

## Order of Worship

(\*Please stand as able)

### Gathering

Prelude  
 Welcome & Announcements  
 Invocation  
 \*CALL TO WORSHIP  
 The Christian life is redeemed from sin and consecrated to God.  
 Through baptism, we have entered this new covenant of which Jesus Christ is the Mediator.  
**He sealed it with his own blood, that it might last forever.**  
 From time to time we renew this covenant with God and gather at the Lord's table.  
**Today we meet, as generations before us have met, to renew our covenant that binds us to God.**  
 \*Opening Hymn "Joy to the World" #246  
 \*OPENING PRAYER  
 Leader: Let us pray.  
**Help us, O God, to live for Jesus and shine with his love. As we renew our covenant with you, help us keep Jesus at the center of our lives. Amen.**  
 PASSING OF THE PEACE  
 LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLES  
 "A Candle is Burning"  
 The Children's Message  
 THE WORD OF GOD  
 PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION  
 Beloved in Christ, this Christmas Season it is our delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem, and to see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.  
 Let us pray:  
**Eternal God, as your Word is proclaimed through the scriptures that are read, let us hear with joy the story of your loving purposes from the first days of our sin until the glorious redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this house of prayer glad with our carols of praise. Amen.**  
 FIRST LESSON—Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19  
 CAROL: "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen" (vs 1-2)  
 SECOND LESSON—Genesis 17:1-9 OT-13  
 CAROL: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #240  
 THIRD LESSON—1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26  
 CAROL: "Angels from the Realms of Glory" (vs 1 & 2) #220  
 FOURTH LESSON—Jeremiah 31:31-34  
 CAROL: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (vs 1 & 4) #230  
 FIFTH LESSON—Luke 2:1-20  
 CAROL: "It came Upon a Midnight Clear" (vs 1-3) #218

SIXTH LESSON—Matthew 2:1-12  
 CAROL: "We Three Kings" #254  
 SEVENTH LESSON—Luke 2:41-52  
 CAROL: "What Child Is This" (vs 1-3) #219  
 EIGHTH LESSON—Colossians 3:12-17  
 CAROL: "In the Bleak Midwinter" (vs 1, 2, 4) #221  
 NINTH LESSON—Hebrews 12:1-2, 12-15, 13:1-3, 7-8, 15-16, 20-21  
 CAROL: "Good Christian Friends Rejoice" (vs 1 & 3) #224  
 THE RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD  
 COVENANT PRAYER IN THE TRADITION JOHN WESLEY BEGAN IN 1755  
 Offering  
 Offertory  
 \*Christmas Doxology  
 \*Offertory Prayer  
 THE GOING FORTH  
 \*Closing Hymn "Angels We Have Heard on High" (vs 1-3) No. 238  
 \*Benediction  
 \*Postlude: God's Love to the World

**Worship Helpers: December 31**  
**Greeters/Ushers:** Kim Schorr, Mike Colbert, Jane Williams & Doris Carawan  
**Screens:** Kathy Moyer  
**Offering Counters:** Kim Schorr  
**Children's Church:** Chessie Folan  
**Worship Helpers: January 7**  
**Greeters/Ushers:** Margaret Norfleet, Mike Colbert, Steve & Marj Barnes  
**Screens:** Jason Yoast  
**Offering Counters:** Kim Schorr & Susan McKee  
**Children's Church:** Stephanie Davis & Chessie Folan  
**Communion Helper:** Mike Kirby

**Our Church Staff:**  
 Administrative Assistant: **Susan Coard, office@hickoryumc.org**  
 Director of Music: **Karen Nemeth, karen.nemeth@verizon.net**  
 Accompanist: **Glenda Brown, glendabrown5@gmail.com**  
 Contemporary Worship Leader: **David Springstead (757) 284-1801**  
 Director of Youth Ministries: **Jason Brugman, jasou9@gmail.com or 540-840-1423**  
 Director of Children's Ministry: **Chessie Folan (757) 778-0168**  
 Nursery Worker: **Katie Moyer**  
 Sexton: **Michael Colbert (757) 410-9369**  
 Custodians: **Kim Higgerson & Kathy Heath**  
 Maintenance: **Steve Jennings**

