



HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Bulletin
April 21, 2024

**Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024**

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

How shall we live

when we have more than enough?

**We have no greater praise to offer
than caring for your creatures and Creation.**

The earth is our teacher – nurturing and tender.

**In this hour, O God,
nourish us in the soil of your love.**

Let us worship God, the Ground of all Being.

*HYMN

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

UMH 57

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION²

God of many pastures,

we never tire of hearing

the voice of our shepherd;

we never tire of hearing

the call to lay our burdens down;

we never tire of hearing

the invitation to dwell in your house forever.

Forgive us, loving shepherd,

when we try to keep you as our own—

thinking that we alone have your love,

thinking that others wander alone

without your care and guidance.

Open our eyes,

that we may recognize the sheep of your fold

wherever they may be

and whatever they may look like. **Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE²

The one who lays his life down for the sheep
will surely rescue us and lead us to safe pastures.
Through the love and grace of our shepherd,
goodness and mercy shall follow us
all the days of our lives,
and we shall dwell securely forever.

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!**



The Divine Shepherd

A Psalm of David.

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² **He makes me lie down in green pastures;**
he leads me beside still waters;

³ he restores my soul.

**He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.**

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,

**for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;

**you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.**

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,

**and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.**

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.

¹⁶ We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters.

¹⁷ How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸ Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. ¹⁹ And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

“Love, in deed”

Pastor Craig

*HYMN

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

UMH 381

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 21, 2024

Prayer Focus for April: The healing of our land.

Bible verse to remember: 2 Chronicles 7:14 “If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

Birthdays in April

1 Wanda Manring	14 Susan Kincaid
2 Emily Kincaid	16 Susan Lawing Morgan
5 Barbara White	18 Chad Lawson
5 Roger Hester	28 LeeAnna Kincaid
14 Lee Childress	

Administrative Council meets on Tuesday, May 7, at 7:00 p.m.

United Women in Faith meets on the second Friday of each month. The next meeting will be Friday, May 10, at 2:00 p.m.

Shredding Events

Bethel Methodist Church, Winston-Salem, April 27, 9 am – Noon

Mount Carmel Methodist Church, April 27, 10 am – 1 pm

Town of Rural Hall, May 4, 9 am – Noon

1. By Rev. Paul Mitchell, Walla Walla, WA (ancestral homelands of the Cayuse, Umatilla, Palus, and Walla Walla), is the senior pastor of Pioneer United Methodist Church. He is an elder in full Connection in the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference and is involved in the United Methodist Creation Justice Movement.
2. From <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/2623/worship-elements-april-21-2024>, Adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009*, © 2008 Abingdon Press.

PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

The people in Ukraine

Debbie Bennett	Niece of Kay Huneycutt
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 Family	
Marty Galyean	Friend of Pat Bennett
Ray Gordy	Brother of Billy Gordy
Bobby & Shirley Griffin	Friends 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
Kayla Manning	Niece 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
Keith Snow	Cancer Treatment
Stephanie	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Sylvia Stewart	Friend 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.