



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
March 17, 2024

**Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 17, 2024**

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Lenten travelers, how long have you traveled this road with your gaze pointed down at the dust and gravel and asphalt as you walk or limp or roll down the path?

Sometimes it is easier to look at the road than at the people who share the journey with us.

Lift up your heads! Look, listen, reach out a hand.

Who are your neighbors on this road?

We lift our heads and look to our Savior who journeys with us and helps us notice our neighbors all around us.

This is the Lenten journey—to learn to love God and love our neighbors just as Jesus showed us.

Our journey teaches us to lose our lives to God as we find and follow Christ in our service to others.

Come, let us worship God who caravans with us on this road to the cross.

Come, let us worship! Amen.

LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY

Margie Gordy & Dot Lawson

*HYMN

Jesus Shall Reign

UMH 157

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

Love that knows no boundaries: we crowd our lives with so much activity that it is hard to find time for you. We become so focused on ourselves, we can overlook those around us who are searching for hope. We fill our spiritual emptiness with junk, rather than feasting on your Word.

(Continued)

Abundant Mercy, forgive us. Open our eyes, that we may see your new covenant written in plain sight on our hearts. Open our hearts, that we may join you in serving the broken of the world. Open our love, so we may pour it out as abundantly and graciously as your love is given to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. 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!**



- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy,
blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴ Against you, you alone, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.
- ⁵ Indeed, I was born guilty,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- ⁶ You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION³

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.**

SCRIPTURE TEXT

John 12:20-26

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²² Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

The Word of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

“Seed Faith”

Pastor Craig

*HYMN

O Jesus, I Have Promised

UMH 396

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 17, 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

5 Judy Lawson

19 Jason Lingle

21 Drew Overton

27 Ashleigh Oldson

28 Dorothy Lawson

28 Anthony Nieves

Thank you for participating in Souper Bowl Sunday. You are having an impact in people's lives by bringing hope, healing and encouragement as we give food and shelter. Thank you for continuing to pray for our ministry. *Jan Kelly, Executive Director, Samaritan Ministries*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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 Thom Shuman and posted on his Lectionary Liturgies blog. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/02/prayer-of-confession-lent-5-b_22.html.
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
Ron Fulp	Holiday Forsyth Court, 2945 Reynolda Road—Apt. 142, Winston-Salem, NC 27106
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
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
Susan Ratcliffe	Cancer Treatment
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
Wayne	Friend of Margie

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: craigtoth@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tue. & Thur. 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.