



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
October 1, 2023

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
October 1, 2023**

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Come! Now is the time to worship!

We come to worship God who loves us.

When the Israelites grumbled and quarreled when there was no water to drink, God miraculously produced water to show them God's faithfulness and love.

When we question and accuse God,

God responds by showing us love.

When the chief priests and elders questioned Jesus' authority, Jesus answered them with a story about the righteousness of doing God's will instead of paying lip service to God's will.

When we test and interrogate God,

God responds by pointing us back to love.

By answering our quarrelling and questioning with love, God teaches us how to love God, neighbor, self, and all creation.

When we love as God loves, we respond to testing and accusing by living the faith and sharing God's love.

Come! Now is the time to worship!

We come to worship God who loves us for the long haul.

*HYMN *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* (1-4) UMH 154

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Winston-Salem Rescue Mission. 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 Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- ² I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
- ³ things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.
- ⁴ We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD and his might
and the wonders that he has done.
- ⁵ He established a decree in Jacob
and appointed a law in Israel,
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach to their children,
- ⁶ that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,
and rise up and tell them to their children,
- ⁷ so that they should set their hope in God,
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments;
- ⁸ and that they should not be like their ancestors,
a stubborn and rebellious generation,
a generation whose heart was not steadfast,
whose spirit was not faithful to God.
- ⁹ The Ephraimites, armed with the bow,
turned back on the day of battle.
- ¹⁰ They did not keep God's covenant
and refused to walk according to his law.
- ¹¹ They forgot what he had done
and the miracles that he had shown them.
- ¹² In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels
in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.
- ¹³ He divided the sea and let them pass through it
and made the waters stand like a heap.
- ¹⁴ In the daytime he led them with a cloud
and all night long with a fiery light.
- ¹⁵ He split rocks open in the wilderness
and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.
- ¹⁶ He made streams come out of the rock
and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

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

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵ The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE "Is the Lord among us or not?" Pastor Craig

HOLY COMMUNION UMH 12-15

*HYMN *Trust and Obey* UMH 467

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 1, 2023

Prayer Focus for October: Unity within and among people in churches in our community, so that we might rightly proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to those who need to hear.

Bible verses to remember: Ephesians 4:1-6 “. . . walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.”

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

Administrative Council, Tuesday, October 3, at 7:00 pm.

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

United Women in Faith, Friday, October 13, at 2:00 pm

1. Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, April 2023.
2. <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	Hospital and Cancer Treatment
Melissa Brown	Daughter of Maria Rogers
Jenna & Griffin Brawner	Raynor's daughter and son-in-law
James Brunk	Inlaw of Billy and Margie Gordy
Cathy Childress	5703 Beaver Pond Trail, Pfafftown 27040
Ray Gordy	Brother to Billy Gordy
Cathy Hrestak	Cousin to Joe Bennett
Chris Jones	Friend to Margie Gordy
Scott Lane	Son to Janice Lane
Janice Lane	
Wanda Lingle	Cancer Treatments
David Linville	Friend to Harold Kincaid
Kristy Long	Daughter of 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	
Fulton Willard	Great-grandson of Billy & Margie
Wade Willard	Friend of Billy & Margie Gordy

Shut-ins

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

Ron Fulp, Holiday Forsyth Court, 2945 Reynolda Road—Apt. 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: craigtoth@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tue. & Thur. 12:00-3:00 p.m.