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# HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Worship Bulletin  
March 24, 2024

**Palm Sunday  
March 24, 2024**

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

**We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips;  
we will travel through betrayal and death,  
cradling hope deep in our hearts.**

Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow,  
for he is the life we long for,  
he is the Word who sustains us.

**We wave palm branches in anticipation;  
we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.**

Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes:  
modeling humility and obedience for all of us.

**Hosanna! Hosanna!**

**Blessed is the One who brings us the kingdom of God.**

LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY     Dianne Raynor & Maria Rogers

\*HYMN                      *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*                      UMH 278

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to the home of Lazarus and received hospitality like no one had seen before - generous, loving, whole-hearted, and even a little bit undignified. His disciple Judas could only see the inefficiency of the gift, not the spirit of loving-kindness with which it was offered. We, like Judas, often want to expedite our giving without really engaging with those we are called to serve. Let us consider the depth of our relationships with those we encounter and with the One who calls us to faith, as we confess our sin in silence.

[pause for silence]

(Continued)

**We confess, Anointed One, that we excuse ourselves from reaching out to those who need your care. We take your words – that there will always be unmet needs – as a reason not to try to meet the needs we can. Forgive us and help us to change. Renew our determination to live as faithful followers, faithful disciples, faithful Christians. Help us to work with you for the well-being of your creation, that the fortunes of all your peoples may be restored. Amen.**

#### **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE**

We, too, are a part of the Way-Maker's will for restoration. We are called, through Christ Jesus, to strive for restoration, but we are not called to do this work alone. The One who has made a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, will surely equip us for all we are asked to do in Christ's name. God will empower us to attain all the potential God has placed within us.

**Thanks be to God!**

#### **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!**

- <sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever!
- <sup>2</sup> Let Israel say,  
“His steadfast love endures forever.”
- <sup>19</sup> Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the LORD.
- <sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the LORD;  
the righteous shall enter through it.
- <sup>21</sup> I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.
- <sup>22</sup> The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- <sup>23</sup> This is the LORD’s doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.
- <sup>24</sup> This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- <sup>25</sup> Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!  
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
- <sup>26</sup> Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.  
We bless you from the house of the LORD.
- <sup>27</sup> The LORD is God,  
and he has given us light.  
Bind the festal procession with branches,  
up to the horns of the altar.
- <sup>28</sup> You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;  
you are my God; I will extol you.
- <sup>29</sup> O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever.



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Lord, open our hearts and minds, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE TEXT

Philippians 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be grasped,  
<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
assuming human likeness.  
And being found in appearance as a human,  
<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.  
<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him even more highly  
and gave him the name  
that is above every other name,  
<sup>10</sup> so that at the name given to Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

“At the name of Jesus”

Pastor Craig

\*HYMN

*O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done*

UMH 287

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 24, 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

**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

### **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 Thom Shuman and posted on his *Lectionary Liturgies* blog. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/02/contemporary-call-to-worship-palm.html>.
2. *Posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways Archive*, <http://www.ucc.org/>. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/02/prayer-of-confession-anointing-of-jesus.html>.

## 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	Village Care of King, Room 517, 440 Ingram Road, King, NC 27021
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
Arthur Rogers	Brother of Maria Rogers
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](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.