

*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.**Loving God, help us to love others as Christ has loved us. Bring us into the spiritual joy of living our lives as your friend, and teach us to abide in your love, that we may show that love to the world. Amen.*

Prelude "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder" *arr. Martin*
Congregational Introit #115 (vs. 1) "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"

***Call to Worship** *Psalm 98*

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

People: **We will sing praises to the Lord with the lyre and the sound of the horn.**

Leader: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

People: **We will sing you a new song, O God, for the marvelous things you have done.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

***Hymn of Praise #264** "When in Our Music God Is Glorified"

***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 hope and joy, we confess that we continue to live in fear. In Christ, you claim us as children, but we disobey your commands. In Christ, you even call us friends, but we have not been faithful to you. Forgive us, God of grace. By the power of your Spirit help us to abide in your love and share that love with others; 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**

Rev. Nath

Prayer of Illumination

Jo Ann Taylor

First Scripture Reading: John 15: 9 – 17 (NT page 103 in your pew Bible)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

"Look at the World"

J Rutter

Adult Choir

Second Scripture Reading: Acts 10: 44 – 48 (NT page 122 in your pew Bible)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Astonishing!"

Reverend Nath Briley

The Church Responds in Faith

***Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed** (ecumenical, p. 15)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering of Life and Two Cents-a-Meal Offering**Offertory**

"Though I May Speak"

Tune: O Waly Waly, arr. Wood

***Doxology**

(Hymn # 592)

***Prayer of Dedication**

**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Invitation to the Table**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise. *(The prayer continues...)*

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

***Hymn #507**

"I Come with Joy"

***Charge and Benediction**

***Congregational Response #115(vs. 2)**

"Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"

***Postlude**

"Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared"

Sohren, arr. Blersch

Worship Has Ended - Service Begins

**Those who are able may stand at these times.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 6, 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.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of the wedding of Lauren Townsend and Chandler Dennis who were married on Friday, May 4th.

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

CIRCLE NEWS: The **Eve Circle** will hold their next meeting on **May 7th at 7:00pm** at Jean Bryson's home. **Carpoolers will meet at the church to depart by 6:30 pm.** They will be studying **Lesson 8** in the "Cloud of Witnesses" Bible Study.

MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING: We will be receiving The Mother's Day **Special Offering next Sunday, May 13th.** 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 will be available in the pews racks.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: The Wednesday morning Bible study will meet this coming week on **May 9th.** The group will continue studying **Mark Chapters 10 & 11.**

FAMILY PROMISE AT PPC: Beginning this evening through next Sunday, **May 13th,** 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.** After worship today, we'll convert the children's Sunday school rooms to homes for our guests. **Help if you are able.** What a blessing the Family Promise ministry has been to our church and community.

CDC HAPPENINGS!: The CDC will be hosting **Teacher Appreciation Week May 7th through 11th.** The Center's PTA has something special planned each day to show our appreciation. **Chasity would like to welcome members to come visit and say thank you** for the teachers' hard work and dedication to the church's ministry by serving God and the children. **Come by any time from 6:30am – 6:00pm and introduce yourself.**

SLEEPING FOR A CAUSE: On **Friday, May 18th,** our PPC Youth will be participating in **Family Promise of Pickens Co Cardboard Box City** in Gateway Park, Clemson SC. This event will raise homeless awareness and offer a powerful lesson in empathy. **Our youth are raising funds to enter a box in the event** that will be decorated and slept in overnight by folks in our congregation. **Donations may be made through May 18th.** Please make checks out to **Family Promise of Pickens Co.** Thank you for sharing what you have!

SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS: This summer our church will experience “Rolling River Rampage,” June 18th through 22nd. Our online registration is available for children in 4K – 6th Grades at the following link: <https://rrr.cokesburyvbs.com/ppc2018> . Please answer the call to volunteer for Vacation Bible School. See Carole Thomas if you are available to volunteer in any way.

CDC GOLF TOURNAMENT: The Child Development Center will be holding its 7th Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, June 8th, at the Pickens Country Club, registration at 9:00am and shotgun start at 9:30am. The proceeds will help the CDC better serve all of our children, including those with special needs. You can either enjoy a round of golf or simply sponsor a hole for a minimum donation of \$100. Team cost will be \$400. Various cash prizes will be awarded! **Breakfast and lunch will be provided. For more information, please contact Chasity Lesley at the CDC at 878-9953 or Liza Holder for registration.**

FOOD PANTRY: In May, we are asking for any canned meats (Spaghetios, tuna, chicken, etc.), 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: \$4,643. 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.

<i>Serving:</i>	<u>May 6, 2018</u>	<u>May 13, 2018</u>
Flowers:	Cindy Townsend	TBD
Beadle:	Debbie Carmical	Marian Osborne Berky
Toddler & Preschool Church:	Holly Harden	Ginger Chastain
Refreshments:	Della Black	Martha Brooks
Pulpit Elder:	Jo Ann Taylor	Doug Berky
Children's Moment:	Rev. Nath	Liz Stokes
Youth Meal:	Cindy Townsend	<i>No Youth Fellowship</i>
Sunday School Superintendent:	Cindy Townsend	Cindy Townsend
Sanctuary Guild:	Cyndi Banks	Cyndi Banks
Crisis/Celebration Coordinator:	Tina La Foy	Tina La Foy
Ushers:	Dianna and Butch Morris, Kathy and David Chamlee	Dianna and Butch Morris, Liza Holder and Aubrey Righetti
Greeter:	Carole Thomas	Carole Thomas
Communion Set Up:	Allison Ranson	
Communion Servers:	1 – Marvin, 2 – Doug, 3 – Jo Anne G, 4 – Bob, 5 – Carole, 6 - Bill	

Lectionary readings for today:

Acts 10: 44 – 48
Psalm 98
1 John 5: 1 – 6
John 15: 9 – 17

Lectionary readings for next Sunday:

Acts 1:15–17, 21–26
Psalm 1
1 John 5:9–13
John 17:6–19

Church Activities and Events This Week:

Sunday, May 6	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Fellowship in All Saints' Hall
	11:00am	Worship
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship
		<i>Family Promise arrives</i>
Monday, May 7		<i>Family Promise</i>
	11:00am	Centering Prayer
	1:30pm	Ministry for Caregivers
	7:00pm	Eve Circle
Tuesday, May 8		<i>Family Promise</i>
	9:00am	Jane B. Morris Service Fund
	5:00pm	CDV Class – McJunkin Room
Wednesday, May 9		<i>Family Promise</i>
	9:45am	CDC Children's Chapel
	10:30am	Bible Study
	12:00pm	Rotary Club
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 10		<i>Family Promise</i>
	10:00am	Book Club
	6:00pm	Mission & Outreach Committee Meeting
	6:30pm	Pickens Co Beekeepers Assoc.
Friday, May 11		<i>Family Promise</i>
		<i>Office Closed</i>
Saturday, May 12	2:00pm	Chil's Birthday Drop-In
Sunday, May 13	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Fellowship
	11:00am	Worship
	4:30pm	Confirmation Class

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

Concerns and Celebrations: