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# HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Worship Bulletin  
August 15, 2021

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 15, 2021**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven. The hour is coming, and now is, when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him, bless his name!

INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN      *O Worship the King*      UMH 73

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>

Holy and awesome God, we stand in your presence filled with regret for our many sins and failings. Though there is greatness in us, and a deep longing for goodness, we have often denied our better selves and refused to hear your voice calling us to rise to the full height of our humanity. For there is weakness in us, as well as strength. At times we choose to walk in darkness, our vision obscured. We do not care to look within, and we are unwilling to look beyond at those who need our help. O God, we are too weak to walk unaided. Be with us as a strong and wise friend, and teach us to walk by the light of your truth.

*All offer prayers of confession in silence.*

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS<sup>2</sup>

The Lord God is merciful and gracious, endlessly patient, loving, and true, showing mercy to thousands, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin, and granting pardon. Amen.

## PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

### 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**

### OFFERATORY PRAYER

### OFFERTORY

### DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!

**I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

<sup>2</sup> Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.

<sup>3</sup> **Full of honor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.**

<sup>4</sup> He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

<sup>5</sup> **He provides food for those who fear him;  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.**

<sup>6</sup> He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the heritage of the nations.

<sup>7</sup> **The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy.**

<sup>8</sup> **They are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

<sup>9</sup> He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name.

<sup>10</sup> **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever.**

- <sup>1</sup> My child, if you accept my words  
and treasure up my commandments within you,  
<sup>2</sup> making your ear attentive to wisdom  
and inclining your heart to understanding;  
<sup>3</sup> if you indeed cry out for insight,  
and raise your voice for understanding;  
<sup>4</sup> if you seek it like silver,  
and search for it as for hidden treasures—  
<sup>5</sup> then you will understand the fear of the LORD  
and find the knowledge of God.  
<sup>6</sup> For the LORD gives wisdom;  
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;  
<sup>7</sup> he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;  
he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,  
<sup>8</sup> guarding the paths of justice  
and preserving the way of his faithful ones.  
<sup>9</sup> Then you will understand righteousness and justice  
and equity, every good path;  
<sup>10</sup> for wisdom will come into your heart,  
and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;  
<sup>11</sup> prudence will watch over you;

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION<sup>3</sup>

God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out upon us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that, being taught by you in Holy Scripture, our hearts and minds may be opened to know the things that pertain to life and holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 5:15-20

<sup>15</sup> Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, <sup>20</sup> giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CALL: The Word of God for the People of God.

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE TITLE: "Making the most of the time" Pastor Craig

## PRAYER OF INVITATION

HYMN

*Be Thou My Vision*

UMH 451

## DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

## POSTLUDE

## PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

Janet Bottoms

Friend to Margie Gordy

Don Fulp

Brother of Ron Fulp

Ron Fulp

705 Meadowlark Dr., Apt B, King, NC 27021

Cathy Hrestak

Cousin to Joe Bennett

Tommy Lawson

Wanda Lingle

Cancer Treatments

Wanda Manning

Debbie Weeden

Daughter-in-law to Becky Weeden

Johnny Ogburn

Brother to Sara Overton

Christian Willard and

Family

Margie Gordy

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BREAKFAST FOR SUPPER** is held on the first Friday of each month, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Next one is September 3.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL** meeting, Tuesday, September 7, at 7:00 p.m.

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN** are now collecting school supplies for Gibson Elementary School. Please bring in school supply donations until Thursday, September 16, at 7:00 p.m. (the next UMW meeting.)

1. *United Methodist Book of Worship*, #450
2. *Ibid.*, #478
3. <https://prayerist.com/prayer/illuminationumc.html>

## WELCOME FROM HICKORY RIDGE

We've been waiting for you! We believe that every person who comes into this special fellowship is sent by God, himself. Above all else, we want to express Christ's love for you with genuine, heartfelt warmth. We are eager to know you, and we are excited to share with you the marvelous ways God is working in our church and in our lives. It will not take long to discover that this is truly a family, rich in the relationships that matter most. Our hearts, our doors, and our minds are open. If you have been thinking, praying, searching for a place to belong, we say to you, "Welcome home!"

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

At Hickory Ridge United Methodist Church, our purpose is to communicate God's Word through evangelism, to provide fellowship and community to believers, to educate God's people through discipleship, to demonstrate God's love through service, and to celebrate God's presence in worship.

## CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Hickory Ridge United Methodist Church  
6012 Germanton Road  
Winston Salem, NC 27105  
[www.hickoryridgeumc.org](http://www.hickoryridgeumc.org)  
Office: (336) 767-0380

Craig Toth, Pastor  
Mobile: (336) 500-1767  
Email: [craigtoth@gmail.com](mailto:craigtoth@gmail.com)  
Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday  
9:00 a.m.--12:00 noon.

Clara Long, Pianist/Organist