Pickens Presbyterian Church

311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

October 15th, 2023 20th 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

Moment for Celebration of Gratitude *Mark Taylor*

Preparation for Worship

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

Prelude *"To Be With God"* *Beecher Mize*

***Call to Worship**

Rejoice in the Lord always! ***All thanks and praise to God!***
Do not worry about anything. ***We trust in God who provides for us.***
Let the peace of God settle among you. ***We will share God's peace with all.***
ALL: ***Come, Let us worship God!***

***Prayer of Praise**
***Hymn of Praise (#191, on p. 6)** *"God Is Our Refuge and Strength"*

The Church Confesses

***Invitation to Confession**
***Prayer of Confession**

True God from True God, we have not built a golden calf, but we have worshiped idols. We have put our trust in what we build with our own hands. We find security in what we can hoard instead of trusting your provision. We listen to lies that spread hatred and division instead of the radical truth of your word. Forgive us. Melt down our idols until we see only you and fix our sight on your way alone. . . . *(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.***

***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 Starla Taylor*

1st Scripture Reading Exodus 32.1-14
The Word of God for the People of God. ***Thanks be to God.***

Anthem *"The Lord's My Shepherd"* *John Ness Beck*
PPC Adult Choir

2nd Scripture Reading Matthew 22.1-14
The Word of God for the People of God. ***Thanks be to God.***

Time with Young Disciples

Sermon *"Synonym for Stewardship #5"*
The Reverend Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

Affirmation of Faith *Adapted from the Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified. God raised this Jesus from the dead.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Hymn (#397, pg. 7)** *"O for a Closer Walk with God"*

Offering

Offertory *"Gentle Like You"* *Charles F. Brown*

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 of Commitment (#724, pg. 8)** *"O Jesus, I Have Promised"*

***Benediction**

Postlude *"Make Me Willing"* *Russ Lindberg*

(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: Share prayer concerns in worship, on the pew rack cards (place in the offering plates), or email the church office 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)

Name (relationship)	**Concern**
Bert Allison	health concerns
Janice & Mike (friends of Liza, Donna, and Kerry)	his health concerns
*Luke Brazinski	injuries from auto accident
*Rod Heath (friend of McCormick family)	health concerns
*Linda Ledbetter (Judy & Nancy's former sister-in-law)	passing of husband
*Israel	violence
*Afghanistan	earthquake victims

**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.*

Maui Fire Victims. PDA support: gifts to DR000165. *Make checks payable to Presbyterian Church USA* **&** *put the gift number in the memo line.* Or contribute to the Maui Food Bank using this link: Maui Food Bank.

Long Term Prayer Concern List

"Gig" Alexander, Barbara & Joe Christopher, Doug Finney, Jane Gillespie, Scott Kelly, John Owens, Faye Padgett, 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.

VETERANS DAY EVENT: PPC will be hosting a Veterans Day breakfast to honor those who have served in the armed forces and their families on Sunday, November 12th. Breakfast will be served at 8:30am followed by a program.
1. If you are a veteran, please sign the form on the table at the back of ASH so that we may recognize you in our program.
2. Please invite family and friends who have also served to join us.
3. Fill out the tear off form and if you have invited other veterans and their families, please include the number on your form so we have a headcount.

HALLOWEEN AT THE CDC: Our children from the CDC will again be making their way to the businesses around town to collect treats on Tuesday, October 31st, with a first stop at the church. We need donations of individually wrapped Halloween candy to hand out to the children. Please leave in the basket on the kitchen counter marked for donations.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP: Our Youth will meet this evening, at 5:30pm in All Saints' Hall for dinner, fellowship, and activities. Any questions, contact Anna Chastain, Carole Thomas, Cindy Townsend or Robert Simms.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR CDC: Ingles Tools for Schools Program. Renew your Ingles' savings card support of our CDC, using school code **#22903** online at: **https://tinyurl.com/PickensCDC**.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TIME: Please join us in All Saints' Hall at 10:30am for food and fellowship. **Sign up online at: https://tinyurl.com/FellowshipSnacks or see the QR code in the Cliffnotes to sign up.**

GENERAL FUND UPDATE: (all current numbers unavailable at this time)
Offering last Sunday 10/8/2023: General Fund: **$3,796.**, Building Fund: **$0.00.**
Total General Offering YTD 10/4/2023: **$169,012.93, includes $14,912 online.**
Total General Expenses YTD 10/4/2023: **$208,812.88.**
Contributions Needed Weekly to Maintain 2023 Budget: $5,316.60.

