

Pickens Presbyterian Church

The
Season
of
Lent



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

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" Arr. Gregory Hamilton

***Call to Worship**

Wait for the Lord.

Our souls wait and hope in God's word.

Hope in the Lord.

With God there is steadfast love, and great power to redeem.

*Our souls wait for the Lord, more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.*

ALL: Come, let us worship God.

Prayer of Praise**Hymn # 101**

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

The Church Confesses***Invitation to Confession*****Unison Prayer of Confession:**

God of resurrection, We know the power of death. We have seen its works, we have felt its sting. We have been to the valley of despair, and felt like there was no chance for life. We do not believe in your power to resurrect. We do not believe in your power to redeem our pain, and fashion something beautiful in this world. Forgive us. We cry from the depths — however faint our call may be, we pray you hear our voice. . . .

(silent, personal confession) Amen.

***Kyrie #572**

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us.

Christ, Have Mercy Upon Us.

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us.

***Assurance of Pardon**

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

***Gloria Patri #579**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen, Amen.*

The Church Proclaims God's Word**Prayer for Illumination**

*Pew Bible Page
Elder Tina LaFoy*

1st Scripture Reading:

Ezekiel 37.1-14

(OT 759)

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

Psalter

Psalm 130

1. *From the depths I cry to You,
Savior, Lord, my prayer receive;
Who can stand the press of sin?
Those who in Your grace believe.
Mark not my iniquity,
Lest the burden break my heart;
Not my heart alone, but Yours;
In your mercy, bear my part.*

2. *For the Lord my soul awaits;
In God's word, my hope is laid;
As the sentries by the dawn
For their patience are repaid.
Hope in God, O Israel;
God, whose steadfast love is sure;
Who for us redemption brings;
God, whose mercies shall endure.*

Morgan, Michael. *The Psalter for Christian Worship*, Revised Edition (p. 199). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation © 2010.

2nd Scripture Reading:

John 11.1-45

(NT 98)

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

Sermon

"Blind, But Now We See"

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.

Anthem

"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" Wilson, adapt by R. Smith
PPC Adult Choir, Carolyn Few Yarborough – Soloist

Offering

Offertory

"Light for a Dark World (Medley)"

Arr. Marilyn White

***Doxology #592**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***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 # 388

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

***Lenten Litany and Benediction**

*Christ, as a light illumine and guide me.
Christ, as a shield overshadow me.
Christ under me;
Christ over me;
Christ beside me on my left and my right.
This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.
Be in the heart of each to whom I speak;
in the mouth of each who speaks unto me.
This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.
Christ as a light;
Christ as a shield;
Christ beside me On my left and my right.*

Postlude

“Since I Have Been Redeemed”

Edwin O. Excell

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

Worship Has Ended – Service Begins

**Those who are able please stand in body or spirit.*

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.

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)

<u>Name (relationship)</u>	<u>Concern</u>
Shannon Nolan (Jimmy’s uncle)	health concerns
Deb Holtel’s grandson	expecting baby
Mark Holliday (Paula Owens’ brother)	health concerns
Barbara & Joe Christopher.....	health concerns
Mary Gaillard	health concerns
Kay Tilley	health concerns
Jeff Taylor (Jo Ann’s son).....	health concerns

Legacy Partnership Project Team

**new this week*

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

Earthquake in Syria/Turkey. PDA support: gifts to [DR999999-ST Earthquake](#).

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, Doug Finney, Jane Gillespie, Scott Kelly, Butch Morris, Faye Padgett, Patti Rivers, Jo Ann Taylor, Melvin Tolliver (Deb Holtel’s uncle), John & Tiffanie Torrey (David’s brother and sister-in-law), Sam Trotter (Betsey’s brother)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 welcome and invite you to participate with us in mission and ministry.* If you want the church newsletter, contact the church office to add your email address.

