



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
January 14, 2024

Second Sunday after the Epiphany January 14, 2024

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

The voice of God calls to us! Are you listening?

Speak, Lord, your servants are listening.

The hands of God beckon us! Are you paying attention?

Show us, Lord, your servants are paying attention.

The love of God asks us—are you ready to follow?

Guide us, Lord, and we, your servants, will follow.

Come, let us worship the God whose tenacious love never stops calling and beckoning and asking us to follow.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*HYMN *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* UMH 400

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you as our God, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. Our priorities do not line up with yours, and too often we wander from your path by trying to do things our way instead of yours.

Forgive us, Lord. Your servants repent.

Merciful God, we confess that we are too often complacent in answering your call to enact justice. You call us to enter the flow of your justice that rolls down like water, and instead, we inhibit the work of justice by choosing not to pay attention or believe the stories of suffering and need in our midst.

Forgive us, Lord. Your servants repent.

Merciful God, we confess that sometimes we avoid you. We don't want to hear your voice. We don't want to receive your call. We are scared of what you might ask us to do and how letting your grace work in our lives might change us. So, we keep you at arm's length, ready to run when you seem to ask too much of us.

Forgive us, Lord. Your servants repent.

Merciful God, we confess that there are things that clutter our hearts and minds that we cannot say aloud or do not have words for, and so, we lift them to you now in silence.

Offer silent prayers of confession.

Loving God, you call us by name to be your people in the world, pouring your love into us in such abundance that it overflows into the world around us. Guide us, form us, and send us as your people to live out your good news wherever we go.

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 Open Arms Community, Winston-Salem.

*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!



The Inescapable God

- ¹ O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
² You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
 you discern my thoughts from far away.
³ You search out my path and my lying down
 and are acquainted with all my ways.
⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue,
 O LORD, you know it completely.
⁵ You hem me in, behind and before,
 and lay your hand upon me.
⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 it is so high that I cannot attain it.
- ¹³ For it was you who formed my inward parts;
 you knit me together in my mother's womb.
¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
 Wonderful are your works;
 that I know very well.
¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you,
 when I was being made in secret,
 intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
¹⁶ Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
 In your book were written
 all the days that were formed for me,
 when none of them as yet existed.
¹⁷ How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
 How vast is the sum of them!
¹⁸ I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
 I come to the end—I am still with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION²

Living God, help us to hear your Word with open hearts so that we may truly understand; and understanding, that we may believe; and, believing, that we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do. Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹ And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

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

RESPONSE: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

"The Son of Man"

Pastor Craig

*HYMN

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

UMH 382

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 14, 2024

Prayer Focus for January: Peace in the world and in our hearts.

Bible verse to remember: John 14:27

²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Administrative Council, Tuesday, February 5, at 7:00 p.m.

United Women in Faith, Friday, February 9, at 2:00 pm. Will have finger foods for Valentines Day.

“Souper Bowl” Sunday, February 11, immediately following worship service we will gather in the fellowship hall for chili and soups prepared by church members and grilled cheese sandwiches. Donations will be received for Samaritan Ministries. Join us for good food and fellowship!

1. Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, August 2023.
2. Ibid.
3. *The Worship Sourcebook*, Faith Alive Christian Resources, Grand Rapids, MI, 142.

PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

The people in Ukraine

Kathy Barber	Friend to Dianne Raynor
Joe Bennett	Cancer
Melissa Brown	Daughter of Maria Rogers
James Brunk	In law to Billy Gordy
Joy Brunk	Sister to Billy Gordy
Cathy Childress	5703 Beaver Pond Trail, Pfafftown 27040
Ray Dillon	Germanton Road, Winston-Salem 27105
Ron Fulp	Village Care of King, 440 Ingram Drive, King, NC 27021
Dorothy Frye	Friend to Dianne Raynor
Ray Gordy	Brother to Billy Gordy
Bobby & Shirley Griffin	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Cathy Hrestak	Cousin to Joe Bennett
Scott Lane	Son to Janice Lane
Janice Lane	
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
Mary Ruth Neeley	Sister to Margie Gordy
Keith Overton	Treatment
T.J. and Heather Small	Friend to Dianne Raynor
Donald and Sylvia Stewart	Friends to Sara Overton
Rebekah Tate	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Angie Toth	Cancer Treatments
Robin Willard	5026 Gordy Trail, Winston-Salem, 27105
Christian Willard and family	
Wade Willard	Friend of Billy & Margie Gordy

Shut-ins

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

Betty Eddinger—Room 720, 1250 Arbor Road, Winston-Salem 27104

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. 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.