. Amen.

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 #430

O Master, Let me Walk with Thee
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune Douglas E. Wagner

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: Barbara Kline: 828-862-5585 and Paula Markert: 828-553-9434

Liturgist: Arlene Hendrix

Announcements

Welcome our Guest Musician – Pattie Black

Our guest musician today is Patti Black of the Brevard, NC, area. Patti holds bachelor and master degrees in piano performance from Northwestern University and also studied in France. She serves as the accompanist for the Transylvania Choral Society and free lances as a pianist in the area, as well as having a piano teaching studio. In her spare time, she loves to garden. Patti is also married to Charlie, the organist at LTUMC.

Worship Committee – Covid-19 Update

The Western North Carolina Conference has recommended churches do not return to indoor worship (Phase 3) for the foreseeable future. **It is required we all wear our masks while in church and when out in public.**

Therefore we will continue Phase 2 limiting church attendance to 10 people.

This will help us to continue the Wesleyan call to “do no harm, do good and stay in love with God”.

Scholarship Recipients Thank You Notes

We have received several Thank You notes from our scholarship recipients thanking us for our financial support, prayers and mentoring. The notes are available to review in the Fellowship Hall. Please reach out to Fred Markert (fredmarkert47@gmail.com) or Saunders Grommesh (administrator@laketoxawayumc.org) to schedule a time to view them. We have heard from: **Leann Owen, Maggie Dodson and Jeremy Dodson.** Maggie and Jeremy have included graduation picture with their new employment and their new addresses.

New LTUMC Directory

A huge thank you to **Susan Bagwell and others** who worked on the 2017 LTUMC Directory! Saunders is in the process of getting our 2017 Directory computerized so we may have an updated directory. She is reaching out in three phases:

1. E-mail has been sent to those we have e-mail addresses for in our 2017 Directory. This went out on 6/25.
2. E-mail to those we have e-mail addresses for but do not have other contact information.
3. Phone calls to those we do not have e-mail addresses for.

If you have joined LTUMC since our 2017 directory, please e-mail Saunders with your full contact information: addresses, emails and phone numbers denoting whose email and cell numbers. We need everyone's help to update our directory. Please contact Saunders with any questions or concerns: administrator@laketoxawayumc.org or saunderv@hotmail.com or 469-569-2314 (cell). She is getting a lot of responses thus her response to you will be delayed.

181

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

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

1. O Mas-ter, let me walk with thee in low - ly
 2. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
 3. Teach me thy pa-tience; still with thee in clos - er,
 4. In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

6
 paths of ser - vice free; tell me thy se - cret;
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - ening way, in peace that on - ly

11
 help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home-ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs o - ver wrong.
 thou canst give, with thee, O Mas-ter, let me live.

United Methodist Hymnal 430
 WORDS: Washington Gladden, 1879
 MUSIC (MARYTON, LM): H. Percy Smith, 1874