

# Pickens Presbyterian Church



11 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

*"The Heavens Declare His Glory"*

Robert J. Powell

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

David and Peggy Torrey

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 Day Litany:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

*What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.*

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

*The true light, which enlightens everyone, has come into the world.*

To all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God.

*And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.*

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.*

### The Church Confesses

#### \*Invitation to Confession

#### \*Unison Prayer of Confession:

*We confess, Holy Creator, that we care more for ourselves than this world you made. We confess, Newborn Savior, that we focus on our own wants at the expense of the*

*needs of others. We confess, Abundant Spirit, that we push you aside, scoffing at the idea that you are actually at work. Forgive us and guide us as we celebrate your birth, and shape us to be more like you. . . . (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*

*Pew Bible Page  
Elder Jim Mahanes*

Prayer for Illumination

1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading: Isaiah 52.7-10 (OT 642)

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

\*Hymn #38 *"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"*

2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading: John 1.1-14 (NT 86)

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

\*Hymn #37 *"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"*

Sermon *"Full of Grace and Truth"*  
The Reverend Dr. David Torrey

### *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.*

Special Music *"Gesù Bambino"* Arr. Tom Fettke  
Steve Ellison – Piano

Offering

Offertory *"Break Forth, O Beauteous Light"* Arr. Tim Doran

\*Doxology #592

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer** (debts/Debtors)

*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.*

**\*Hymn #29**

*“Go Tell It on the Mountain”*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**

*“What Child Is This”*

*Arr. Paul Manz*

*(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)*

**Name (relationship)**

**Concern**

Danny Dyer (Darrell Cook’s cousin).....	cancer
Chad Cole.....	health concerns
Butch Morris.....	health concerns
Ken Acker.....	health concerns
Jimmy Gilliam.....	health concerns
Ann Cooper (friend of Jessica McCormick).....	health concerns
Sonny Brooks (brother-in-law of Judy Cook & Nancy Goldsmith).....	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

December 25, 2022

**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.*

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED:** The church office will be closed on Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.

**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!

**MISSION & OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:** You may still find our annual Giving Tree in All Saints' Hall with ways you can contribute to international gifts through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog like famine relief, farm aid, education. There will also be opportunities to help with Christmas gifts for our Family Promise families. Thanks to you, the church, for blessing others out of our abundance. Go to this link for more information: <https://presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org/>

**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!

**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)

**GENERAL FUND UPDATE:**

Offering last Sunday: General Fund: **\$20,599.30**, Building Fund: **\$40.**

**Contributions Needed Weekly to Maintain 2022 Budget: \$4,492.13.**

Total General Offering Year-to-Date: **\$264,554.81, includes \$37,110 online.**

Total General Expenses Year-to-Date: **\$222,163.15.**

**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!

**Lectionary readings for today:**

Pulpit Elder: Jim Mahanes

Isaiah 52.7 – 10

Psalm 98

Hebrews 1.1 – 4 [5 – 12]

John 1.1 – 14

**Lectionary readings for next Sunday:**

Pulpit Elder: Roy Stoddard

Isaiah 61.10 – 62.3

Psalm 148

Galatians 4.4 – 7

Luke 2.22 – 40

**Church Activities and Events This Week:**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, Dec 25	9:30am 10:30am 11:00am	Sunday School Fellowship Time Worship Service – Christmas Day	All Saints' Hall
Monday, Dec 26		<i>Office Closed – Christmas Holiday</i>	
Tuesday, Dec 27	9:00am	Jane B Morris Service & Fuel Fund	Church Office
Wednesday, Dec 28	8:30am 9:45am	Food Pantry Children's Chapel	Church Office Sanctuary
Thursday, Dec 29	12:00pm	DEADLINE – Bulletin & Cliffnotes	
Friday, Dec 30		<i>Office Closed</i>	
Saturday, Dec 31			
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

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

**SERMON NOTES:**

# 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

Office: 864-878-9422 • Website: [www.pickenspresbyterian.org](http://www.pickenspresbyterian.org) • Email: [pickenspres@bellsouth.net](mailto:pickenspres@bellsouth.net)

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