

*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.*

*Father, we praise you; through your Word and Holy Spirit you created all things. You reveal your salvation in all the world by sending to us Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Through your Holy Spirit you give us a share in your life and love. Fill us with the vision of your glory, that we may always serve and praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*

**Prelude**

*"Holy, Holy, Holy"*

*Dykes/Pinkston*

Bill Caruthers, clarinet

**Congregational Introit #324****"Open My Eyes That I May See"**

*Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.*

*Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready my God, Thy will to see;*

*Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, O Heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

People: **Your name is above every name, O God, we will worship you in the splendor of holiness.**

Leader: The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

People: **May the Lord give strength to your people, O God, may the Lord bless your people with peace.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

*Psalm 29*

**\*Hymn of Praise #139****"Come, Thou Almighty King"****\*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:**

**Holy, triune God, we confess that we have not lived for your glory. You came to love and save the world, but we condemn others in your name. You send us out to tell good news, but we hide from our calling in fear. Forgive us, God of grace. Give us new life in your Spirit so that we may serve you faithfully and live as your beloved children; 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**

*Jo Anne Gesssell*

**Prayer of Illumination**

*Larry Jennings*

**First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8** (*OT page 597 in your pew Bible*)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*"God So Loved the World"*

The Adult Choir

**Second Scripture Reading: Romans 8:12-17** (*NT page 147 in your pew Bible*)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon****"Encountering God"**

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 #411****"Arise, Your Light Is Come!"****Senior Recognition****Litany of Thanksgiving for Graduates**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord who guides us to face the challenges and opportunities of life.

People: **We thank you, Lord, for your leading, your encouragement, your gifts of educators and teachers, of friends and neighbors who have helped us and encouraged us in the opportunities of life.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord for the families and homes into which these graduating seniors were born and have been nurtured.

People: **We are grateful, Lord, for our children and our parents, our homes and families, where we learn to grow and experience all the wonders of this life.**

Leader: Lord, this is a time of joy for us as we watch these graduating seniors gather before us to celebrate the completion of this phase of their education and move out from here in new directions for their lives.

People: **We ask that you would be with them as they go and strengthen them as they take on new responsibilities in this world. Give them, and us, faith and encouragement as we try to be your servants who live in joy and thankfulness for all we have received.**

**Presentation of Gifts to Graduates**

## Prayers of the People

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

## Offering of Life

Offertory "Pastorale" Corelli  
(Hymn # 592)

## \*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

## \*Hymn #138

\*Charge and Benediction "An Irish Blessing" Nuss  
May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and the rain fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, and until we meet again,  
May the God who loves us all, may the God who loves us all,  
May the God who loves us all hold you in the palm of His hand.

\*Postlude "Praise Ye the Father" Gounod  
Worship Has Ended - Service Begins  
\*Those who are able may stand at these times.



## Congratulations to our Graduates!

### Kristen Mary Blackwood

Graduating from Pickens High School

Kristen will be attending Anderson University in the fall. She plans to major in Elementary Education.

### Adam Wade Chastain

Graduating from Pickens High School

Adam will be attending the Clemson Bridge Program. He is an honor graduate and is receiving a Life Scholarship.

### Jerod Connor Ferguson

Graduating from Easley High School

Jerod plans to travel after graduation and then go to college at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont.

### Drew McKinley Harden

Graduating from Pickens High School

Drew is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America and Skills USA through the Pickens County Career and Technology Center. He plans to attend Tri-County Technical College in the fall in the Industrial Electronics Technology program. He is a candidate for the CCP-CT grant from the South Carolina Mechanical Contractors Association which will be awarded in June of 2015.

### Michael Noah Morris

Graduating from Pickens High School

Noah is an honor graduate from Pickens High School and will be attending Horry Georgetown Technical College in the fall to major in Golf Course / Turf Management.

Please join us for a reception in honor of these graduates following worship.

## We also celebrate the following academic achievements:

Fred Gessell received a Masters degree from the University of Maryland.

Jonathan Dean Holder graduated from Presbyterian College with a Bachelor of Science in Economics and a minor in Accounting. He is now working at the Property and Environment Research Center in Bozeman, Montana.

Allene Hope graduated from the College of Charleston with a double major (Anthropology and Archaeology) as well as a minor (Classics). She graduated Magnum Cum Laude from the Honors College. She will go on for her masters in Bio-Archaeology to a location yet to be determined - probably in England somewhere.

Chelsea Lillard graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Management.

Chad Roper graduated from the Western Governors University with a Bachelor of Arts in Middle School Mathematics. He will be teaching 8th grade math at Belton Middle School starting in the fall.

DuPree Townsend graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences and a minor in Psychology, Biological and Physical Sciences.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 31, 2015

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. Please pick up a copy of our newsletter, "The Connection," which tells of our current activities. If you are interested in learning more about our ministry, please speak with the pastor after worship.

