

Pickens Presbyterian Church



311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

July 2nd, 2023

5th Sunday after Pentecost

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

“God of our Fathers”

George Warren

***Call to Worship**

God has welcomed us without reservation, *so let us welcome all in God's name!*

Peace be with you. *God's peace be among us, around us, and within us.*

ALL: Come, Let us worship God!

***Prayer of Praise**

***Hymn (see #331, pg 7)**

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

The Church Confesses

***Invitation to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession:**

God who provides our every need, you have given us countless gifts. You have welcomed us, for all of who we are. You have showered us, with steadfast love. You have freely given us, eternal life in Christ Jesus. We do not deserve these gifts. We take them and squander them. We continue to trust ourselves, more than we trust you. We fail to embrace others, as you have embraced us. Accept our confession. Be our glory and our strength for the days to come, our strength, shield, and deliverer. . . . (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.

***Corporate Passing of the Peace**

Peace be with you. And also with you.

***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 Acker

1st Scripture Reading:

Genesis 22.1-14

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

Special Music

*"Open My Eyes, That I May See"
Cindy and Robert Wood – Vocalists*

C. L. Clark

2nd Scripture Reading:

Matthew 10.40-42

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

Time with Young Disciples

Sermon

*"So, Why Do It?"
The Reverend Dr. David Torrey*

The Church Responds in Faith

Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32–33

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission.

His human life involves the church in the common life of all people.

His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need.

His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church's own complicity in injustice.

In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

***Hymn (see #401, pg 8)**

“Here In This Place (Gather Us In)”

Offering

Offertory

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

W Whiting, J Dykes

***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**

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

The 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:

. . . 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 (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.

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 (See #210, pg 6)**

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

***Benediction**

Postlude

“Faith of our Fathers”

Henri Hemy

(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: 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.

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations 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>
*Christine (cousin of Allison Ranson).....	health concerns
*Jimmy Lipscomb (in-law of Ken Townsend).....	health concerns
*Dana, Joey, & Carla (relatives of Ken T).....	traveling mercies
Barbara Christopher	health concerns
Raymond Dawkins.....	health concerns
John and Nancy Jo Owens	his health concerns
Alex Gettys	health concerns
Elizabeth Gettys	health concerns
<u>Steve Stark (Sharon’s Brother)</u>	<u>health concerns</u>
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.

PPC FOOD PANTRY: We will begin accepting a special offering for our food ministries during Worship this morning and on each 1st Sunday. With the congregation’s generous support the Food Pantry has distributed approximately 75 boxes of shelf stable food to the community since the beginning of 2023. Individuals from Pickens (42%), Liberty (25%), Easley (24%), Central (3%), Six Mile (4%) and Sunset (2%) received boxes. Some recipients (27%) returned 2-9 times during this time period. Their ages ranged from 19 to 81 years old, with the majority (57%) being ages 50-69. The boxes include “shelf-stable” meat, rice, macaroni & cheese, pasta, spaghetti sauce, beans, vegetables, fruit, soup, peanut butter, jelly, cracker, grits/oatmeal/breakfast bars, powdered milk, fruit juice, bread, cookies and toilet paper. **The cost of each box is approximately \$25. Food donations are used to fill the boxes. Monetary donations to the Food Pantry are used to buy needed items.**

Currently the Pantry is in need of meat, peanut butter, jelly, and single-serve fruit juices. Thank you for your generosity to fill boxes for the hungry in our community!

WARMTH AND COMFORT MINISTRY – JULY DRIVE: They are trying something a little different for July. To add to a donation of stuffed animals, they could use more patriotic decorated stuffed bears to donate these to our elderly. They are also accepting monetary donations. You may make checks **payable to Warmth and Comfort for the Elderly**, and leave in the Offering. See the Cliffnotes for more info. Boxes are located in ASH and Office Hallway. Even the smallest donation adds up. We thank you in advance for any and all help!

BLOOD DRIVE: PPC is partnering with the American Red Cross to collect blood for distribution to patients across the country. The Red Cross requests that 30 people express interest in donating prior to setting a date. If you are interested, **please sign up on** one of the sheets taped to the exit doors of All Saints Hall.

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.**

GENERAL FUND UPDATE:

Offering last Sunday: General Fund: **\$760.00**, Building Fund: **\$0.00**.
 Total General Offering Year-to-Date: **\$100,159.24**, includes **\$9,110 online**.
 Total General Expenses Year-to-Date: **\$139,289.77**.
Contributions Needed Weekly to Maintain 2023 Budget: \$5,316.60.

<u>Serving:</u>	<u>July 2, 2023</u>	<u>July 9, 2023</u>
Pulpit Elder:	Ken Acker	Robert Simms
Sanctuary Guild:	Debbie Teeple	Debbie Teeple
Ushers:	Robert Simms & Marvin Short	Nancy Goldsmith & Robert Simms
Refreshments:	Starla Taylor	Donna & Robert Simms
Communion Servers:	Cindy, Robert, Starla, Nancy, David	

Lectionary readings for today:

Pulpit Elder: Ken Acker
 Genesis 22.1–14
 Psalm 13
 Romans 6.12–23
 Matthew 10.40–42

Lectionary readings for next Sunday:

Pulpit Elder: Robert Simms
 Genesis 24.34–38, 42–49, 58–67
 Psalm 45.10–17 or Song of Solomon 2.8-13
 Romans 7.15–25a
 Matthew 11.16–19, 25–30

Church Activities and Events This Week:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, July 2	9:30am	Sunday School	
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	All Saints’ Hall
	11:00am	Worship Service – 5 th Sunday after Pentecost	ASH
Monday, July 3	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	11:00am	Centering Prayer	ASH
Tuesday, July 4	<i>Office Closed – July 4th</i>		
Wednesday, July 5	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	10:00am	Children’s Chapel	All Saints’ Hall
	10:30am	Bible Study	ASH
	4:00pm	Sailboat Church Discussion Group	ASH

	5:30pm	LPP Team Meeting	
Thursday, July 6	12:00pm	DEADLINE – Bulletin & Cliffnotes	All Saint's Hall
Friday, July 7		<i>Office Closed</i>	
Saturday, July 8			
Sunday, July 9	9:30am	Sunday School	
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	All Saints' Hall
	11:00am	Worship Service – 6 th Sunday after Pentecost	ASH
	12:30pm	All Committee Meetings	TBD
		<i>High School Youth to Montreat Conference</i>	

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

PSALM 90:1-5

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past 210

ST. ANNE CM

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Attr. William Croft, 1708

1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
 2. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, Or earth re - ceived its frame,
 3. A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone;
 4. Time, like an ev - er roll - ing stream, Soon bears us all a - way;

Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
 From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 We fly for - got - ten, as a dream Dies at the o - pening day.

5. Our God, our help in ages past,
 Our hope for years to come,
 Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
 And our eternal home.

331 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system includes an optional introduction for the piano. The lyrics are arranged in four verses, with the first verse being the most prominent. The music features various rhythmic patterns, including triplets and dotted rhythms, and concludes with a final cadence marked with a double bar line and a fermata.

(optional)

1 God of the a - ges, whose al-might - y
 2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -
 4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
 past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense.
 way. Lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day.

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
 Be thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay:
 Thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease.
 Fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.
 Thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

This hymn was generated by 19th-century centennial celebrations: the words by the Declaration of Independence and the music by the adoption of the United States Constitution. Despite these origins, no specific nation is mentioned in this hymn of praise and prayer for peace.

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

401



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.