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# HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Worship Bulletin  
October 29, 2023

**Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost  
October 29, 2023**

**PRE-SERVICE PRAYER**

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

As we gather to worship today, turn to a neighbor\* and say to each other, "Welcome! I am glad you are here!"

**Welcome! I am glad you are here!**

Now, turn to another neighbor\* and say to each other, "You are loved by God and by me!"

**You are loved by God and by me!**

Beloved children of God, how can we love each other today?

**By meeting and listening  
and caring for one another face-to-face.**

Beloved children of God, how can we love God today?

**By practicing our love for one another  
and God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.**

Let us worship God together today!

**We come to worship God by living our love for God and  
neighbor face-to-face. Amen.**

\*HYMN

*Nothing but the Blood*

UMH 362

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**Lord, you have told us what to do. But this love thing is hard. You've invited us to love you with everything we have; instead we have fallen in love with our jobs, houses, and electronic toys. Loving you intimately is scary, and we often opt for another way. You've invited us to live in loving relationship with everyone we encounter, but there are folk who are downright hard to love.**

**We confess our inability to love as we should. We need your forgiveness and help living out this love thing. Free us to love as you do. 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 Bethesda  
Center. 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>1</sup> Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
in all generations.
- <sup>2</sup> Before the mountains were brought forth  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- <sup>3</sup> You turn us back to dust  
and say, "Turn back, you mortals."
- <sup>4</sup> For a thousand years in your sight  
are like yesterday when it is past  
or like a watch in the night.
- <sup>5</sup> You sweep them away; they are like a dream,  
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
- <sup>6</sup> in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;  
in the evening it fades and withers.
- <sup>13</sup> Turn, O LORD! How long?  
Have compassion on your servants!
- <sup>14</sup> Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- <sup>15</sup> Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us  
and as many years as we have seen evil.
- <sup>16</sup> Let your work be manifest to your servants  
and your glorious power to their children.
- <sup>17</sup> Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us  
and prosper for us the work of our hands—  
O prosper the work of our hands!

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.

## The Greatest Commandment

<sup>34</sup> When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together <sup>35</sup> and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. <sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” <sup>37</sup> He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

<sup>41</sup> Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: <sup>42</sup> “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” <sup>43</sup> He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

<sup>44</sup> ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet” ’?

<sup>45</sup> “If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” <sup>46</sup> No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE      “On these two commandments”      Pastor Craig

\*HYMN                      *I Want a Principle Within*                      UMH 410

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

**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.”

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Breakfast for Supper Fundraiser**, Friday, November 3, 4:30 – 6:30 pm.

**Northwest Forsyth Missional Network Charge Conference Worship**, Sunday, November 5, at 3:00 p.m. at Faith UMC, 1645 Griffin Road, Rural Hall, NC 27045.

**Administrative Council**, Tuesday, November 7, at 7:00 pm.

**United Women in Faith**, Friday, November 10, at 2:00 pm.

**Charge Conference** at Hickory Ridge, Sunday, November 19, at 3:00 pm, with Rev. Sandra Ireson, presiding elder.

1. Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, April 2023.
2. Written by Lillian C. Smith, The Africana Worship Book, Year A (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006), 150.
3. <https://prayerist.com/prayer/illuminationumc>

## PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

The people in Ukraine

Joe Bennett	Cancer
Melissa Brown	Daughter of Maria Rogers
James Brunk	In-law 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 Family	
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
Tammy Parham	Daughter to Wanda Manring
Carrie Snow	Sister-in-law to Beverly Snow
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	
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](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.