

# Pickens Presbyterian Church

311 WEST MAIN STREET  
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

*"To the Glory of God, and the Service of People"*

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Eleven o'clock

## **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**

*"Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above"*

*Arr. Dan Forrest*

### **\*Call to Worship**

Our God gathers us here.

*We have been tested, we have suffered, but God has brought us through.*

Come, let us tell of what God has done for us!

*We cried aloud to God, and God listened and answered.*

Therefore, we will praise God with shouts of joy!

**ALL:** *Come, let us worship God.*

### **\*Prayer of Praise**

### **\*Hymn (see #372, pg 7)**

*"O for a World"*

## **The Church Confesses**

### **\*Invitation to Confession**

### **\*Prayer of Confession:**

*Holy One, We love you imperfectly: we do not always keep your commandments. We love each other imperfectly: we hurt those you call us to love through our actions and our inaction. We love ourselves imperfectly: we struggle to believe that we are truly your children, made in your image. Forgive us. By the power of your Spirit, make us more faithful that we might live as Christ has shown us, reflecting your love and grace.*  
... (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**

*Elder Ken Townsend*

**1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading:**      Acts 17.22-31

The Word of God for the People of God. *Thanks be to God.*

**Psalter**

Psalm 66a

*Tune: For the Beauty of the Earth*

*1. Make a joyful noise to God!  
All creation sings Your praise!  
Great Your wonders here displayed,  
Unexcelled throughout our days.  
Glorious is Your sacred name,  
Ages old, yet still the same.*

*2. Come and see what God has done;  
Great the blessings to the just;  
Walked the chosen through the sea;  
Brought their enemies to dust.  
Let us lift a thankful voice  
For God's mercies, and rejoice!*

*3. Bless the Lord, our refuge sure;  
Let your song of praise be heard!  
By whose justice, we are tried;  
By whose grace, our guilt deferred.  
When our life's sure end shall come,  
Bring us to Your heav'nly home.*

Morgan, Michael. *The Psalter for Christian Worship*, Revised Edition (p. 106). Presbyterian Publishing Corporation © 2010. Used by permission.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading:**      1 Peter 3.13-22

The Word of God for the People of God. *Thanks be to God.*

**Sermon**

*"God and Parent of All"*  
**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**

*"And Can It Be"*  
*PPC Adult Choir*

*Dan Forrest*

**Offering**

**Offertory**

*"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"*    *Joseph Parry, Arr. Larry Shackley*

**\*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 (See #275, pg 6 & 7)**      *"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**      *"And Can It Be"*      Arr. Mark Hayes  
(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.*

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**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Please share prayer concerns and celebrations in worship, or on the pew rack cards placing them in the offering plates, or email the church office – [admin@pickenspresbyterian.org](mailto:admin@pickenspresbyterian.org).

**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>
Joe Lee (Ivy's nephew) .....	health concerns
"Kappy" Kelly (Allison Ranson's sister) .....	health concerns
Bill & Phyllis Durham .....	health concerns
Roxanne Waling (friend of Sherry Schell) .....	health concerns
Bill Patterson (Bob Allison's cousin).....	health concerns
Ron Erickson.....	health concerns
Legacy Partnership Project Team.....	discernment

*\*new this week*

**Peace in Ukraine.** PDA support: gifts to [DR000156](#) or text PDAUKR to 41444.  
*Make checks payable to Presbyterian Church USA and put the gift number in the memo line.*

**Long Term Prayer Concern List**

"Gig" Alexander, Barbara & Joe Christopher, Mary Sue Day, Doug Finney, Jane Gillespie, Scott Kelly, Faye Padgett, Patti Rivers, Jo Ann Taylor, Melvin Tolliver (Deb Holtel's uncle), John & Tiffanie Torrey (David's brother and sister-in-law)

## 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.* Contact the church office to begin receiving our newsletter.

<b><u>Serving:</u></b>	<b><u>May 14, 2023</u></b>	<b><u>May 21, 2023</u></b>
Pulpit Elder:	Ken Townsend	Tina LaFoy
Sanctuary Guild:	Mary Gaillard	Mary Gaillard
Ushers:	Sharon Stark & Jim Mahanes	Nancy Goldsmith & Debbie Teeple
Refreshments:	Allison & Bill Ranson	Ginger Chastain
Communion Servers:		

### **Lectionary readings for today:**

Pulpit Elder: Ken Townsend  
 Acts 17.22–31  
 Psalm 66.8–20  
 1 Peter 3.13–22  
 John 14.15–21

### **Lectionary readings for next Sunday:**

Pulpit Elder: Tina LaFoy  
 Acts 1.6–14  
 Psalm 68.1–10, 32–35  
 1 Peter 4.12–14; 5.6–11  
 John 17.1–11