**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.

**CELEBRATION:** After 40+ faithful years and literally thousands of worship services, weddings, funerals and special services, our organist/pianist Donna Nabors will be retiring. Donna has etched her name as a pillar of strength, service and talent in the 137 year history of Pickens Presbyterian Church. We will never be able to adequately replace Donna or adequately thank her for the faithful service she has given to our church, although we will certainly give it a try! Please

join us for a celebration in All Saints' Hall on **Sunday, June 7, 2015** following worship on Donna's last Sunday as our organist.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** We are in the process of creating a nominating committee to nominate elders and trustees for the class of 2018. We are asking the congregation to suggest four people for the nominating committee. Two who will serve this year and the other two will be alternates, serving on the committee next year. Nominating forms are available in the narthex.

**SUMMER MUSIC:** Summer music will take the place of choir anthems starting June 7<sup>th</sup>. Please email Ashley Dodgens at [ashley13658@gmail.com](mailto:ashley13658@gmail.com) if you are interested in sharing a musical gift this summer. Please sign up by May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**CDC GOLF TOURNAMENT:** The PPC Child Development Center's golf tournament will be held on Friday morning **June 5<sup>th</sup>; 9:00am** registration and **9:30am** tee time. We need golfers, hole sponsors and volunteers. The tournament will be followed by a bar-b-cue lunch prepared by Larry Looper. Please see Dennis Schwab, Joe Padgett, Larry Jennings, Ralph Perkins or call Karen Durham at the CDC for more information. Thank you for your continuing support of the Child Development Center.

**SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE:** Beginning on **June 7<sup>th</sup>**, we will return to our Summer Worship Schedule. Summer Sunday School will be from **9:00am-9:45am**. Worship will begin at **10:00am** with a time of fellowship to follow in All Saints' Hall. An intergenerational class will be offered in ASH. We will be learning biblical lessons through the Veggie Tales series. Please join us. (Many adult Sunday School classes will continue meeting this summer.)

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** VBS will be June 22-26, 2015! Children in grades 4K through rising 6th grade are invited to attend this year's VBS, "G-Force: God's Love in Action." Speak to Jessica Varney or VBS co-chairs, Jessica Haines and Jennifer Roper if you would like to volunteer. Please register your child online at the following link: <http://2015.cokesburyvbs.com/pickenspresbyterian>.

**WEDNESDAY STUDY GROUP:** Our mid-week study group, led by Rev. Nath and Jessica Varney, will meet at 10:30 a.m. in the parlor. We will study chapters 2-3 of Revelation.

**FOOD PANTRY:** In May, we are asking for **cereal**, also any other food items to fill the boxes for hungry people who come to the church.

**FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT:** Requirements and Contributions from January 1 - May 24, 2015.

	Budget	Pledge/Non-pledge	Offset	Net
	<u>Requirements</u>	<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Difference</u>
General Fund	\$122,308	\$112,295	\$4,682	\$(5,331)
Building Fund	\$38,625	\$22,663	\$11,669	\$(4,293)

\* Offset Contributions include designated donations for specific programs (e.g. Youth Montreat) in addition to General Fund pledges/non-pledges and other general contributions. Building Fund Offsets are payments made by the CDC.

**GENERAL FUNDS UPDATE:** Offering last Sunday: General Fund: \$6,795.00. Building Fund: \$420.00.

**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>May 31, 2015</u>	<u>June 7, 2015</u>
Flowers:	Jo Anne Gessell	Allison Ranson
Beadle:	David Chamlee	Kristen Blackwood
Toddler & Preschool Church:	Meg Cole	
Refreshments:	Jane Townsend	Kay and Norm Rentz
Pulpit Elder:	Larry Jennings	Teri Lillard
Children's Moment:	Jo Anne Gessell	Rev. Nath Briley
Sanctuary Guild:	Jane Townsend	Marianne Holland
Crisis/Celebration Coordinator:	Carol Marsh	Carol Marsh and Barbara Caruthers
Ushers and Greeters:	Wil and Anna Simmons	Richard and Jennifer Harper
	Bill and Allison Ranson	Bill and Barbara Caruthers
Sunday School Superintendent:	Jessica Haines	

**Lectionary readings for today:**

Isaiah 6:1-8  
Psalm 29  
Romans 8:12-17  
John 3:1-17

**Lectionary readings for next Sunday:**

1 Samuel 8:4-11 (12-15) 16-20 (11:14-15)  
Psalm 138  
2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (11-13) 14-17  
Mark 4:26-34

**Church Activities and Events This Week:**

Sunday, May 31	9:30am 10:30am 11:00am 12:00pm	Sunday School Fellowship in All Saints' Hall Worship Senior Reception on Patio
Monday, June 1	11:00am 1:30pm 6:30pm	Centering Prayer Ministry for Caregivers Session Meeting
Tuesday, June 2	9:00am 5:00pm	Jane B. Morris Service Fund CDV Class
Wednesday, June 3	9:45am 10:30am 12:00pm	CDC Children's Chapel in Sanctuary Bible Study in the Parlor Rotary in All Saints' Hall
Thursday, June 4	10:00am 6:00pm	Book Club in the Parlor CDC Training (ASH)
Friday, June 5	9:00am	Office Closed CDC Golf Tournament
Sunday, June 7	9:00am 10:00am 11:00am	Sunday School Worship Celebration/Lunch for Donna Nabors' Retirement