Serving:	**October 15, 2023**	**October 22, 2023**
Pulpit Elder:	Starla Taylor	David McCormick
Sanctuary Guild:	Debbie Hendricks	Debbie Hendricks
Ushers:	Roger Gettys & Jimmy Gilliam	Jan & Gary Sparks
Refreshments:	Kay Tilley	Nancy Goldsmith
Camera Operation:	Ginger Chastain	Robert Simms
Communion Servers:		

Lectionary readings for today:
Pulpit Elder: Starla Taylor
Exodus 32:1–14
Psalm 106:1–6, 19–23
Philippians 4:1–9
Matthew 22:1–14

Lectionary readings for next Sunday:
Pulpit Elder: David McCormick
Exodus 33.12–23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1.1–10
Matthew 22.15–22

Church Activities and Events This Week:

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

Day	Time	Event	Location
Sunday, Oct 15	9:30am	Sunday School	All Saints' Hall
	10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal	ASH
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	ASH
	11:00am	Worship Service – 20th Sunday after Pentecost	ASH
	12:30pm	Session Meeting	ASH
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship	ASH
Monday, Oct 16	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	11:00am	Centering Prayer	ASH
	6:00pm	Girl Scouts	Ed Bldg/ASH
Tuesday, Oct 17	9:00am	Jane B Morris Service Fund	Church Office
	4:00pm	CDC Advisory Board Meeting	McJunkin Rm
	4:30pm	Onsite Prayer Group	All Saints' Hall
Wednesday, Oct 18	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	10:00am	Children's Chapel	All Saints' Hall
	10:30am	Bible Study	ASH
	4:30pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal	ASH
Thursday, Oct 19	12:00pm	**DEADLINE** – Bulletin & Cliffnotes	All Saint's Hall
Friday, Oct 20		*Office Closed*	
Sunday, Oct 22	9:30am	Sunday School	All Saints' Hall
	10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal	ASH
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	ASH
	11:00am	Worship Service – 20th Sunday after Pentecost	ASH
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship	ASH

SESSION & COMMITTEES

Building and Grounds: Roy Stoddard ('23) and David McCormick ('25) (Co-Moderators)
Child Development Center: Jim Mahanes ('22), Roy Stoddard ('23), and David McCormick ('25)
Christian Education: Cindy Townsend ('24) and Robert Simms ('25) (Co-Moderators)
Administration: Budget: Ken Acker ('23),
Administration: Donna Owen ('24), **Finance:** Ken Townsend ('23)
Fellowship and Care: Tina LaFoy ('24) and Nancy Goldsmith ('25) (Co-Moderators)
Missions: Roger Gettys ('23) and Rocky Harden ('23) (Co-Moderators)
Worship: Debbie Teeple ('24) and Starla Taylor ('25) (Co-Moderators)

Trustees: Allison Ranson ('23), Debbie Carmical ('24), Tim Crocker ('25)

Moderator: Rev. Dr. David A. Torrey

Phone: 864.878.9422 ext. 2, 803.317.3331 (cell)

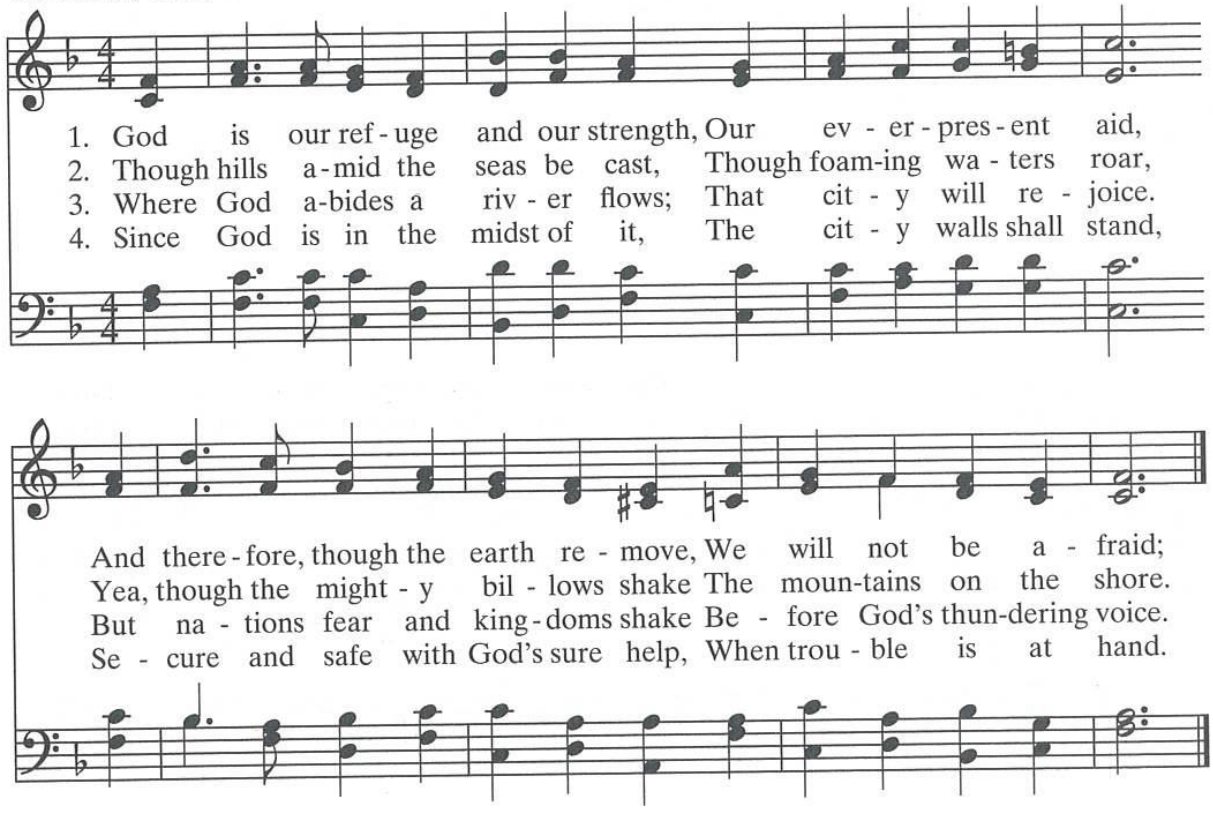
Clerk of Session: Kay Rentz **Co-Clerk of Session:** Karen Brown