### Prayer Requests

**Hickory Family:**  
 Alice Jarman  
 Charles Vertigan  
 Conor Clapsaddle & Crew of the USCGC Munro  
 Teresa Mizell's mom & family  
 JoAnn Green  
 Ed Brakob  
 Ruth Brayman  
 Grace McKee  
 Carl Hanbury  
 Harry Faircloth  
 Heather Parsons  
 Herb & Amy Fisher  
 Andy Barnard  
**Hickory Extended Family:**  
 Bristol Jackson  
 Christie Newman Wright  
 Danny Pallister  
 Ginger Hoyos, Tim Mizell's sister  
 Jack Gayle  
 Peggy Waddell  
 Chris Walker  
 Heather Martin  
 Sherry Cox  
 John Curry  
 Shannon Jones  
 Oscar Szczepanski  
 Leeyah Jackson  
 Beth Casey  
 Debra Culpepper  
 Chelsea Musick  
 Alan Johnson  
 Brooke Edwards  
 Brandon Miller  
 Jeremiah James  
 Chip McKean  
 Terri Poole  
 Jaci Eybers  
 Noah Corlette  
 Margaret Pugh  
 Tylor Giovannone  
 Chris Grant  
 Carolee Jackson Bondurant  
 Kathy Boatright & Family  
 Donn Irby  
 John Szyszko  
 Jonathan Reed  
 Donna Barham  
 Bobby Lockett  
 Pete Ewell  
 Billy Sullo  
 Delna Antaki  
 Carolyn Harrell  
 Marvin Powers  
 Bruce Mathews  
 Darla Lawson's Mom  
 Gary Everton  
 Don James  
 Robin Gronemus  
 Claude Mayer  
 Don & Patti Bishop  
 Mary Daughtrey  
 Valerie Claus  
 Jennifer Foster  
 Dave McCullough  
 Joan Barnes  
 Johnny Day  
 Amy Hurst  
 Becky Eagleson—Marty Hutto's daughter  
 James & John Hodges  
 Alan Perry, Janet Manning's stepdad  
 Mary Cardwell  
 Ray Ives  
 Donna Hill, Alanna Mayer's aunt  
 Fred Serode  
 Courtney Bass  
 Patricia Mulcair  
 Dianne Kendall, Alanna Mayer's mom  
 Brenda Brayman  
 Shirley Gryder  
 Amie Gerloff  
 William Becknell  
 Kelly Christunas  
 Pam Winkler-Godwin  
 Michele Gilmore  
 Zoey Foster  
 Elizabeth McKean  
 Margie Cannata—Elaine Hutto's aunt  
 Billy Carey  
 Herbie Lewis  
 Joyce - Joan Walton's mother  
 Tracy Krismanich  
 Donnie James  
 Mary Ellen & Nick Newlin  
 Dennis Fletcher  
 Tom "Butch" Foster-Alan Foster's uncle  
 Patricia Hannan  
 Tori Bates  
 Amy Massey  
 Joseph DiNardo  
 Lori Cutchins  
 Sarah Buckland  
 Russell Heath—Rusty Heath's father



Prayer Request or Comments: <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Print in church media			
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**This Week at Hickory**

Daily Prayer @ 8 am via Facebook live (Monday-Friday)

**Sunday, December 31—New Year’s Eve**

- 10:30 am Unified Morning Worship - Lessons & Carols
- 5 pm Worship @ The Hickory
- 6-9 pm New Year’s Celebration with games, appetizers & desserts- all ages and stages welcome!

**Monday, January 1—New Year’s Day**

Office Closed

**Tuesday, January 2**

- 6:15 pm Pick-up Basketball
- 7 pm Men’s Bible Study

**Thursday, January 4**

- 5 pm Girl Scouts
- 7 pm Volleyball
- 7 pm Cub Scouts

**Saturday, January 6**

- 10 am-2 pm Chrysalis in Fellowship Center
- 2 pm-9 pm Winter Guard in Fellowship Center

**Sunday, January 7**

- 9 & 11 am Worship
- 10:15 am Sunday School
- 4:30 pm Youth
- 5 pm The Hickory
- 6 pm Sunday Supper

**Upcoming Events:**

- Men’s Breakfast & Fellowship—3rd Saturday of the Month—January 20th—8 am—Fellowship Center
- CAST—February 7-14



Scan me to support the mission and ministry of Hickory United Methodist Church. Or go to <https://hickoryumc.breezechms.com/give/online>

**Report of Stewardship for December 17 & 24, 2023**

Weekly Budget	\$ 8,780.00
Offering	\$ 14,783.79
Received to Date	\$ 393,732.03

Welcome to Hickory United Methodist Church! We are so thankful that you chose to worship with us this morning! We would love to connect with you through the week! Please fill out the connection card attached and place in the offering plate so we can follow up with you.



**Volunteers Needed: Children’s Church**  
Have you ever wondered or felt called to experience Children’s Church! If you would like to check it out without a commitment, just contact Chessie Folan (757-778-0168).

**DISCIPLE:** A sign-up sheet is in the Welcome Center for Disciple Fast Track Old Testament Bible Study starting January 10<sup>th</sup>, on Wednesday nights, 7-8:30 pm, at Hickory UMC. The study will last 13 weeks with a New Testament study planned in the Fall. Disciple is a great survey of the Bible for those who would like to know more about God’s Word. Please sign-up, so we can order the correct number of books. (If you cannot meet on Wednesday nights or have questions, please call Stan Best at 757-358-5521 to discuss any concerns.)



New Series begins January 7th as we explore Sabbath and it’s intention for our lives today!

**Book Club:** Next book: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt. Meeting at church January 25th at 7 pm.

**Hickory United Methodist Church**  
 2708 Battlefield Boulevard, South, Chesapeake, Virginia 23322  
 (757) 421-2778 office@hickoryumc.org Website: Hickoryumc.org  
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/hickoryunitedmethodistchurch  
 Rev. Sarah Locke (757) 897-8142 (cell)  
 sarahlocke@vaumc.org



**Lessons and Carols**

*Hickory United Methodist*

*The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

*The vision Hickory United Methodist Church has received is to build God’s Kingdom today, through connection, growth and service.*

**December 31, 2023**

10:30 am

Morning Worship Services: 9 am & 11 am

Modern Worship Service: 5:00 pm

Sunday Supper: 6 pm

**December 31, 2023 @ 10:30 am**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like a weekly e-mail update

Connection Card (Please place in the offering plate.)

Check all that apply:

- First Time Visitor
- Returning Guest
- Regular Attendee
- Interested in Joining
- Member
- I would like a visit from the Pastor.

How did you hear about us?

- Website/Facebook
- Friend
- Advertisement
- Other