



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
September 19, 2021

**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 19, 2021**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

O Lord our God, you are always more ready to bestow your good gifts on us than we are to seek them, and are willing to give more than we desire or deserve. Help us so to seek that we may truly find, so to ask that we may joyfully receive, so to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened to us; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

INVOCATION

HYMN *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty* UMH 64

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

Almighty and most merciful God, you know the thoughts of our hearts. We confess that we have sinned against you and done evil in your sight. We have transgressed your holy laws. We have disregarded your Word and Sacraments. Forgive us, O Lord. Give us grace and power to put away all hurtful things, that, being delivered from the bondage of sin, we may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance, and from henceforth may ever walk in your holy ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All offer prayers of confession in silence.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS²

May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. 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 Happy are those
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
**or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;**
- ² but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.
- ³ They are like trees
planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.
- ⁴ The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- ⁵ **Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;**
- ⁶ for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

- ²¹ My child, do not let these escape from your sight:
keep sound wisdom and prudence,
- ²² and they will be life for your soul
and adornment for your neck.
- ²³ Then you will walk on your way securely
and your foot will not stumble.
- ²⁴ If you sit down, you will not be afraid;
when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.
- ²⁵ Do not be afraid of sudden panic,
or of the storm that strikes the wicked;
- ²⁶ for the LORD will be your confidence
and will keep your foot from being caught.

OLD TESTAMENT READING (Continued)

- 27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due,^[a]
when it is in your power to do it.
- 28 Do not say to your neighbor, “Go, and come again,
tomorrow I will give it”—when you have it with you.
- 29 Do not plan harm against your neighbor
who lives trustingly beside you.
- 30 Do not quarrel with anyone without cause,
when no harm has been done to you.
- 31 Do not envy the violent
and do not choose any of their ways;
- 32 for the perverse are an abomination to the LORD,
but the upright are in his confidence.
- 33 The LORD’s curse is on the house of the wicked,
but he blesses the abode of the righteous.
- 34 Toward the scorners he is scornful,
but to the humble he shows favor.
- 35 The wise will inherit honor,
but stubborn fools, disgrace.

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.

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵ Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶ For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for^[a] those who make peace.

⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE TITLE

"Draw Near to God"

Pastor Craig

PRAYER OF INVITATION

HYMN

Close to Thee

UMH 407

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

Janet Bottoms	Friend to Margie Gordy
Carl Crouse	5820 Germanton Road, W-S, NC 27105
Don Fulp	Brother of Ron Fulp
Jo Fulp	Sister-in-law to Ron Fulp
Ron Fulp	705 Meadowlark Dr., Apt B, King, NC 27021
Cathy Hrestak	Cousin to Joe Bennett
Tim Greer	Brother to Sandy Stomean
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	
Rick Lane	Husband to Janice Lane
Shirley Hudson	Friend to Dianne Raynor
Dorothy Barber	Friend to Dianne Raynor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BREAKFAST FOR SUPPER is held on the first Friday of each month, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Next one is October 1.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL will be held on Tuesday, October 5, at 7:00 p.m.

The AUTUMN FESTIVAL BAZAAR will be October 16, 8 am to 12 pm, and will be held outside—rain or shine. We will need a variety of cookies, pots of soup, and, or course, all the other usual goodies (cakes, pies, casseroles). We will also have vendors. Breakfast sandwiches, hamburgers, hotdogs and pinto beans will be available.

1. *United Methodist Book of Worship*, #467
2. *Ibid.*, #477
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

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Clara Long, Pianist/Organist