



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
April 9, 2023

**Easter Sunday
April 9, 2023**

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

He Is Risen. The dark night is behind us; the morning light
erased all darkness and doubt.

**All that remains is the empty tomb and the wrappings of
pain and death.**

The Lord has risen; he's no longer among the dead.

He lives. The Lord has risen!

Yes, the Lord lives! The new morning fills our hearts with joy
and hope.

**Let us then worship together, extinguishing all doubt and
fear with joyful songs and an unbreakable faith in our
Redeemer.**

*HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

UMH 302

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

Christ, we come to the empty tomb,
we meet our own death,
we meet our own tomb, we meet our own emptiness.
And we remember how we have treated other people—
members of our family, friends, and neighbors.

**Lord, we come to your tomb,
we meet a hungry world before us,
the pain of starving children,
the guilt of war on our hands,
and we know that collectively,
we share in those injustices.**

Lord, we come to the empty tomb,
we search within ourselves,
and we cannot escape what we are,
people caught up in the pain of our own wrongdoing,
for some a deep sense of loneliness
and frustration of what we would be but are not.

(Continued)

**Lord, when we come to the empty tomb,
we lay before you our pain,
our emptiness and look to you for hope.**

People of God, why do you seek the living among the dead in an empty tomb? Are you afraid, are you uncertain, and are you uncomfortable here?

**Our wounds are deep,
we have turned away from that man,
we have broken with him
and seek his fellowship.**

Do not dwell on your wounds any longer

for he has risen to heal you,

he has risen to forgive you;

he has risen to change us all and bind us together now.

Christ has risen to forgive us.

Thanks be to God. 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 & 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!

¹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

² Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

¹⁴ The LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

¹⁵ There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the
righteous:

“The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

¹⁶ the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.”

¹⁷ I shall not die, but I shall live
and recount the deeds of the LORD.

¹⁸ The LORD has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³ This is the LORD’s doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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.

SCRIPTURE TEXT

Matthew 28:1-10

The Resurrection of Jesus

28 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

“The Resurrection Today”

Pastor Craig

*HYMN

He Lives

UMH 310

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE



Prayer Focus for April: Human Trafficking

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 Yolanda Pupo-Ortiz, translated by Raquel Mora Martinez, *Fiesta Jubilosa*, ed. Raquel Mora Martinez (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2022), #123.
2. Adapted from “Easter Confession” excerpted from *Service of Holy Communion 2010* found at <https://loddon-malleeuca.blogspot.com/p/some-creative-prayers-and-liturgies.html>. Re-posted on: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/02/easter-confession.html>.
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	Village Care, 440 Ingram Dr. Ext, King 27021
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
Ray Gordy	Brother to Billy Gordy
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
Clara Long	Salemtowne, 190 Moravian Way Drive Winston-Salem, NC 27100

Kristy Long	Daughter to Clara Long
Mary Ann	Friend to Margie Gordy
Traviss Mabe	Cousin to Janice Lane
Freddie Masencup	Friend to Sara Overton
Irene Mayo	Sister-in-law to Sara Overton
Tappy McMillan	Sister-in-law to Sara Overton
Debbie Miller	Friend to Dianne Raynor
Noah Nieves	Son to Anthony and Brooke Nieves
Carrol Roseberry	2012 Twin Lakes Ct., East Bend, NC 27018
Becky Shelton	Sister to Billy Gordy
Richard and Becky Thomas	Cousin to Lawson Family
Nori Toth	Teenager to Rev. Toth
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

United Methodist Women meet on Friday, April 14 at 2:00 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.