<u>Serving:</u>	<u>March 26, 2023</u>	<u>April 2, 2023</u>
Pulpit Elder:	Tina LaFoy	Debbie Teeple
Sanctuary Guild:	Debbie Hendricks	Kathy & David Chamlee
Ushers:	Dianna & Butch Morris	Judy & Ken Acker
Refreshments:	Tina LaFoy	<i>Youth Bake Sale</i>
Communion Servers:		TBD

<u>Lectionary readings for today:</u>	<u>Lectionary readings for next Sunday:</u>
Pulpit Elder: Tina LaFoy	Pulpit Elder: Debbie Teeple
Ezekiel 37.1 – 14	Psalm 118.1 – 2, 19 – 29
Psalm 130	Matthew 21.1 – 11
Romans 8.6 – 11	
John 11.1 – 45	

Church Activities and Events This Week:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, March 26	9:30am	Sunday School	
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	All Saints’ Hall
	10:20am	Choir Rehearsal	ASH
	11:00am	Worship Service – 5 th Sunday in Lent	ASH
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship	ASH
Monday, March 27	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	11:00am	Centering Prayer	TBD
Tuesday, March 28	9:00am	Jane B Morris Service Fund	
	6:30pm	Upcountry Quilters Guild	ASH
Wednesday, March 29	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	9:45am	Children’s Chapel	All Saints’ Hall
	10:30am	Bible Study	ASH
	4:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	ASH
	5:30pm	LPP Team Meeting	ASH
Thursday, March 30	12:00pm	DEADLINE – Bulletin & Cliffnotes	
	4:00pm	Sailboat Church Discussion Group	All Saints’ Hall
	6:00pm	Girl Scouts	ASH
Friday, March 31		<i>Office Closed</i>	
Saturday, April 1			
Sunday, April 2	9:30am	Sunday School	
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	All Saints’ Hall
	10:20am	Choir Rehearsal	ASH
	11:00am	Worship Service – Palm Sunday	ASH
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship	ASH

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

Maundy Thursday: Family: _____ # Attending: _____

Easter breakfast: Family: _____ # Attending: _____

SPECIAL HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

Maundy Thursday April 6th @ 6:15pm with a simple meal of soup, bread and fruit followed by worship @ 7:00pm with Communion.

Good Friday April 7th @ 7:00pm

Easter Sunrise April 9th @ 8:00-8:45am

Easter Breakfast @ 9:00-9:45am – featuring a full breakfast

Easter Egg Hunt @ 10:15am

Easter Worship @ 11:00am

Please use the tear-off above to indicate how many will be present for the special meals and leave in the offering plate. **Reply no later than April 2nd.**

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: Youth will meet this evening, at 5:30pm in All Saints' Hall.

SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL: now meeting in the McJunkin classroom.

ASHERS SUNDAY SCHOOL: now meeting in the Carmical Room.

SAILBOAT CHURCH DISCUSSION GROUP: continues this Thursday, March 30th at 4:00pm.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: Our friends at Griffin Ebenezer invites all to a Movie Night on Friday, March 31st, at 6:00pm. Refreshments will be served.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TIME: Please join us in All Saints' Hall at 10:30am for food and fellowship. A schedule is posted on the kitchen refrigerator. **Please sign up to help out.**

WARMTH AND COMFORT MINISTRY: **Warmth and Comfort for the Elderly Easter card drive due next Monday, April 3rd.** See the Cliffnotes for more information.

GENERAL FUND UPDATE:

Offering last Sunday: General Fund: **\$1,305.**, Building Fund: **\$120.00.**

Total General Offering Year-to-Date: **\$52,099.04, includes \$4,070 online.**

Total General Expenses Year-to-Date: **\$62,204.34.**

Contributions Needed Weekly to Maintain 2023 Budget: \$5,316.60.

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

PPC CHRISTIAN ED BUILDING USE QUESTIONNAIRE: The CE Building will be restored with considerations for additional activities/ministries, and we would like your input for any new or related groups to make use of these spaces:

Name: _____

Type of Activity: _____

Describe briefly what you have in mind: _____

***Sailboat Church: Chapter 7* “From Rowboat to Sailboat: Raising the Sails”**

By God’s grace any church can sail, and any Christian can learn to be a sailor. What follows are some of the postures and practices that act as spiritual sails.

