



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
March 27, 2022

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 27, 2022**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Let this be the welcoming place
the place of return
and let it be built by a love
that bends towards those who return here
for it is a love that has been waiting
like a candle in the window
ever lighting the way back
and never willing to let go the hope
that each child will return home
let it be the place where the only appropriate response
to love that has come to the end of its longing
is to kill the fatted calf, feast and celebrate
send up balloons and prepare the party
for that which has been lost
has returned to be among us once more

HYMN

To God Be the Glory

UMH 98

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY Margie Gordy & Dot Lawson

CALL TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

O Gracious God, who knows the deepest places of our hearts, forgive us when we forget we are fearfully and wonderfully made, when we pretend you are not at the end of all of our searching, when we give ourselves over to the “whatever” of our culture. Remind us that your knowledge of us is wondrous and not punitive, and that we are defenseless against your love. Continue to seek us out even as we seek your face.

All offer prayers of confession in silence.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS³

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER & OFFERTORY

Each Sunday we collect loose change that will be given to a designated mission. The mission for this month is UMCOR Ukrainian assistance. If you feel led to contribute, please do.

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 Better is a dry morsel with quiet
than a house full of feasting with strife.
- 2 A slave who deals wisely will rule over a child
who acts shamefully,
and will share the inheritance as one of the family.
- 3 The crucible is for silver, and the furnace is for gold,
but the LORD tests the heart.
- 4 An evildoer listens to wicked lips;
and a liar gives heed to a mischievous tongue.
- 5 Those who mock the poor insult their Maker;
those who are glad at calamity will not go unpunished.
- 6 Grandchildren are the crown of the aged,
and the glory of children is their parents.
- 7 Fine speech is not becoming to a fool;
still less is false speech to a ruler.^[a]
- 8 A bribe is like a magic stone in the eyes of those who give it;
wherever they turn they prosper.
- 9 One who forgives an affront fosters friendship,
but one who dwells on disputes will alienate a friend.
- 10 A rebuke strikes deeper into a discerning person
than a hundred blows into a fool.
- 11 Evil people seek only rebellion,
but a cruel messenger will be sent against them.
- 12 Better to meet a she-bear robbed of its cubs
than to confront a fool immersed in folly.
- 13 Evil will not depart from the house
of one who returns evil for good.
- 14 The beginning of strife is like letting out water;
so stop before the quarrel breaks out.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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.



Holy Bible

SCRIPTURE FOR MESSAGE

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

SCRIPTURE FOR MESSAGE (Continued)

²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE “The ministry of reconciliation” Pastor Craig

HYMN *Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling* UMH 348

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE



1. *Written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on Mucky Paws, <http://www.nkchurch.org.uk/index.php/mucky-paws>. Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2016/02/prayer-reflection-return-luke-15.html>.*
2. *Lynda Weaver-Williams, “Fourth Sunday in Lent,” in *The Abingdon Women’s Preaching Annual, Series 2, Year C, Compiled and Edited by Leonora Tubbs Tisdale (Abingdon, 2000), 79.**
3. *United Methodist Book of Worship, #478.*

PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

The people in Ukraine

Michelle Barker	Friend to Dianne Raynor
Iris Bennett	Sister-in-law to Kay Huneycutt
Ray Dillon	6065 Germanton Rd, Winston-Salem 27105
Wait Frye	Cousin to Pat Bennett
Don Fulp	Brother to Ron Fulp
Bruce Hall	Friends to Keith & Martha White
Betsey Harper	Cousin to Becky Montgomery
Rick Lane	Husband to Janice Lane
Scott Lane	Son to Janice Lane
Janice Lane	May need surgery
Wanda Lingle	Cancer Treatments
Alan Martin	Friend of Harold Kincaid
Johnny Ogburn	Brother to Sara Overton
Donna Sims	Friend to Margie Gordy
Richard Thomas	Cousin to Lawson Family
Mark Wall	Friend to Margie Gordy
Debbie Weeden	Daughter-in-law to Becky Weeden
Christian Willard and Family	
Nancy Wimpish	Cousin to Lawson Family
Mark Winfree	Friend to Keith White

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A weekly devotional will be held at 12:00 pm each Thursday for the remainder of the Lenten Season.

Drive Thru and Bake Sale Fundraiser. Breakfast sandwiches, hamburgers (\$3.50), hotdogs (\$2), pinto beans and cornbread. Friday, April 15, 7:30 am to 1:30 pm.

If you would like to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country, designate your gift "Ukrainian assistance" (make check payable to Hickory Ridge UMC) by April 10. One hundred percent of all contributions go to the designated cause.

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: craigmtoth@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tue. & Thur. 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Clara Long, Pianist/Organist