



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
March 5, 2023

**Second Sunday in Lent
March 5, 2023**

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Welcome pilgrims on the way to the cross.

We are learning to follow Jesus.

When God says, "Go!" without telling us the destination,

Show us, Christ, how to go forward in faith.

When re-birth is the impossible way forward,

**Christ, be our midwife as we accept God's call
to be reborn.**

When we find ourselves in the in-between of where we've
been and where we're going,

Christ, meet us on the way and bless us in the going.

Pilgrims on the way, come let us worship God!

We come to worship God as we learn to live inside out!

Amen.

*HYMN *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High* TFWS 2088

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

Holy God, Creator of all that is,

Donor of Grace, and Giver of Life:

Hear our prayer.

There are chasms in our lives,

deep valleys that separate us

From one another and from You.

We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow,

For fear of admitting our part in the separation,

For fear of being rejected when we reach out.

You call us to a reconciled life, to healed relationships,

To a wholeness with each other and with You.

Mend us, we pray, and make us new creations

**Through the power and love of Christ, in whose name we
pray. Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

OFFERATORY PRAYER & OFFERATORY

Each Sunday we collect loose change that will be given to a designated mission. The mission for this month is the House of Refuge. 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!



Assurance of God's Protection

A Song of Ascents.

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
- ² My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
- ³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
- ⁴ He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- ⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
- ⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day
nor the moon by night.
- ⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
- ⁸ The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.



Holy Bible

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.

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." ³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

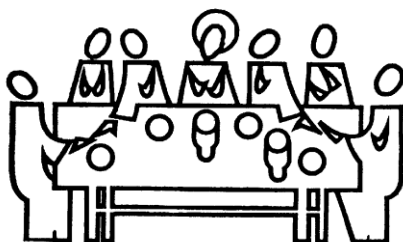
MESSAGE “For God So Loved the World” Pastor Craig

HOLY COMMUNION UMH 12-15

*HYMN *Blessed Assurance* UMH 369

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE



Prayer Focus for March: The people in Turkey and Syria.

Bible verse to remember: “do not be afraid, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God: I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.”
Isaiah 41:10.

1. Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Director of Worship Arts, August 2022.
2. Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good.’
Used with permission. <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession>.
3. <https://prayerist.com/prayer/illuminationumc.html>

PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

The people in Ukraine

Iris Bennett	Sister-in-law to Kay Huneycutt
Lane Bennet	Brother to Kay Huneycutt
Melissa Brown	Daughter of Maria Rogers
James Brunk	Friend to Billy and Margie Gordy
Cathy Childress	5703 Beaver Pond Trail, Pfafftown 27040
David Conrad	Cousin to Harold Kincaid
Fay Dillon	6065 Germanton Rd, Winston-Salem 27105
Delinda Dunlap-Ryan	Friend to Emily Kincaid
Walt Frye	Cousin to Pat Bennett
Cathy Hrestak	Cousin to Joe Bennett
Roger Jones	Friend to Margie Gordy
Rick Lane	Husband to Janice Lane
Scott Lane	Son to Janice Lane
Janice Lane	
Wanda Lingle	Cancer Treatments
David Linville	Friend to Harold Kincaid
Lisha	Granddaughter to Wanda Manning
Clara Long	1905 Emorywood Rd, Rural Hall 27045
Kristy Long	Daughter to Clara Long
Mary Ann	Friend to Margie Gordy
Traviss Mabe	Cousin to Janice Lane
Freddie Masencup	Friend to Sara Overton
Tappy McMillan	Sister-in-law to Sara Overton
Doug Raynor	Recovering from surgery
Becky Shelton	Sister to Billy Gordy
Jordan Stomean	Granddaughter to Sandy Stomean
Richard and Becky Thomas	Cousin to Lawson Family
Gail Tuttle	Sister to Billy Gordy
Christian Willard and Family	

Shut-ins

Martha Collins, Mallard Ridge, 9420 N NC Hwy 150 , Clemmons 27012
Betty Eddinger, 1250 Arbor Road, Room 720, Winston Salem, 27104
Ron Fulp, 705 Meadowlark Drive, Apt. B, King, NC 27021
Betty Martin, Mallard Ridge, 9420 N NC Hwy 150, Clemmons 27012
Judy Scudder, Bradford Village, 602 Piney Grove Rd, Kernersville 27284
Barbara White, 1294 Priddy Road, King, NC 27021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Administration Council will be held Tuesday, March 7, at 7:00 pm.

The United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women)
meet Friday, March 10 at 2 p.m.

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