Prayer, the Mainsail. God has chosen prayer as the main way God’s power flows from heaven to earth. We do not give God orders; rather we hold hands out to receive what God wants to do in and through us.

Obedience. The bottom line is that God is meant to lead and we are meant to follow in this thing we call church. When God is in control, we will usually find ourselves sailing.

Discernment. God is very willing to guide us if we are willing to be guided. This willingness requires us to slow down, have the inner intention to seek God’s will, learn to be sensitive to signs of God’s activity and calling in the world, and develop some facility in listening to God’s voice in Scripture, circumstances, and community.

Sacrifice. If we want the Spirit of God to be the prime mover in our church, there are some things that will have to go:

- The Need for Control.
- The Need to be Comfortable.

Trust God’s Provision. The Christian life was never meant to be something that we do ourselves. God desires to have a deep and intimate partnership with us in blessing the whole world. The deeper we allow God to go with us, the more we will experience God’s guidance and provision in every area of our lives. Prayer is the means by which this process goes forward. Prayer opens the door for God’s grace and provision to flow into our lives, into the church, and into the world.

Expectant Gathering. Whenever believers meet, we can expect the Spirit of Jesus to meet us and to work in us and through us. God invites us into fellowship of the covenant community to be transformed and empowered.

Thanksgiving and Testimony. When the wind of the Spirit begins to blow and the church begins to sail, it is important to give God the glory. Jesus told us not to hide our lights under a bushel basket, but to let them shine so that all might see. Testimony is one of the ways we do this to the glory of God.

The wind of the Spirit is blowing today just as much as when the first believers sailed out to make disciples of all nations. God has everything we need to be faithful in our mission and discipleship and is more than willing to give it to us as we humbly allow ourselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Raise the sails and cast off!

Team observations and thoughts

- There are times you need to row. There are times the wind may not blow. It is hard to be a sailboat church is more difficult to convert.
- By God’s Grace, even the church can sail.
- We’re to be looking to the possibility of sailing, despite the ones who do not want to let go.
- We can’t row our way to sailing.
- Obedient part is hard to comprehend.
- Many folks in our congregation may not embrace this sailboat church.
- To do something different is a challenge. To place our trust in someone other than ourselves is uncomfortable.
- Nobody is comfortable with discomfort, but if everyone is comfortable, we’re doing something wrong.
- Are we willing to risk and fail?

PICKENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

SESSION & COMMITTEES

<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Ken Acker	Tina LaFoy	Nancy Goldsmith
Roger Gettys	Donna Owen	David McCormick
Rocky Harden	Debbie Teeple	Robert Simms
Roy Stoddard	Cindy Townsend	Starla Taylor
Ken Townsend		
Trustee: Allison Ranson	Trustee: Debbie Carmical	Trustee: Tim Crocker

Moderator: Rev. Dr. David A. Torrey
dtorrey219@gmail.com

Phone: 864.878.9422 ext. 2, 803.317.3331 (cell)

Clerk of Session: Kay Rentz

Co-Clerk of Session: Karen Brown

Building and Grounds: Roy Stoddard and David McCormick (Co-Moderators)

Child Development Center: Jim Mahanes, Roy Stoddard, and David McCormick

Christian Education: Cindy Townsend and Robert Simms (Co-Moderators)

Administration: Budget: Ken Acker,

Administration: Donna Owen,

Finance: Ken Townsend

Fellowship and Care: Tina LaFoy and Nancy Goldsmith (Co-Moderators)

Missions: Roger Gettys and Rocky Harden (Co-Moderators)

Worship: Debbie Teeple and Starla Taylor (Co-Moderators)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women Moderator – Nancy Goldsmith

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

Eve Circle Co-Moderators – Sherry Schell and Debbie Carmical

THE GREAT ENDS OF THE CHURCH

(Book of Order) F-1.0304

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 of Heaven to the world

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

Office: 864-878-9422 • Website: www.pickenspresbyterian.org • Email: pickenspres@bellsouth.net

Facebook: www.facebook.com/PickensPresbyterian • Twitter: www.twitter.com/PickensPres •

Instagram: www.instagram.com/pickenspresbyterian