

*The Church Gathers*

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Welcome and Concerns of the Church**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People: **The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Invitation to Christian Discipleship**

**Preparation for Worship**

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

*Almighty God, in Christ you have shown us the way, revealed to us your truth, and offered to us everlasting life. Keep our eyes upon him, that we may see your path more clearly, know your truth more fully, and receive your life more abundantly; through Christ who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in eternal glory. Amen.*

**Prelude**

**Congregational Introit #554 (vs 1)**

**“Let All Things Now Living”**

**\*Call to Worship**

*Psalms 112*

Leader: Praise the Lord! Happy are those who fear the Lord, who take great delight in God's commandments.

People: **Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Leader: They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

People: **For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

**\*Hymn of Praise #457**

**“I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”**

**\*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:**

**Almighty God, your word offers freedom from sin, but we confess that we have not obeyed your word. We have harbored malice toward our enemies; we have been deceitful in our relationships; we have been insincere in our commitments; through gossip we have slandered our friends. Forgive us our sins and lead us to genuine repentance. Help your children long for your**

**pure, spiritual milk that we may grow into the joy of salvation through Jesus Christ.** *(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**

*Jessica Varney*

**Prayer of Illumination**

*Marvin Short*

**First Scripture Reading: Acts 7: 55 – 60** *(NT page 118 in your pew Bible)*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*“Built on a Rock”*

*Raney*

*Adult Choir*

**Second Scripture Reading: John 14: 1 – 14** *(NT page 102 in your pew Bible)*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**“There is Always Room!”**

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 #366**

**“Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me”**

**Senior Recognition and Presentation of Gifts to Graduates**

**Prayers of the People**

Leader: God, of new life,

People: **hear our prayer.**

**Offering of Life**

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology**

*(Hymn # 592)*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn #442** "The Church's One Foundation"

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response (sing twice)** "Go Now in Peace"

*Go now in peace, go now in peace, May the love of God surround you  
everywhere, everywhere you may go.*

**\*Postlude**

*Worship Has Ended - Service Begins  
\*Those who are able may stand at these times.*

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

May 14, 2017

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. **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.**

**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.

**NO YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: The Youth will not meet this evening.** They will be attending a Greenville Drive baseball game on **Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, as their end-of-year party.**

*We wish a Happy Mother's Day to all of the women of our congregation!*



***Congratulations to the Class of 2017!***

**Dawson McKay Harden**

*Graduating from Pickens High School  
Dawson will be attending USC –  
Beaufort and will major in Nursing.*

**Victoria Richelle Morris**

*Graduating from Pickens High School  
Tori will be attending North Greenville  
University and will major in Social Studies  
Secondary Education.*

**Emily Hannah La Foy**

*Graduating from Pickens High School  
Emily will be attending Winthrop University  
and will major in Early Childhood Education.*

**Mary Brooks Thrift**

*Graduating from Pickens High School  
Mary Brooks will be attending the College of  
Charleston and majoring in Political Science.*

*Please join us for a reception in honor of these graduates following worship.  
We also celebrate the following academic achievements:*

*Matthew Varney graduated May 9, 2017 from Tri County Technical College with an Associate's  
Degree in General Engineering Technology.*

**MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING:** We will be receiving The Mother's Day Special Offering today. **This offering is used to help support existing residents of the five Presbyterian Communities in South Carolina:** Foothills (Easley), Florence, Columbia, Clinton, and Summerville, who can no longer afford to pay the full cost of their care. Offering envelopes are available in the pews racks. **Please see the insert card for more information.**

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY:** The Wednesday morning Bible study will meet this coming week on May 17<sup>th</sup>. **The group will continue studying Chapter 12 in the Gospel of Matthew with verses 22 - 50.**

**FAMILY PROMISE AT PPC:** Beginning this evening through next Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 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.

**WISE AND WONDERFUL:** Our senior adult ministry, Wise and Wonderful, will have a lunch and planning meeting, **Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00am for pizza.** If you are interested in attending, please contact Aubrey Righetti, Mary Gaillard or Carol Marsh.