### **Church Activities and Events This Week:**

<b><u>Day</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
Sunday, May 14	9:30am	Sunday School	
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	All Saints' Hall
	10:20am	Choir Rehearsal	ASH
	11:00am	Worship Service – 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	ASH
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship	ASH
Monday, May 15	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	11:00am	Centering Prayer	All Saints' Hall
Tuesday, May 16	8:00 – 11:00am	<b><i>Office Closed – Power Interruption</i></b>	
Wednesday, May 17	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	9:00am	Jane B Morris Service Fund	Church Office
	10:00am	Children's Chapel	All Saints' Hall
	10:30am	Bible Study	ASH
	4:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	ASH
	5:30pm	LPP Team Meeting	ASH
Thursday, May 18	12:00pm	<b>DEADLINE</b> – Bulletin & Cliffnotes	
	4:00pm	Sailboat Church Discussion Group	All Saints' Hall
	6:00pm	Girl Scouts	Education Bldg
Friday, May 19		<i>Office Closed</i>	
Saturday, May 20			
Sunday, May 21	9:30am	Sunday School	
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	All Saints' Hall
	10:20am	Choir Rehearsal	ASH
	11:00am	Worship Service – 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	ASH
	12:30pm	Session Meeting	ASH
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship	

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

*The PPC Adult Choir will be singing an anthem today by Dan Forrest, a composer who lives in the Greenville area, and serves as the artist in Residence at Mitchell Road Presbyterian Church. Dr. Forrest, who studied composition under Dwight Gustafson at Bob Jones, James Barnes at the University of Kansas, and Alice Parker, has written many compositions for choral groups and church choirs which are now performed all over the world. The choir hopes you will enjoy a new sound in Dr. Forrest's music.*

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

**SAILBOAT CHURCH READING GROUP:** continues this Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.

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

**GRADUATION SUNDAY:** We will be honoring our graduating High School Seniors, Emily Kilgen and June Simms, during the worship service on Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. We will also recognize graduates from other programs of study (high school, college, graduate school, etc.), in our church communications. **Please email the the graduate's information: where graduating, course of study, etc. to [admin@pickenspresbyterian.org](mailto:admin@pickenspresbyterian.org), by Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>.** You may reply to the Cliffnotes email as well.

**PENTECOST SUNDAY:** Pentecost Sunday, or Whitsunday, will be celebrated on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Red is used that day recalling the fiery tongues that descended upon the apostles when they received the Holy Spirit. It is customary to wear red that day. Please remember to wear something red for Pentecost Sunday!

**SPECIAL EVENT AT GRIFFIN EBENEZER:** Our friends at Griffin Ebenezer Baptist Church have invited all to a special **Juneteenth Day of Remembrance celebration on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, with worship at 10:00am, food and vendors in the Fellowship Hall from Noon until 4:00pm.** Special Guest Speaker will be Angela Aagard, Director of the Clemson Area African-American Museum.

**GENERAL FUND UPDATE:**

Offering last Sunday: General Fund: **\$6,528.00**, Building Fund: **\$0.00**.

Total General Offering Year-to-Date: **\$78,406.77, includes \$6,400 online.**

Total General Expenses Year-to-Date: **\$99,633.36.**

**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!

**NEW EMAILS FOR OFFICE STAFF:**

David Torrey: [pastor@pickenspresbyterian.org](mailto:pastor@pickenspresbyterian.org)

Cyndi Banks: [admin@pickenspresbyterian.org](mailto:admin@pickenspresbyterian.org)

Linda Banks: [office@pickenspresbyterian.org](mailto:office@pickenspresbyterian.org)

## 275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er  
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be  
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -  
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

