

The Church Gathers

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Pastor: This is the day that the Lord has made!

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Preparation for Worship

Let us prepare our hearts for worship first in silence, then as we listen to the prelude.

O God, glorious and faithful, to those who seek you with a sincere heart you reveal the beauty of your face. Strengthen us in faith to embrace the mystery of the cross, and open our hearts to its transfiguring power; that, clinging in love to your will for us, we may walk the path of discipleship as followers of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prelude

“Rock of Ages” Hastings, arr. R. Bonam
Jeannie Leyden-Edwards – Cello

Congregational Introit #485 (vs. 1 and refrain) “To God Be the Glory”

***Call to Worship** Psalm 50

Leader: The Mighty One speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

People: **Keep not your silence before us, O God, but let the heavens declare your righteousness.**

Leader: Gather to me faithful ones, all you who have made a covenant with me.

People: **We offer you our sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving as we call on your name.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

***Hymn of Praise #263 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

***Prayer of Adoration and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Church Confesses

Invitation to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession:

God of all glory, beauty, and grace, we have tried to hide from you to hide our faces, to hide our sin yet you have never hidden your love for us. We

have tried to search for you in temples, in clouds, on mountaintops yet you have already revealed yourself to us in the face of Jesus Christ. Forgive us, and transform us so that our lives may shine with your glory, beauty, and grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *(The prayer continues in a time of silent, personal confession.) Amen.*

Kyrie *You are the Lord, Giver of Mercy.
You are the Christ, Giver of Mercy.
You are the Lord, Giver of Mercy.*

Assurance of Pardon

***Gloria Patri** (Hymn# 579)

The Church Proclaims God’s Word

Message for Children

Bill Ranson

Prayer of Illumination

Jo Anne Gessell

First Scripture Reading: 2 Kings 2: 1 – 12 *(OT page 317 in your pew Bible)*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

“Vision Prayer” M. Ijames
Adult Choir, Jeannie Leyden-Edwards – Cello

Second Scripture Reading: Mark 9: 2 – 9 *(NT page 41 in your pew Bible)*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Are We Able to Truly Listen?”
Reverend Nath Briley

The Church Responds in Faith

***Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed (traditional, p. 14)**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Hymn #324 “Open My Eyes That I May See”**

Prayers of the People

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Offering of Life

Offertory "Dedication Prayer" Stölzel, Bach, arr. Liebergen
Jeannie Leyden-Edwards - Cello

***Doxology** (Hymn # 592)

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn #73** "Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory"

***Charge and Benediction**

***Congregational Response #587** "Amen"

***Postlude** "Oh, That I Had A Thousand Voices" Dretzel, arr. Manz
Worship Has Ended - Service Begins
**Those who are able may stand at these times.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS February 11, 2018

Blessings and greetings to one and all. In the name of Christ, you are welcome today and every day! *If you are visiting with us, we offer a special word of welcome and an invitation to participate in the life of the congregation.* If you are interested in learning more about our ministry, please speak with the pastor after worship. **Copies of The Connection are available in the Narthex and Parlor hallway** for those who do not receive it by email. Please contact the church office to add your email address for correspondence.

Visitors with children: We welcome you to worship and are always glad for your children to be with us! Should you desire, nursery (0 – 17 months) and toddler (18 months – 3 years) rooms are available for our youngest children each Sunday morning on the lower level of our sanctuary building. **Please complete the parental questionnaire and sign-in sheet when you drop off your little one. This information will be on a table in the nursery. We ask that you include your cell phone number in case you may be needed during the church service (please place your phone on vibrate).** Following the Children's Sermon, preschool children (4 to 5 year olds who have not entered kindergarten) are invited to attend Preschool Church in the toddler room of the nursery. Children may be picked up there after worship.

Children's worship bulletins are available from the ushers. Children's worship bags are also available in the narthex. Please return the bags following worship to be used again next week.

Please remember to turn off all electronic devices except for parents with children in the nursery. These parents should make sure their phones are on vibrate.

AUDIO ENHANCEMENTS: Audio devices for the congregation and visitors to use are located in the narthex. If you are in need of one of the devices, please speak to one of our ushers or greeters, and they will gladly assist you.

GIVING STATEMENTS: Your contributions statements for 2017 may be picked up through today in the Parlor Hallway. Thank you for your generosity to God's church this past year!

WELCOME JEANNIE LEYDEN-EDWARDS who will be playing cello with Joyce and with the Adult Choir anthem this morning. She plays in the Toccoa Symphony orchestra and is on the adjunct faculty at Truett McConnell University. She is also in a string quartet Sedici.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: Youth will meet this evening at 5:30 for dinner and activities. **Doug and Margaret Finney will provide the meal.**

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: The Wednesday morning Bible study will meet on February 14th, and will be discussing Mark Chapter 9.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE: Our Ash Wednesday Service will be held on February 14th at 7:00pm. Please join us for this very meaningful service to begin the season of Lent.

FAMILY PROMISE AT PPC: Beginning next Sunday evening, February 18th, through Sunday February 25th, we will again have the privilege of providing hospitality to homeless families. **If you would like to volunteer during the week, please contact Jo Anne Gessell.** What a blessing the Family Promise ministry has been to our church and community.

