

# Pickens Presbyterian Church



**311 WEST MAIN STREET  
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671**

**“To the Glory of God, and  
the Service of People”**

### **The Church Gathers**

*The Session invites members to wear masks to worship and other gatherings, if you are more comfortable doing so in a group situation, and of course if you are sick to please stay home.*

#### **Chiming of the Hour**

#### **Concerns of the Church**

#### **Preparation for Worship**

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

#### **Prelude**

*“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”*

*Arr. Alfred V. Fedak*

#### **\*Call to Worship & Lighting the Advent Candle**

*The David McCormick Family*

And we all say together,

**All: *Let us walk in the light of the Lord.***

#### **Advent Wreath Song #12 (vs 5)**

*“People Look East”*

***5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming With the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.***

#### **Christmas Litany:**

In joyful expectation we pray to you our Savior and Redeemer. Blessed are you, O Lord our God! We bring you our praise and thanksgiving.

***You have opened the eyes of our hearts so that we may see. We are no longer bound by our blindness to live with no hope. You have invited us to be caught up in your vision of a new order of things. With Mary, we can say, "My soul magnifies the Lord...."***

Because Jesus took on our flesh, life itself is filled with new meaning and dignity. "The word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory...full of grace and truth."

***"From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace." Thank you, Lord.***

We are in your debt Lord. You are faithful when we are not. "Your faithfulness endures to all generations." Your promises are sure and your love is steadfast.

***We ask you Lord to teach us to love others as you have loved us. Lord hear our prayer.***

Thank you Lord for the blessings of home and family and friends. In and through them we learn the joy of loving and being loved.

***We praise you God Most High for these rich blessings.***

Lord we celebrate your coming to us in Jesus your Son. Prepare us for that joyful day when he will come again. In the meantime, accept our imperfect offerings - our broken selves - as we struggle to be faithful, as we yearn for your coming when all will be made new.

**All: *Glory and Honor and Praise and Thanksgiving be unto you O Lord Most High. Come to us soon, Emmanuel. Amen.***

\*Hymn #464

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

*The Church Confesses*

\*Invitation to Confession

\*Unison Prayer of Confession:

*Ever-present God, you became our Savior in all our distress. In all the ways we hurt, and all the ways we hurt others, in all the ways we feel neglected and all the ways we neglect others, in all the ways we cry out and all the ways we cause others to cry, you are with us, comforting us and holding us to account. In your love, redeem us once again. Lift us up and grant us your mercy, as you have throughout the generations. . . . (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

. . . in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. *Thanks be to God.*

\*Gloria Patri #579

*The Church Proclaims God’s Word*

Prayer for Illumination

*Pew Bible Page  
Elder Roy Stoddard*

1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 63.7-9

(OT 652)

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

\*Hymn #66

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading:

Matthew 2.13-23

(NT 2)

This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

*“The Gift of Nothing” – by Patrick McDonnell  
The Reverend Dr. David Torrey*

*The Church Responds in Faith*

Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed

(Traditional, p. 14)

*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 worshiped 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.*

**Special Music**

*“Holy, Holy, Holy”  
Anna Chastain – Clarinet*

*Dykes*

**Offering**

**Offertory**

*“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” Setting, Margarethe Hokanson*

**\*Doxology #592**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

**Invitation to the Lord’s Table**

**Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts. *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

Holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God:

. . . With people of faith from all times and places, we lift our hearts in joyful praise, for you alone are holy:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

. . . We trust him to overcome every power to hurt or divide us, so that, when you bring in your promised kingdom, we will celebrate victory with him.

*Remembering the Lord Jesus, we break bread and share one cup, announcing his death for the sins of the world, and telling his resurrection to all people and nations.*

**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.*

**Breaking of the Bread**

**Communion of the People**

**Prayer after Communion**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, *and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!*

Bless the Lord, O my soul, *and forget not all God's benefits.*

**\*Hymn #391**

*“Take My Life and Let it Be”*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**

*“Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow” African American Spiritual*

*(Please remain seated until worship ends with the end of the Postlude)*

**Worship Has Ended – Service Begins**

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

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** You are encouraged to share prayer concerns in worship, or on the pew rack cards placing them in the offering plates, or email the church office – [pickenspres@bellsouth.net](mailto:pickenspres@bellsouth.net).

