



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
May 21, 2023

**Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 21, 2023**

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Beloved, let us worship God!

**Let us give praise to God,
the one who rides upon the clouds!**

Parent to orphans and Protector of widows,

**God gives the desolate a home
and leads the imprisoned into prosperity.**

As God led the Israelites through the wilderness
and provided for them,

**we too find our dwelling in God's goodness
and provision.**

The Rider in the heavens speaks throughout creation;

We gather to listen and ascribe power to God!

Awesome is God in the sanctuary of creation!

Blessed be God! Amen.

*HYMN

Life Every Voice and Sing

UMH 519

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

Merciful God,

We come to this space today weighed down,
weary, and in need of your tending.

As we search our hearts, we lift up these petitions to you.

We lift up the spaces in our lives where we feel like we are
walking through fire, beset on each side with seemingly
nowhere to turn for relief.

We lift up the relationships in our lives marked by strife
and unkindness with seemingly no possibility of peace.

We lift up the worries that haunt us and keep us up at night
with seemingly no solution or resolution.

(Continued on next page)

We lift up the burdens we bear
and the struggle of carrying, heavy responsibilities
with seemingly no opportunity for rest.
In the silence, we lift up all these troubles
and more that loom large before us.
**As we lift up these struggles to God,
we also cast them down before God's feet,
trusting in God's care for us.**

Time for silent prayer and reflection.

Let us receive, by faith, God's forgiveness and God's
provision for us, trusting in God's faithfulness toward us,
to hold us in his heart, and keep us
in the palm of his hand. **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!**

- ¹ Let God rise up; let his enemies be scattered;
let those who hate him flee before him.
- ² As smoke is driven away, so drive them away;
as wax melts before the fire,
let the wicked perish before God.
- ³ But let the righteous be joyful;
let them exult before God;
let them be jubilant with joy.
- ⁴ Sing to God; sing praises to his name;
lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—
his name is the LORD—
be exultant before him.
- ⁵ Father of orphans and protector of widows
is God in his holy habitation.
- ⁶ God gives the desolate a home to live in;
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,
but the rebellious live in a parched land.
- ⁷ O God, when you went out before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness, *Selah*
- ⁸ the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- ⁹ Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad;
you restored your heritage when it languished;
- ¹⁰ your flock found a dwelling in it;
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.
- ³² Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;
sing praises to the Lord, *Selah*
- ³³ O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens;
listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.
- ³⁴ Ascribe power to God,
whose majesty is over Israel
and whose power is in the skies.
- ³⁵ Awesome is God in his sanctuary,
the God of Israel;
he gives power and strength to his people.
Blessed be God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION³

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

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

"God Cares for You"

Pastor Craig

*HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

UMH 526

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

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.”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Breakfast for Supper Fundraiser, Friday, June 2, 4:30 – 6:30 pm.

Administrative Council, Tuesday, June 6, at 7:00 pm.

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

1. Adapted from Psalm 68 NRSVUE by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2022.
2. Adapted from prayer written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2022.
3. <https://prayerist.com/prayer/illuminationumc>

PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

The people in Ukraine

Kathy Barker	Friend to Dianne Raynor
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
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.