NEW STUDY IN ASHERS CLASS: The ASHers Sunday School class will begin a new study on February 18th. The Wiersbe Bible Study Series called **Standing Firmly against the World's Tides**, a study of 2 Kings & 2 Chronicles. Dr. Warren Wiersbe is an internationally renowned Bible teacher and has written more than 160 books. The cost of the book is \$10.00. Contact Barbara Caruthers if you are interested in joining in for this new study.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS: Our Wonderful Wednesday programs will begin again on February 21st with the dinner line opening at 5:45pm in ASH. **Dinner will be a delicious meal from Shortfield's (\$6 per adult, \$4 per child 11 and under). We ask that you sign up using the tear off slip and place in the offering plate or contact by Monday at noon.** We want to be good stewards of our resources and also make sure we have enough food for everyone to enjoy. **Classes will be from 6:15-7:00pm. Programs will be offered for all ages. The Children's Choir will meet during the program time.**

Please help us in determining how many to expect for the Wonderful Wednesday meal at 5:45pm on February 21st.

The _____ family plans to attend the dinner: #of people-_____

I am available to volunteer to help clean up after the meal

MUSIC CLASS INTEREST

Name _____

Email (or phone, if no email) _____

Best day and time _____

READING VOCAL MUSIC CLASS: No previous musical experience necessary. Or, for those with prior training, this can strengthen your existing skills. The ten 45-minute sessions will be sequential and combine both rhythms and pitches. Come and have fun learning to read the language of music! **The time and scheduling of the class will be determined by the majority of participants. Complete the tear-off above, or email Paula at owens.paula@gmail.com with your preferred day and time.**

NATH'S DOCTORAL PROJECT: I will be leading nine week small group sessions to discuss the direction of the 21st century church, and will be using curriculum by Mark E. Tidsworth which will discuss three movements/shifts in the church. These are not necessarily shifts that our church needs to make but is a starting point for a conversation to discern God's will for Pickens Presbyterian. **Your participation in this small group process will be so beneficial for discerning the direction and future of our church. Three different times will be offered: the Sunday School hour (9:30), Wednesday Morning Bible Study hour (10:30) and Wonderful Wednesdays.** I am asking for a nine week commitment, which will begin the week of February 18th. I realize things come up but if you are not able to meet your normal time, you may go to another time. If you have to miss a week, just let me know. Please let me know if you would like to participate in this study by emailing Nath at nbrileyppc@bellsouth.net.

INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTICES: If any services or church events require cancellation or reschedule because of inclement weather, notices will be put on **WYFF Channel 4 and WSPA Channel 7's** station information. Also check the church's **Facebook page**.

FOOD PANTRY: In February, we are asking for juice, and any other food items to fill the boxes for hungry people who come to the church.

GENERAL FUNDS UPDATE: Offering last Sunday: General Fund: \$3,836. Building Fund: \$60.00.

PRAYER REQUESTS: You are encouraged to share prayer concerns on the pink cards in the pew racks.

A list of **CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS** is available in the narthex.

<u>Serving:</u>	<u>February 11, 2018</u>	<u>February 18, 2018</u>
Flowers:	Debbie Carmical	Liza Holder
Beadle:	Dianna Morris	Louise Hope
Toddler & Preschool Church:	June Simms	Stephanie McCann
Refreshments:	Allison and Bill Ranson	Cindy Townsend
Pulpit Elder:	Jo Anne Gessell	Bob Allison
Children's Moment:	Bill Ranson	Carole Thomas
Youth Meal:	Doug and Margaret Finney	Jessica Haines
Sunday School Superintendent:	Cindy Townsend	Cindy Townsend
Sanctuary Guild:	Mary Gaillard	Mary Gaillard
Crisis/Celebration Coordinator:	Martha Brooks	Martha Brooks
Ushers:	Della Black, Amy Briley, Allison Ranson & Aubrey Righetti	Della Black, Amy Briley, Allison Ranson & Aubrey Righetti
Greeter:	Allison Ranson	Allison Ranson

Church Activities and Events This Week:

Sunday, February 11	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Fellowship in All Saints' Hall
	11:00am	Worship
	4:30pm	Confirmation Time with Mentors
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship
Monday, February 12	11:00am	Centering Prayer
	1:30pm	Ministry for Caregivers
	2:00pm	AnMed Cannon Banquet Setup – ASH
	5:30pm	Evangelism & Membership Committee Meeting
	6:00pm	Girl Scouts – Education Building
Tuesday, February 13	8:00am	AnMed Cannon Volunteer Banquet
	9:00am	Jane B. Morris Service Fund
	5:00pm	CDV Class – McJunkin Room
Wednesday, February 14	9:45am	CDC Children's Chapel
	10:30am	Bible Study
	12:00pm	Rotary Club
	7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday, February 15	10:00am	Book Club
	6:00pm	Session Meeting
Friday, February 16		Office Closed
Sunday, February 18	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Fellowship in All Saints' Hall
	11:00am	Worship