**Prayer Concern List**

*Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. -- Philippians 4:6 (NRSV)*

*(Prayer concern list policy: Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks, after which they may be either renewed for another 4 weeks, or moved to the Long-Term Prayer Concern List)*

<b><u>Name (relationship)</u></b>	<b><u>Concern</u></b>
Danny Dyer (Darrell Cook’s cousin).....	cancer
Butch Morris.....	health concerns
Ken Acker.....	health concerns
Jimmy Gilliam.....	health concerns

**Eastern Kentucky, Missouri and West Virginia floods.** PDA support: gifts to [DR000191](#)

**California wildfires.** PDA support: gifts to [DR000165](#)

**Peace in Ukraine.** PDA support: gifts to [DR000156](#) or text PDAUKR to 41444

**Hurricane Ian victims.** PDA support: gifts to [DR000194](#)

*Make checks payable to Presbyterian Church (USA) and put the gift number in the memo line.*

**Long Term Prayer Concern List**

“Gig” Alexander, Mary Sue Day, Jane Gillespie, Faye Padgett, Jay Pence, Jo Ann Taylor, Melvin Tolliver (Deb Holtel’s uncle), John & Tiffanie Torrey (David’s brother and sister-in-law)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 1, 2023

**Blessings and greetings to one and all. In the name of Christ, you are welcome today and every day!** *If you are visiting, we offer a special word of welcome and invite you to participate with us in mission and ministry. Please use the Visitor Card in the Pew rack to register your presence with us. If you want the church newsletter, contact the church office to add your email address.*

**CIRCLE MEETINGS:** The Sarah Emily Circle will meet this Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 10:00am in All Saints' Hall. The Eve Circle will meet Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00pm in All Saints' Hall. Both will be studying Lesson Five in the Horizons Bible Study, "Sabbath and Servitude." All are invited to attend!

**YOUTH MEALS:** If you are willing to help our Youth by providing a Sunday evening meal for their Fellowship time, please email Cindy Townsend at [ctownsend65@gmail.com](mailto:ctownsend65@gmail.com) with the date that you have available. Thank you!

**CENTERING PRAYER:** All are welcome every Monday morning from 11:00am – 12:00 noon in the church parlor. We begin with Lectio Divina, a way of praying scripture; followed by a 20-minute silent centering prayer time.

**UPDATED DIRECTORY INFO:** If any of your contact information has changed, please email the church office, [pickenspres@bellsouth.net](mailto:pickenspres@bellsouth.net), or you may also reply to the Cliffnotes with any updates. Thank you!

### GENERAL FUND UPDATE:

Offering last Sunday: General Fund: \$7,120., Building Fund: \$0.  
Total General Offering EOY 2022: \$272,611.12, includes \$37,710 online.  
Total General Expenses EOY 2022: \$223,233.75.

**FOOD PANTRY: Ongoing need: fruit juices, spices, shelf-stable milk, canned meats, or any other non-perishables** to fill the boxes for the hungry in our community. Thank you for your generosity!

**LEGACY PARTNERSHIP PROJECT**, A Partnership with Foothills Presbytery, and the Presbyterian Foundation, is a time of discernment for congregations to identify gifts of the congregation, reflect upon their impact to the community, and plan for the future. Discernment is a gift from God, mediated through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

On Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, the Legacy Partnership Project Team (LPP) will have their first meeting. It will be an exciting meeting as we begin the roughly six-month process of reading, praying, discussing, and discerning the future direction God has in mind for the congregation of Pickens Presbyterian. **We invite everyone who desires, to join us in reading Joan Gray's "Sailboat Church". Please use this tear-off and place in the offering plate for copies.**

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I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ copies of Joan Gray's "*Sailboat Church: Helping Your Church Rethink Its Mission and Practice*"

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

## DR. TORREY'S SCHEDULE AND OFFICE HOURS:

**Office hours:** Tues - Thurs 10:00am - 1:00pm, unless something takes him out of the office. If you want to just stop by, you can find him then. Afternoons/Evenings he will be visiting members, visitors, community members, or attending meetings. He will be in town Tuesday morning through Sunday afternoon. You can reach him anytime at:

