



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
October 31, 2021

**Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
October 31, 2021**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

In all our weakness and strength,
with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,
we come to be your people, O God.
Strong in faith and eager with questions,
singing our praise and whispering our prayers,
we come to be your people, O God.
Filled with saintly determination
yet mindful of our human limitations,
we come to be your people, O God.
Made strong in your endless love for us,
we know ourselves to be yours and
we come to be your people, O God.
May we truly become your people today. Amen.

HYMN

To God Be the Glory

UMH 98

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

Good and great God, we come to you through Jesus Christ who intercedes for us sinners. We confess our sins, seeking forgiveness not only that we may be at peace with you, but also that we may pray for others. We are ashamed that our prayers are often as self-centered as our lives. Excuse our disordered priorities as we seek to change and reorder our lives according to the teaching and spirit of Jesus Christ you Son, our Lord. Amen.

All offer prayers of confession in silence.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS²

Pastor: Friends, hear the good news! God has chosen you to be saved through sanctification by the Spirit.

People: We are saved by the Spirit through belief in the truth in Christ.

Pastor: Friends, believe the good news!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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 Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD, O my soul!
- 2 **I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**
- 3 Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.
- 4 **When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.**
- 5 Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,
- 6 who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;
- 7 **who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.**
The LORD sets the prisoners free;
- 8 **the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.**
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.
- 9 The LORD watches over the strangers;
**he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**
- 10 The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the LORD!

- 16 There are six things that the LORD hates,
seven that are an abomination to him:
- 17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue,
and hands that shed innocent blood,
- 18 a heart that devises wicked plans,
feet that hurry to run to evil,
- 19 a lying witness who testifies falsely,
and one who sows discord in a family.

OLD TESTAMENT READING (Continued)

- 20 My child, keep your father's commandment,
and do not forsake your mother's teaching.
- 21 Bind them upon your heart always;
tie them around your neck.
- 22 When you walk, they will lead you;
when you lie down, they will watch over you;
and when you awake, they will talk with you.
- 23 For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light,
and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life,
- 24 to preserve you from the wife of another,
from the smooth tongue of the adulteress.
- 25 Do not desire her beauty in your heart,
and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes;
- 26 for a prostitute's fee is only a loaf of bread,
but the wife of another stalks a man's very life.
- 27 Can fire be carried in the bosom
without burning one's clothes?
- 28 Or can one walk on hot coals
without scorching the feet?
- 29 So is he who sleeps with his neighbor's wife;
no one who touches her will go unpunished.
- 30 Thieves are not despised who steal only
to satisfy their appetite when they are hungry.
- 31 Yet if they are caught, they will pay sevenfold;
they will forfeit all the goods of their house.
- 32 But he who commits adultery has no sense;
he who does it destroys himself.
- 33 He will get wounds and dishonor,
and his disgrace will not be wiped away.
- 34 For jealousy arouses a husband's fury,
and he shows no restraint when he takes revenge.
- 35 He will accept no compensation,
and refuses a bribe no matter how great.

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.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Mark 12:28-34

²⁸ One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” ²⁹ Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰ you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” ³² Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; ³³ and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” ³⁴ When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

“Holiness of Heart and Life”

Pastor Craig

PRAYER OF INVITATION

HYMN

We’ve a Story to Tell to the Nations

UMH 569

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

Jo Fulp

Sister-in-law to Ron Fulp

David Clayton

Cousin to Billy Gordy

Louise Coley

Tim Greer

Brother to Sandy Stomean

Betsey Harper

Cousin to Becky Montgomery

Rick Lane

Husband of Janice Lane

Scott Lane

Son of Janice Lane

Janice Lane

May need surgery

Tori Lane

Granddaughter to Janice Lane

Wanda Lingle

Cancer Treatments

Family of Pat McNeill

Johnny Ogburn

Brother to Sara Overton

Betty Stanley

Cousin to Wanda Manring

Richard Thomas

Cousin to Lawson Family

Debbie Weeden

Daughter-in-law to Becky Weeden

Christian Willard and

Family

Jim & Nancy

Wimpish

Cousins to Lawson Family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Memorial Service for Pat McNeill, Today, at 2:00 p.m.

Finance Committee, Monday, Nov. 1, 7:00 p.m.

Administrative Council, Tuesday, Nov. 2, 7:00 p.m.

United Methodist Women, Thursday, Nov. 11, 7:00 p.m.

Charge Conference will be held at New Mount Vernon on Sunday, Nov. 21, 5:00 p.m.

1. From Seasons of the Spirit: All Saints Day—Year A, published by WoodLake Publishing.
2. David Hostetter, Prayers for the Seasons on God's People: Worship Aids for the Revised Common Lectionary, Year B (Abingdon, 1999), 203-204.
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
Office: (336) 767-0380

Craig Toth, Pastor
Mobile: (336) 500-1767
Email: craigtoth@gmail.com

Clara Long, Pianist/Organist