



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
July 24, 2022

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 24, 2022**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Leader: Children of the Living God!

People: God loves us with the love of a parent.

Leader: Children of the Living God!

People: Despite our failings, God continues to save us.

Leader: Children of the Living God!

**People: We are here to worship the God of love, justice,
and grace. Amen.**

*HYMN *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* UMH 526

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

God of Salvation,

We are grateful for the gift of your love.

A love that has no bounds, a love that keeps reaching out to us, calling us to you.

We are more than your people; we are your beloved children.

You reiterate throughout scripture your readiness to hear us when we pray to you.

God, you are our father.

God, you care for us and love us in ways we cannot comprehend.

Forgive us when we forget how much you love us.

Forgive us for times we are unfaithful to you, times we fail to do as you've called.

God, thank you for loving us in the most sacred and scandalous ways.

You are God, and we trust that you journey with us in all things. **Amen.**

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER & OFFERTORY

Each Sunday we collect loose change that will be given to a designated mission. The mission for this month is Senior Services Meals on Wheels. Please contribute if you feel led.

*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!**



- 13 Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest
are faithful messengers to those who send them;
they refresh the spirit of their masters.
- 14 Like clouds and wind without rain
is one who boasts of a gift never given.
- 15 With patience a ruler may be persuaded,
and a soft tongue can break bones.
- 16 If you have found honey, eat only enough for you,
lest, having too much, you vomit it up.
- 17 Let your foot be seldom in your neighbor's house,
lest the neighbor become weary of you and hate you.
- 18 Like a war club, a sword, or a sharp arrow
is one who bears false witness against a neighbor.
- 19 Like a bad tooth or a lame foot
is trust in a faithless person in time of trouble.
- 20 Like vinegar on a wound
is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.
Like a moth in clothing or a worm in wood,
sorrow gnaws at the human heart.^[b]
- 21 If your enemies are hungry, give them bread to eat,
and if they are thirsty, give them water to drink,
- 22 for you will heap coals of fire on their heads,
and the LORD will reward you.
- 23 The north wind produces rain,
and a backbiting tongue, angry looks.
- 24 It is better to live in a corner of the housetop
than in a house shared with a contentious wife.
- 25 Like cold water to a thirsty soul,
so is good news from a far country.
- 26 Like a muddied spring or a polluted fountain
are the righteous who give way before the wicked.
- 27 It is not good to eat much honey
or to seek honor on top of honor.
- 28 Like a city breached, without walls,
is one who lacks self-control.

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 TEXT

Genesis 18:20-32

²⁰ Then the LORD said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹ I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know.”

²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD.^[a] ²³ Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” ²⁶ And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.”

²⁷ Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes.



Holy Bible

SCRIPTURE TEXT (Continued)

²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹ Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰ Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹ He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³² Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." ³³ And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE "Righteous Abraham" Pastor Craig

*HYMN *Seek Ye First* UMH 405

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

1. By Katie Minnis. <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/prophet-margins/seventh-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes/seventh-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-liturgical-resources>
2. Ibid.
3. *United Methodist Book of Worship*, #478.
4. <https://prayerist.com/prayer/illuminationumc.html>

PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

The people in Ukraine

Ann Bauguess	Cousin to Billy Gordy
Iris Bennett	Sister-in-law to Kay Huneycutt
Janet Bottoms	Friend to Margie Gordy
David Conrad	Cousin to Harold Kincaid
Delinda Dunlap-Ryan	Friend to Emily Kincaid
Wait Frye	Cousin to Pat Bennett
Betsey Harper	Cousin to Becky Montgomery
Cathy Hrestak	Cousin to Joe Bennett
Rick Lane	Husband to Janice Lane
Scott Lane	Son to Janice Lane
Janice Lane	
Wanda Lingle	Cancer Treatments
Freddie Masencup	Friend to Sara Overton
Becca McLeod	Wife to Rev. Wes McLeod
Tappy McMillian	Sister-in-law to Sara Overton
Johnny Ogburn	Brother to Sara Overton
Lee Overton	Nephew to Sara Overton
Carrol Roseberry	P.O. Box 248, Germanton, NC 27019
Ruby Roseberry	P.O. Box 248, Germanton, NC 27019
Donna Sims	Friend to Margie Gordy
Leon & Margaret Styers	Friends 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

Shut-ins

Ron Fulp	705 Meadowlark Drive, Apt. B, King, NC 27021
Betty Martin	Mallard Ridge, 9420 N NC Hwy, 150, Clemmons 27012
Barbara White	1294 Priddy Road, King, NC 27021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Administrative Council, Tuesday, August 2, 7:00 pm.

Breakfast for Supper Fundraiser, August 5, 4:30 to 6:30 pm.

United Methodist Women meet Friday, August 12 at 3 pm.

Homecoming will be Sunday, August 14. Special musical guests: Hubert Lawson & The Bluegrass Country Boys. Worship Service will be followed by a covered-dish luncheon.

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 INFORMATION

Hickory Ridge United Methodist Church
6012 Germanton Road, Winston Salem, NC 27105
www.hickoryridgeumc.org
Office: (336) 767-0380

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 11:15 a.m.

Craig Toth, Pastor
Mobile: (336) 500-1767
Email: craigtoth@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tue. & Thur. 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Clara Long, Pianist/Organist