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# HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Worship Bulletin  
March 10, 2024

**Fourth Sunday in Lent  
March 10, 2024**

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

Lenten travelers, the journey is long.  
Let us take a moment to rest and breathe.

**Only in God do we find our rest.**

Sometimes the road is easy,  
and we bask in the warmth of the Light who guides us.  
**Other times the road is hard, and we hide from the Light,  
afraid for our actions to be made known in public.**

Somedays we delight in the joy of journeying together  
on this road.

**Other days we struggle with the temptation to judge and  
condemn one another as we travel this path.**

Today, let us come into the Light together  
as we learn to love God and one another  
through the twists and turns of our Lenten journey.

**Come, let us worship God together! Amen.**

LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY

Harold & Susan Kincaid

\*HYMN

*To God Be the Glory*

UMH 98

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>

When we offer God our confession, we join the beautiful work of  
reconciliation, which begins with our reconciling with God.  
Trusting in our Partner in grace, let us make our confession,  
first in silent prayer.

*Offer prayers of silent confession*

**Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are  
able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is  
beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful.**

(Continued)

**We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.  
We love with condition.  
We judge and condemn.  
We cast the first stone and keep the logs in our own eyes.  
We do not turn to You as the source of our healing.**

**Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. Amen.**

#### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends in Christ, know this: the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting, and I remind you of this surpassing grace – in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**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 House of Refuge.*

#### **\*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!**

## Thanksgiving for Deliverance from Many Troubles

- <sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.
- <sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,  
those he redeemed from trouble
- <sup>3</sup> and gathered in from the lands,  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.
- <sup>17</sup> Some were sick through their sinful ways  
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;
- <sup>18</sup> they loathed any kind of food,  
and they drew near to the gates of death.
- <sup>19</sup> Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress;
- <sup>20</sup> he sent out his word and healed them  
and delivered them from destruction.
- <sup>21</sup> Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.
- <sup>22</sup> And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices  
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.



### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION<sup>3</sup>

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.**

<sup>4</sup> From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way. <sup>5</sup> The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” <sup>6</sup> Then the LORD sent poisonous<sup>[b]</sup> serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup> The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” <sup>9</sup> So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

<sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup> Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

“Look Upon Jesus”

Pastor Craig

\*HYMN

*Amazing Grace*

UMH 378, Verses 1, 2 ,3, 6

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 10, 2024

**Prayer Focus for March:** Commitment to discipline of prayer.

**Bible verse to remember: Philippians 4:6-7 (KJV)** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

### Birthdays in March

2 Becky Weeden	27 Ashleigh Oldson
5 Judy Lawson	28 Dorothy Lawson
19 Jason Lingle	28 Anthony Nieves
21 Drew Overton	

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Chocolate Peanut Butter Easter Egg Orders** must be turned in by March 17. Please your order in the offering plate or give it to Pat Bennett or Dianne Raynor.

**Palm Sunday**, March 24. Everyone in the church will be provided a palm for morning worship.

### **Bake Sale, Friday, March 29, 9 am to 12 noon**

If you bake cakes, pies, any dessert or casserole, please plan to bring something good to eat to the Bake Sale. If you don't bake, come buy something good to eat!

**Good Friday Prayer Chain**, March 29. We will ask people to sign up to pray for 15 minutes or more, from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Sign-up sheets are in the vestibule.

**Easter Sunday**, March 31, will feature the Living Cross in front of the church.

1. Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2023.
2. Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission. Posted at <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/>.
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

Melissa Brown	Daughter of Maria Rogers
James Brunk	In law of Billy Gordy
Joy Brunk	Sister of Billy Gordy
Cathy Childress	5703 Beaver Pond Trail, Pfafftown 27040
Jimmy Clayton	Nephew of Billy Gordy
Ray Dillon	6065 Germanton Road, W-S 27105
Dorothy Frye	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Ray Gordy	Brother of Billy Gordy
Bobby & Shirley Griffin	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Kay Huneycutt	6700 S Germanton Rd, Germanton 27019
Scott Lane	Son of Janice Lane
Bonnie Lane	Sister-in-law of Janice Lane
Janice Lane	
David Linville	Friend of Harold Kincaid
Keith	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Kristy Long	Daughter of Clara Long
Kayla Manring	Friend of Annette Wood
Freddie Masencup	Friend of Sara Overton
Irene Mayo	Sister-in-law of Sara Overton
Kory McInchak	Nephew of Margie Gordy
Mary Ruth Neeley	Sister of Margie Gordy
Keith Overton	
Tammy Parham	Daughter of Wanda Manning
Larry & Angie Shelton	Neice & Nephew of Billy Gordy
T.J. and Heather Small	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Stephanie	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Donald and Sylvia Stewart	Friends of Sara Overton
Rebekah Tate	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Angie Toth	Cancer Treatments
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

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: [craigtoth@gmail.com](mailto:craigtoth@gmail.com)  
Office Hours: Tue. & Thur. 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.