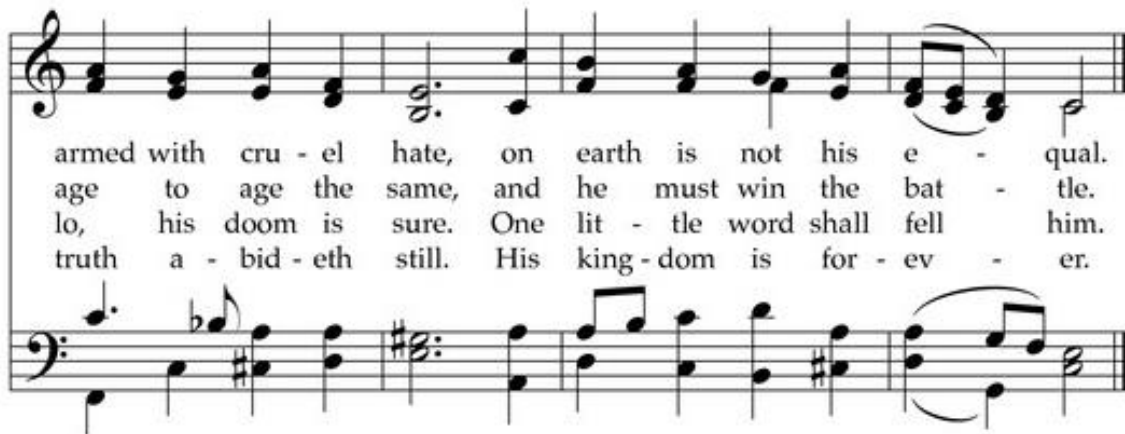
fail - ing. Our help - er he, a - mid the flood of  
 los - ing, were not the right man on our side, the  
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his  
 bid - eth. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth  
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ  
 truth to tri - umph through us. The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we  
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and  
 Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sab - a - oth his name, from  
 trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure, for  
 mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill; God's

Long before Isaac Watts began to Christianize the Psalms, Martin Luther had already done so when he created the text and tune for this, his most famous hymn, which is based on Psalm 46. Luther encouraged metrical versions of psalms as well as chanted psalms and new hymns.

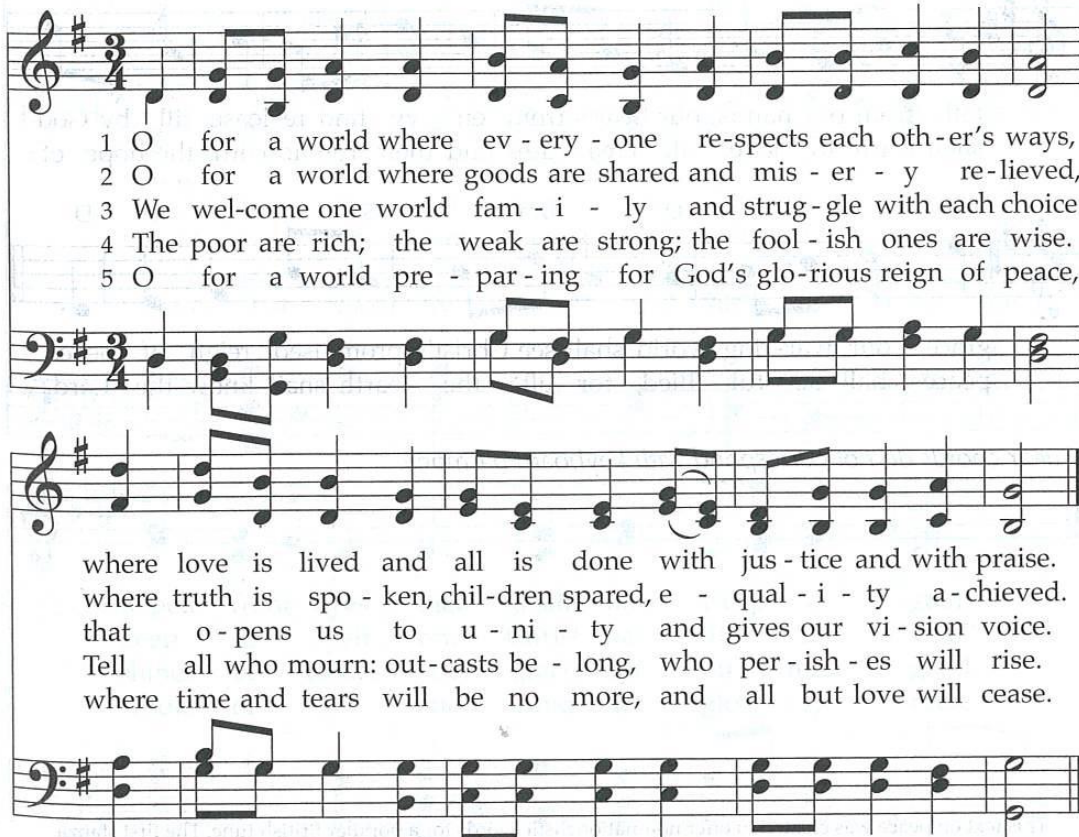




armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.  
 age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.  
 lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.  
 truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

## O for a World

372



1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,  
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,  
 3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice  
 4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.  
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,  
 where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.  
 where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
 that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.  
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.  
 where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

Text © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

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## **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**

<b><u>Class of 2023</u></b>	<b><u>Class of 2024</u></b>	<b><u>Class of 2025</u></b>
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](mailto: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

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