



---

# HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

---

Worship Bulletin  
May 14, 2023

**Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Mother's Day  
May 14, 2023**

**PRE-SERVICE PRAYER**

**CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

Transforming God, you have taken the world's darkness  
and re-created a world filled with the joy of light and hope.

**Come and hear the good news  
of God's love for all creation.**

Restoring God, you have turned defeat into sudden victory,  
and re-created a world filled with the joy of peace and shalom.

**Come and hear the good news  
of God's awesome powers.**

Renewing God, we respond to your mighty deeds with songs  
of praise, worship and thankful prayers. You alone are God!

**Come and hear the good news  
of God's blessings on us all.**

**Glory and honour, power and dominion  
belong to God alone. Amen.**

\*HYMN            *There's Within My Heart a Melody*            UMH 380

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>**

As God's beloved children,  
we are invited to come to our God  
with the fullness of our lives,  
to admit our love and our hate,  
to admit our faith and our fear.  
Trusting in God's mercy,  
let us make our confession,  
first in silent prayer.

*Offer silent prayers of confession.*

(Continued on next page)

**Holy and gracious God,  
At times we feel so frail and fragile,  
getting blown about by the latest crisis,  
by bad news, by our own short tempers and failings.  
You call us to hold fast to what is good,  
but so often we flounder,  
unable to find that solid thing that will center us again.**

**Help us, we pray. Help us to see you as our center,  
and to cling to the good that you create in the world.  
Help us to set aside all our jealousies and prejudices,  
all of our betrayals and lies, all that adds to the world's  
hurt. Help us to grow even more into Christ's likeness,  
that we will bear his love and truth to the world.  
We pray in his name. 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 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!**

- <sup>8</sup> Bless our God, O peoples;  
let the sound of his praise be heard,  
<sup>9</sup> who has kept us among the living  
and has not let our feet slip.  
<sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have tested us;  
you have tried us as silver is tried.  
<sup>11</sup> You brought us into the net;  
you laid burdens on our backs;  
<sup>12</sup> you let people ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and through water;  
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.  
<sup>13</sup> I will come into your house with burnt offerings;  
I will pay you my vows,  
<sup>14</sup> those that my lips uttered  
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.  
<sup>15</sup> I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatted calves,  
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;  
I will make an offering of bulls and goats. *Selah*  
<sup>16</sup> Come and hear, all you who fear God,  
and I will tell what he has done for me.  
<sup>17</sup> I cried aloud to him,  
and he was extolled with my tongue.  
<sup>18</sup> If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,  
the Lord would not have listened.  
<sup>19</sup> But truly God has listened;  
he has heard the words of my prayer.  
<sup>20</sup> Blessed be God,  
who has not rejected my prayer  
or removed his steadfast love from me.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION<sup>3</sup>

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of  
our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may  
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SCRIPTURE TEXT

John 14:15-21

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. <sup>18</sup> “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE            “Love, According to Jesus”            Pastor Craig

\*HYMN                            *Because He Lives*                            UMH 364

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

1. © 2011 Joan Stott – The Timeless Psalms RCL Psalm Year A, used with permission. Reposted at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/05/easter-6-call-to-worship.html>.
2. Adapted from “Prayer of Confession” 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>

## **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Prayer Focus for May:** Illegal drug use in our community.

**Bible verse to remember:** 1 Peter 5:8 – “Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.”

The *Change Jar collection* for April was \$77.50. Additional donations of \$73.00 was added to that amount. \$150.50 will be sent to UMCOR for the hurricane and flooding victims in the United States.

The memorial fund for Louise Coley enabled us to place the new banners in the sanctuary.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Church Picnic**, Sunday, June 11, 4:00-7:00 pm. Hamburgers and hotdogs, dessert, beverage. Make plans to attend!

## PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

The people in Ukraine

Iris Bennett	Sister-in-law to Kay Huneycutt
Joe Bennett	Cancer Treatment
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
Bobby and Shirley Griffin	Neighbors to Doug and Dianne Raynor
Cathy Hrestak	Cousin to Joe Bennett
Loy Kennedy	Heart problems
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	1905 Emorywood Road, 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
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
Christian Willard and Family	
Maxine Wood	Mother to Annette Wood

## Shut-ins

Martha Collins, Mallard Ridge, 9420 N NC Hwy 150 , Clemmons 27012  
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

## 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](http://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](mailto:craigmtoth@gmail.com)  
Office Hours: Tue. & Thur. 12:00-3:00 p.m.