**Email:** [dtorrey219@gmail.com](mailto:dtorrey219@gmail.com) **Phone:** 864.878.9422 ext. 2, 803.317.3331 (cell)

### Lectionary readings for today:

Pulpit Elder: Roy Stoddard

Isaiah 61.10 – 62.3

Psalm 148

Galatians 4.4 – 7

Luke 2.22 – 40

### Lectionary readings for next Sunday:

Pulpit Elder:

Isaiah 42.1 – 9

Psalm 29

Acts 10.34 – 43

Matthew 3.13 – 17

## Church Activities and Events This Week:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, Jan 1	9:30am 10:30am 11:00am	Sunday School Fellowship Time Worship Service – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas	All Saints' Hall
Monday, Jan 2	11:00am	<i>Office Closed – New Year's Holiday</i> Centering Prayer	Parlor
Tuesday, Jan 3	9:00am 10:00am	Jane B Morris Service & Fuel Fund Sarah Emily Circle	Church Office All Saints' Hall
Wednesday, Jan 4	8:30am 9:45am 10:30am 4:30pm	Food Pantry Children's Chapel Bible Study Choir Rehearsal	Church Office Sanctuary All Saints' Hall Sanctuary
Thursday, Jan 5	12:00pm	DEADLINE – Bulletin & Cliffnotes	
Friday, Jan 6		<i>Office Closed</i>	
Saturday, Jan 7			
Sunday, Jan 8	9:30am 10:30am 11:00am 12:30pm 5:30pm	Sunday School Fellowship Time Worship Service – Baptism of the Lord Sunday Worship Committee Meeting Youth Fellowship	All Saints' Hall All Saints' Hall

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

# PICKENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ministers – All Members  
Transitional Pastor – The Reverend Dr. David Torrey  
Parish Associate – The Reverend Beverly Kelly  
Church Administrator/Treasurer – Cyndi Banks  
Interim Choir Director – Dr. Marianne Holland  
Interim Organist – Steve Ellison  
Director of Child Development Center – Chasity Lesley

## SESSION & COMMITTEES

<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>
Deb Holtel	Ken Acker	Tina LaFoy
Len Josefson	Roger Gettys	Donna Owen
Dr. Jim Mahanes	Rocky Harden	Debbie Teeple
Matt McCann	Roy Stoddard	Cindy Townsend
	Ken Townsend	
Trustee: Leo Tilley	Trustee: Allison Ranson	Trustee: Debbie Carmical

Moderator: Rev. Dr. David A. Torrey

[dtorrey219@gmail.com](mailto:dtorrey219@gmail.com)

Phone: 864.878.9422 ext. 2, 803.317.3331 (cell)

**Clerk of Session:** Matt McCann

**Assistant Clerk of Session:** Deb Holtel

**Deacons:** Betsey Chalmers and Austin Townsend

**Building and Grounds:** Roy Stoddard (Moderator), Rocky Harden, Len Josefson

**Child Development Center:** Jim Mahanes

**Christian Education:** Cindy Townsend (Moderator)

**Church Office and Administration:** Donna Owen

**Congregational Care:** Deb Holtel (Moderator)

**Evangelism and Membership:** Tina LaFoy (Moderator), Len Josefson

**Financial Oversight:** Ken Acker (Moderator), Donna Owen, Ken Townsend

**Mission and Outreach:** Roger Gettys (Moderator), Tina LaFoy

**Worship:** Debbie Teeple (Moderator)

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE CONGREGATION

Presbyterian Women Moderator – Nancy Goldsmith

Sarah/Emily Circle Co- Moderators – Christa Schwab and Kay Tilley

Eve Circle Moderators – Sherry Schell and Debbie Carmical

## THE GREAT ENDS OF THE CHURCH

(Book of Order) G-1.0200

The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind  
The shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God  
The maintenance of divine worship  
The preservation of the truth  
The promotion of social righteousness  
The exhibition of the Kingdom to the world

Pickens Presbyterian Church • 311 W Main Street • Pickens, SC 29671

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