



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
August 13, 2023

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Homecoming Service
August 13, 2023**

PRELUDE

Dr. Marsha Vanderwerff

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

Pastor Craig

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Beloved disciples, welcome. As we gather,
what are you seeking?

We seek God's presence all around us.

Beloved disciples, if God's presence is all around us,
what are you seeking?

We seek to recognize God's presence among us.

Beloved disciples, if God is among you,
what are you seeking?

**We seek God in the faces of family, friends, and
neighbors.**

Beloved disciples, if God is in the face of your neighbor,
what are you seeking?

**We seek God in the search and the work for peace and
wholeness for all God's creation.**

As we gather today, may we meet God in our seeking and in
our finding.

Amen.

*HYMN

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

UMH 158

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

**Gracious Creator, we seek your blessing,
knowing that we have not earned it.**

In our faults, we seek your blessing.

In our sins, we seek your forgiveness.

In our weakness, we seek your strength.

(Continued)

**In our sorrow, we seek your consolation.
In our trials, we seek your justice.
In our pain, we seek your peace.
Hear our prayers, O God, and make our hearts new.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS³

**While it is true that we have sinned,
it is a greater truth that we are forgiven
through God's love in Jesus Christ.
To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say,
in Jesus Christ your sin is forgiven.
Thanks be to God.**

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 Back
to School supplies for Gibson Elementary School. 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!**

God's Faithfulness to Israel

- ¹ O give thanks to the LORD; call on his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- ² Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.
- ³ Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- ⁴ Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.
- ⁵ Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles and the judgments he has uttered,
- ⁶ O offspring of his servant Abraham,^[a]
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
- ⁷ He is the LORD our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.
- ⁸ He is mindful of his covenant forever,
of the word that he commanded for a thousand
generations,
- ⁹ the covenant that he made with Abraham,
his sworn promise to Isaac,
- ¹⁰ which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute,
to Israel as an everlasting covenant,
- ¹¹ saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan
as your portion for an inheritance."

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION²

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.

⁶ As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. ⁸ From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

¹⁶ At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! ¹⁷ But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE "Can You 'Christian' Today" Rev. McLeod

*HYMN *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* UMH 133

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Focus for August: Teachers, students, and their families, as the school year is about to begin.

Bible verses to remember: Colossians 3:12 As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

The United Women in Faith (formerly UMW) are collecting school supplies for Gibson Elementary School until September 14. There is a "school bus" in the vestibule for donations.

Copies of the updated Church directory are available in the vestibule.

The church Administrative Council Meeting Minutes are available on the table in the vestibule.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Homecoming Service, Sunday, August 13, 11:15 am., with Rev. R. Wesley "Preacher Bob" McLeod and guest musician, Dr. Marsha Vanderwerff. The service will be followed by a Covered-Dish Luncheon in the fellowship hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Breakfast for Supper Fundraiser, Friday, September 1, 4:30 – 6:30 pm.

1. Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, February 2023.
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. *The Worship Sourcebook*, Faith Alive Christian Resources, Grand Rapids, MI, p. 121.
4. <https://prayerist.com/prayer/illuminationumc>

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	5703 Beaver Pond Trail, Pfafftown 27040
David Conrad	Cousin to Harold Kincaid
Delinda Dunlap-Ryan	Friend to Emily Kincaid
Cathy Hrestak	Cousin to Joe Bennett
Chris and Dawn Jones	In auto accident, per Margie Gordy
Scott Lane	Son to Janice Lane
Janice Lane	
Wanda Lingle	Cancer Treatments
David Linville	Friend to Harold Kincaid
Kristy Long	Daughter to Clara Long
Freddie Masencup	Friend to Sara Overton
Irene Mayo	Sister-in-law to Sara Overton
Sharon McGrath	Friend to Margie Gordy
Mary Ruth Neeley	Sister to Margie Gordy
Keith Overton	Treatment
Stephanie	Friend to Dianne Raynor
Donald and Sylvia Stewart	Friends to Sara Overton
Richard and Becky Thomas	Cousin to Lawson Family
Angie Toth	Cancer Treatments
Robin Willard	Broken arm and shoulder
Christian Willard and family	

Shut-ins

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

Ron Fulp, Holiday Forsyth Court, 2945 Reynolda Road—Room 142

Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Clara Long, 1905 Emorywood Road, Rural Hall, 27045

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.