

HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent November 28, 2021

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP1

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD'S house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills:

all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob;

that he may teach us his ways

and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into plowshares,

and their spears into pruning hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,

come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE Doug and Diane Raynor

HYMN Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus UMH 196

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

Prepare the way of the Lord! Let us make our confession to God. O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

as when the fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

from ages past no one has heard,

no ear has perceived,

no eye has any God besides you, who works for those who wait for for him.

You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all face like a leaf,

and our inequities, like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you;

for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;

we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of you hand.

Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember our iniquity forever.

Restore us, we pray, through the coming of our Lord Jesus, in whom we place our hope and trust. Amen.

All offer prayers of confession in silence.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS3

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!

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 9:1-18

- ¹ Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars.
- ² She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table.
- ³ She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town,
- ⁴ "You that are simple, turn in here!" To those without sense she says,
- ⁵ "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed.
- ⁶ Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight."

OLD TESTAMENT READING (Continued)

- Whoever corrects a scoffer wins abuse; whoever rebukes the wicked gets hurt.
- ⁸ A scoffer who is rebuked will only hate you; the wise, when rebuked, will love you.
- ⁹ Give instruction to the wise, and they will become wiser still; teach the righteous and they will gain in learning.
- ¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.
- ¹¹ For by me your days will be multiplied, and years will be added to your life.
- ¹² If you are wise, you are wise for yourself; if you scoff, you alone will bear it.
- ¹³ The foolish woman is loud; she is ignorant and knows nothing.
- 14 She sits at the door of her house, on a seat at the high places of the town,
- ¹⁵ calling to those who pass by, who are going straight on their way,
- 16 "You who are simple, turn in here!" And to those without sense she says,
- 17 "Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant."
- ¹⁸ But they do not know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION4

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

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

RESPONSE: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE "The days are surely coming" Pastor Craig

HYMN Lift Every Voice and Sing UMH 519

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders
Janet Bottoms Friend to Margie Gordy
Joy Brunk Sister to Billy Gordy
Don Fulp Brother of Ron Fulp
Jo Fulp Sister-in-law to Ron Fulp
David Clayton Nephew 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

Alan Martin Friend of Harold Kincaid
Johnny Ogburn Brother to Sara Overton
Naomi Robertson Cousin to Lawson Family
Richard Thomas Cousin to Lawson Family

Debbie Weeden Daughter-in-law to Becky Weeden

Christian Willard and Family

Nancy Wimpish Cousins to Lawson Family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Breakfast for Supper, Friday, December 3, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Administrative Council, Tuesday, December 7, 7:00 p.m.

United Methodist Women meet Thursday, December 16, 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Card Post Office will be open this year. There will be a bag in the vestibule for your cards. The cards will be distributed the week before Christmas.

- 1. *The Worship Sourcebook,* Faith Alive Christian Resources, Grand Rapids, MI, p. 423.
- 2. *The Worship Sourcebook,* Faith Alive Christian Resources, Grand Rapids, MI, p. 440-441.
- 3. United Methodist Book of Worship, 475.
- 4. 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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> Craig Toth, Pastor Mobile: (336) 500-1767 Email: craigmtoth@gmail.com

Clara Long, Pianist/Organist