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# HICKORY RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Worship Bulletin  
June 23, 2024

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 23, 2024**

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

Beloved, when sorrow and hardship abound and events across an ocean and down the block shake our resolve and make us question what good the good news is even doing,  
God calls to us...

**Open your heart.**

When fear and misinformation infiltrate our relationships, and we don't know who to trust or how to do the next right thing,  
God calls to us...

**Open your heart.**

When joy overflows, and we witness the fruit of grace all around us, transforming our lives and our communities into places of connection and flourishing,  
God calls to us...

**Open your heart.**

May this time of worship be for each of us a time to listen to God's call to open our hearts and accept the divine invitation to say yes to the work of grace in us, among us, and all around us.

**God, we open our hearts to receive your gift of grace, knowing you hold us securely in the palm of your hands that we might have the courage to live in vulnerable community with you and one another. Amen.**

\*HYMN

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

UMH 519

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION<sup>2</sup>

**Holy God, hear our prayer. There is pain and there is sorrow, there are broken relationships and broken hearts. Sometimes we are the cause of those things. We have caused pain. We have broken the relationship.**

(Continued)

Sometimes we are simply a part of them – we are the ones who suffer, we are the ones who are broken. So we ask for your forgiveness, and we ask for your healing. Beyond that, we ask that you would help us turn from our former selves to the persons you have created us to be, full of mercy and grace and love. Through Christ, who is our example, we pray. 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 Senior Services Meals on Wheels.*

**\*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>9</sup> The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed,  
**a stronghold in times of trouble.**
- <sup>10</sup> And those who know your name put their trust in you,  
**for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.**
- <sup>11</sup> Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion.  
**Declare his deeds among the peoples.**
- <sup>12</sup> For he who avenges blood is mindful of them;  
**he does not forget the cry of the afflicted.**
- <sup>13</sup> Be gracious to me, O LORD.  
 See what I suffer from those who hate me;  
**you are the one who lifts me up from the gates of death,**
- <sup>14</sup> **so that I may recount all your praises**  
**and, in the gates of daughter Zion,**  
 rejoice in your deliverance.
- <sup>15</sup> The nations have sunk in the pit that they made;  
**in the net that they hid has their own foot been caught.**
- <sup>16</sup> The LORD has made himself known;  
 he has executed judgment;  
**the wicked are snared in the work of their own**  
**hands. *Higgaion. Selah***
- <sup>17</sup> The wicked shall depart to Sheol,  
 all the nations that forget God.
- <sup>18</sup> **For the needy shall not always be forgotten,**  
**nor the hope of the poor perish forever.**
- <sup>19</sup> Rise up, O LORD! Do not let mortals prevail;  
**let the nations be judged before you.**
- <sup>20</sup> Put them in fear, O LORD;  
**let the nations know that they are only human. *Selah***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION<sup>3</sup>

God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul.  
 Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that our  
 hearts and minds may be opened. **Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE TEXT**

1 Kings 4:25-34

<sup>25</sup> During Solomon’s lifetime Judah and Israel lived in safety, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, all of them under their vines and fig trees. <sup>26</sup> Solomon also had forty thousand stalls of horses for his chariots and twelve thousand horsemen. <sup>27</sup> Those officials supplied provisions for King Solomon and for all who came to King Solomon’s table, each one in his month; they let nothing be lacking. <sup>28</sup> They also brought to the required place barley and straw for the horses and swift steeds, each according to his charge.

**Fame of Solomon’s Wisdom**

<sup>29</sup> God gave Solomon very great wisdom, discernment, and breadth of understanding as vast as the sand on the seashore, <sup>30</sup> so that Solomon’s wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt. <sup>31</sup> He was wiser than anyone else, wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite and Heman, Calcol, and Darda, children of Mahol; his fame spread throughout all the surrounding nations. <sup>32</sup> He composed three thousand proverbs, and his songs numbered a thousand and five. <sup>33</sup> He would speak of trees, from the cedar that is in the Lebanon to the hyssop that grows in the wall; he would speak of animals, and birds, and reptiles, and fish. <sup>34</sup> People came from all the nations to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE “The creative nature of wisdom” Pastor Craig

\*HYMN *It Is Well with My Soul* UMH 377

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

**Prayer focus for June:** First Responders & Military

**Bible verse to remember:** 1 Timothy 2:1-4

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

**Anniversaries in June**  
10 March and Beverly Snow

**Birthdays in June**

1 Bryce Snow	14 Keith Overton
2 Sandy Stomean	18 Beverly Snow
4 Annette Wood	18 Harold Kincaid
5 Vicki Martin Hall	19 Canaan Fulp

**Church Picnic, Sunday, June 30,** 4:30 p.m.

We will have hamburgers, hot dogs, desserts, and beverages.

**The Administrative Council** will meet Tuesday, July 2, at 7:00 p.m.

**United Women in Faith** will meet Friday, July 12, at 2:00 p.m. in the education building.

1. Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, April 2024.
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. From [https://www.caldwellpresby.org/docs/resources/Prayers for Illumination.pdf](https://www.caldwellpresby.org/docs/resources/Prayers%20for%20Illumination.pdf)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

All Military Personnel and All First Responders

The people in Ukraine

Ron Baldwin	Friend of Becky Weeden
Debbie Bennett	Niece of Kay Huneycutt
Melissa Brown	Daughter of Maria Rogers
Joy Brunk	Sister of Billy Gordy
Cathy Childress	5703 Beaver Pond Trail, Pfafftown 27040
Freada Crews	Friend of Church
Dorothy Frye	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Marty Galyean	Cousin of Pat Bennett
Ray Gordy	Brother of Billy Gordy
Kay Huneycutt	6700 S Germanton Rd, Germanton 27019
Hunter Family	Friends of Dianne Raynor
Scott Lane	Son 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
Sharon McGrath	Friend of Margie Gordy
Becca McLeod	2539 Timber Lane, Greensboro, NC 27408
Sue Mitchell	
Mary Ruth Neeley	Sister of Margie Gordy
Keith Overton	Son of Sara Overton
Tammy Parham	Daughter of Wanda Manning
Susan Ratcliffe	Wife of Wayne Ratcliffe
Dianne Raynor	Recovering after surgery
Rierson Family	
Arthur Rogers	Brother of Maria Rogers
Maria Rogers	Recovering after surgery
Larry & Angie Shelton	Niece & Nephew of Billy Gordy
Keith Snow	Uncle of Mark Snow
Stephanie	Friend of Dianne Raynor
Sylvia Stewart	Friend of Sara Overton
Angie Toth	Cancer Treatments
Christian Willard and family	

### Shut-ins

Martha Collins, Mallard Ridge, 9420 N NC Hwy 150, Clemmons 27012  
Carl Crouse, 5820 Germanton Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27105  
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.