



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
August 22, 2021

**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 22, 2021**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

In the midst of the congregation, I will praise you. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name! I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and God's greatness is unsearchable.

INVOCATION

OPENING HYMN *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* UMH 110

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

O God, source of all that makes life possible, giver of all that makes life good: We gather to give you our thanks, yet we confess that we have often failed to live our thankfulness. What we have we take for granted, and we grumble about what we lack. We have squandered your bounty, with little thought of those who will come after us. We are more troubled by the few who have more than by the many who have less. Forgive us, O God. In this hour of worship, accept our thanksgiving; and teach us to make gratitude and sharing our way of life; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

All offer prayers of confession in silence.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS²

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!**

- ¹ How lovely is your dwelling place,
O LORD of hosts!
- ² **My soul longs, indeed it faints
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy
to the living God.**
- ³ Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.
- ⁴ **Happy are those who live in your house,
ever singing your praise.**
- ⁵ Happy are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.
- ⁶ **As they go through the valley of Baca
they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.**
- ⁷ They go from strength to strength;
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.
- ⁸ **O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob!**
- ⁹ **Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of your anointed.**
- ¹⁰ For a day in your courts is better
than a thousand elsewhere.
**I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of
my God than live in the tents of wickedness.**
- ¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
he bestows favor and honor.
**No good thing does the LORD withhold
from those who walk uprightly.**
- ¹² **O LORD of hosts,
happy is everyone who trusts in you.**

- 12 It [wisdom, knowledge, and understanding]
 will save you from the way of evil,
 from those who speak perversely,
 13 who forsake the paths of uprightness
 to walk in the ways of darkness,
 14 who rejoice in doing evil
 and delight in the perverseness of evil;
 15 those whose paths are crooked,
 and who are devious in their ways.
 16 You will be saved from the loose^[a] woman,
 from the adulteress with her smooth words,
 17 who forsakes the partner of her youth
 and forgets her sacred covenant;
 18 for her way^[b] leads down to death,
 and her paths to the shades;
 19 those who go to her never come back,
 nor do they regain the paths of life.
 20 Therefore walk in the way of the good,
 and keep to the paths of the just.
 21 For the upright will abide in the land,
 and the innocent will remain in it;
 22 but the wicked will be cut off from the land,
 and the treacherous will be rooted out of it.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION³

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.

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵ As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE TITLE "The Whole Armor of God" Pastor Craig

PRAYER OF INVITATION

HYMN *Lead On, O King Eternal* UMH 580

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

Margie Gordy

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

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*, #451
2. *Ibid.*, #485
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
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www.hickoryridgeumc.org
Office: (336) 767-0380

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

Clara Long, Pianist/Organist