**POTLUCK LUNCH AND PRESENTATION FROM SESSION:** As mentioned in the letter that you received last week from the church, we will

have a **potluck lunch following our morning's worship service next Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**, followed by a brief presentation of financial issues and discussion.

**PARENTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN:** Parents and young children are invited to a cookout, fellowship, and games on **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:30pm to 7:00pm** at the church. This gathering is for children from birth to second grade. Please let Jessica Varney or Kay Rentz (421-5269) know that you'll be able to come.

**CALLING ALL HEROES!:** This summer our church will become "Hero Central," where kids "discover their strength in God." **VBS will be June 19-23.** Our online registration is available for children in 4K – 6<sup>th</sup> Grades at the following link: <http://2017.cokesburyvbs.com/pickenspresbyterian>. Please answer the call to volunteer for Vacation Bible School. **You are the hero Pickens needs right now!** Talk to Jessica Varney about volunteering and sign up on the poster in ASH.

**FOOD PANTRY: In May, 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: \$5,915.47 Building Fund: \$390.00.

**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.

<i>Serving:</i>	<u>May 14, 2017</u>	<u>May 21, 2017</u>
Flowers:	Bonnie Henderson	Carole Thomas
Beadle:	Nancy Goldsmith	David Chamlee
Toddler & Preschool Church:	Missie Townsend	Louise Hope
Refreshments:	Carol Marsh	Dianna Morris
Pulpit Elder:	Marvin Short	Liza Holder
Children's Moment:	Jessica Varney	Kay Rentz
Youth Meal:	<i>No Youth Meeting</i>	<i>End of Year Party – May 19<sup>th</sup></i>
Sanctuary Guild:	Cyndi Banks	Cyndi Banks
Crisis/Celebration Coordinator:	Tina LaFoy	Tina LaFoy
Ushers:	Betsey Chalmers & David Chamlee	Betsey Chalmers & David Chamlee
	Debbie Carmical & Della Black	Debbie Carmical & Della Black
Greeter:	Nancy Goldsmith	Nancy Goldsmith

**Lectionary readings for today:**

Acts 7: 55 – 60  
 Psalm 31: 1 – 5, 15 – 16  
 1 Peter 2: 2 – 10  
 John 14: 1 – 14

**Lectionary readings for next Sunday:**

Acts 17: 22 – 31  
 Psalm 66: 8 – 20  
 1 Peter 3: 13 – 22  
 John 14: 15 – 21

**Church Activities and Events This Week:**

Sunday, May 14	9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Worship <i>Family Promise arrives</i>
Monday, May 15	<i>Family Promise</i> 11:00am Centering Prayer 1:30pm Ministry for Caregivers
Tuesday, May 16	<i>Family Promise</i> 9:00am Jane B. Morris Service Fund 11:00am Wise & Wonderful Lunch 5:00pm CDV Class – McJunkin Room
Wednesday, May 17	<i>Family Promise</i> 9:45am CDC Children's Chapel 10:30am Bible Study 12:00pm Rotary Club 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 18	<i>Family Promise</i> 10:00am Book Club
Friday, May 19	<i>Office Closed</i> <i>Family Promise</i> 7:00pm <i>Youth Fellowship – Baseball Game</i>
Saturday, May 20	<i>Family Promise</i> 9:00am-1:00pm Session Retreat – Blue Ridge Electric
Sunday, May 21	<i>Family Promise</i> 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Worship 12:30pm Potluck Lunch and Presentation 5:30pm Cookout for Parents and Young Children

Online calendar: <http://73970421.view-events.com>

**Concerns and Celebrations of the Congregation:**

O.D. Hendricks' mother, Nellie Mae Maw Hendricks, passed away last Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, at Manna Health and Rehabilitation. Please keep O.D., Debbie, Lauren and the Hendricks family in your prayers at this time of grieving.

Donna Nabors has been transferred to Presbyterian Community – Foothills in Easley, Room 302, for rehab. Continue to pray for Donna as she regains her strength.