PSALM 46

God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength 191

WINCHESTER OLD CM

The Psalter, 1912; alt. 1988 Este's *Psalmes,* 1592



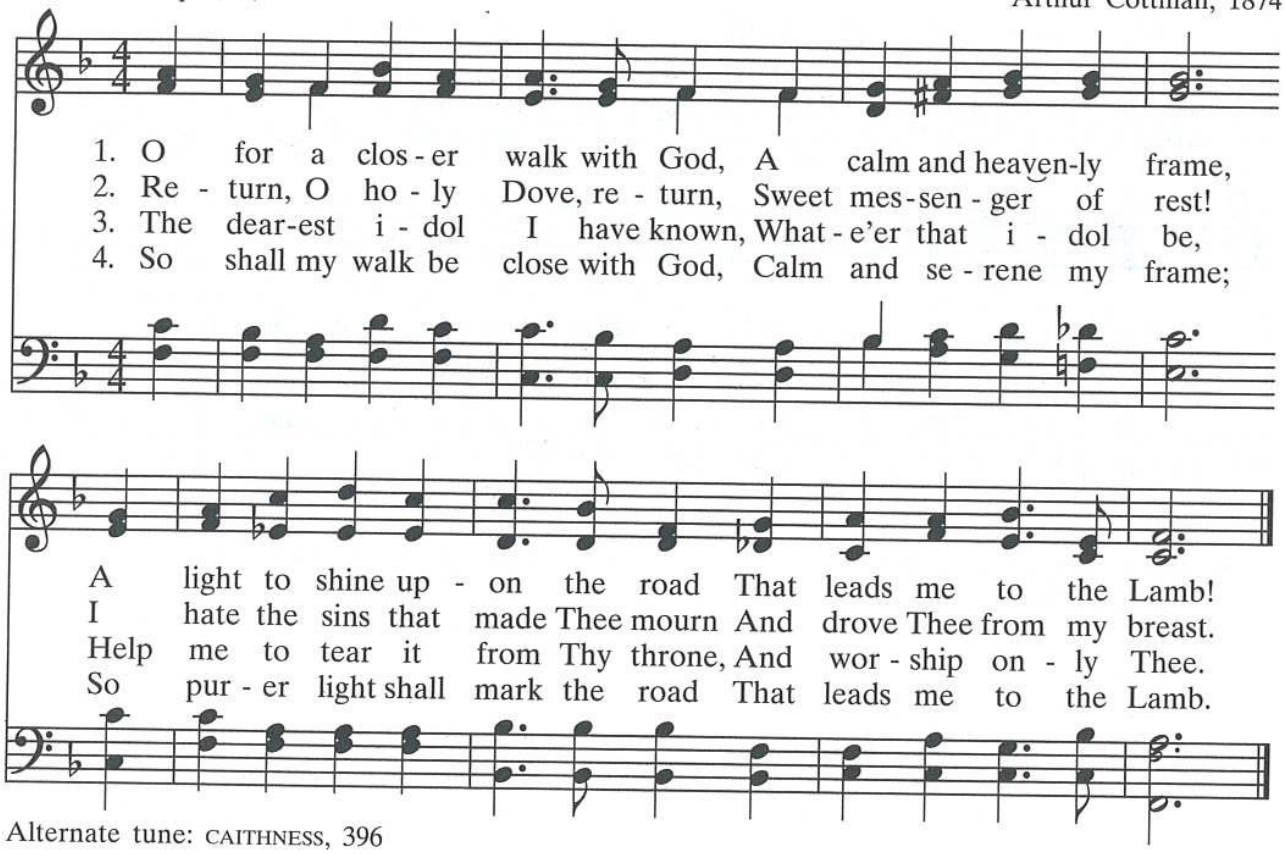
This tune with descant, 58

397 O for a Closer Walk with God

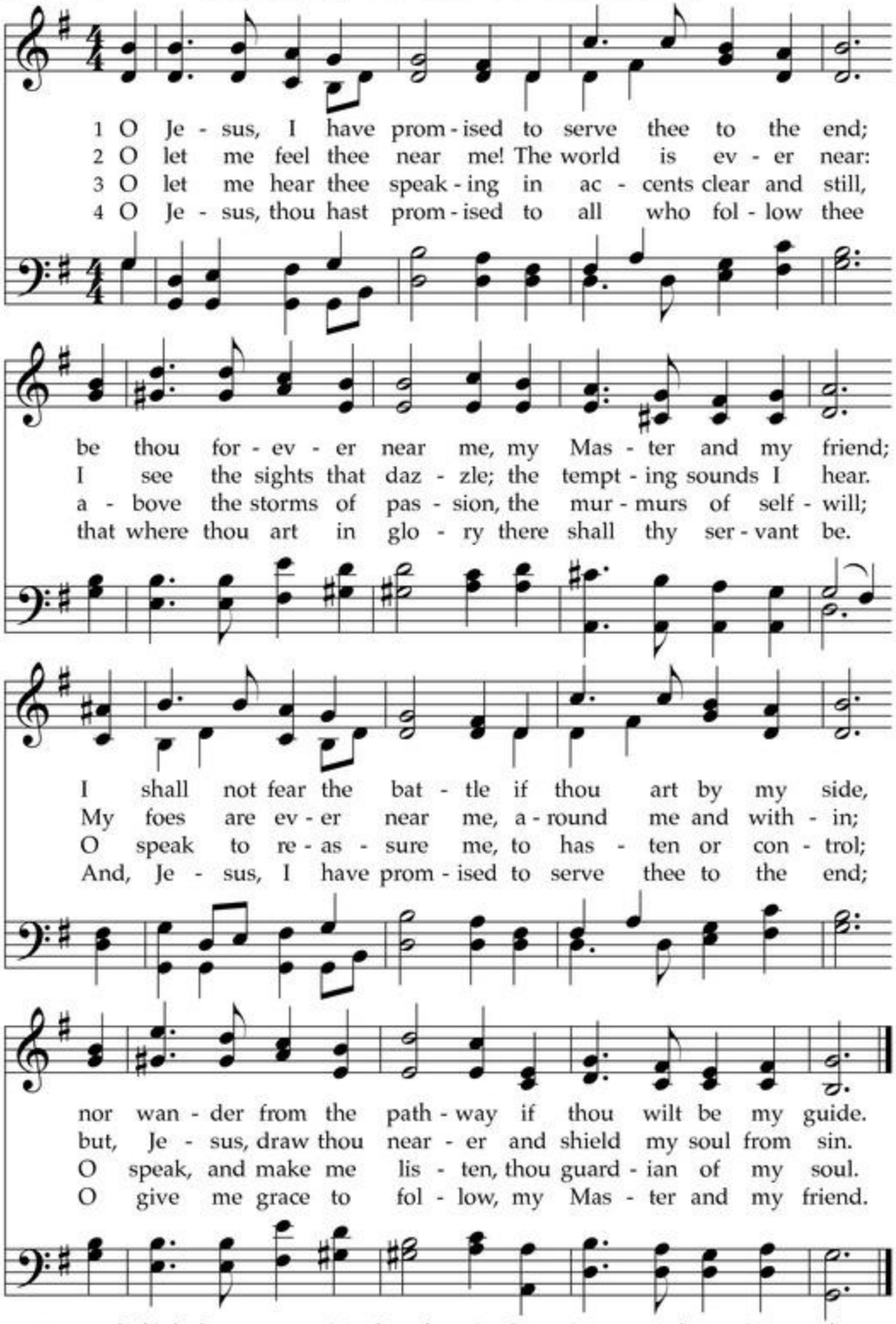
DALEHURST CM

William Cowper, 1772

Arthur Cottman, 1874



Alternate tune: CAITHNESS, 396

724 O Jesus, I Have Promised

Written to highlight the promises made by the author's daughter and two sons at their confirmation, this text equally well recalls the promises of discipleship made in Baptism and in the Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant. The tune was written for a text now unused.

TEXT: John Ernest Bode, 1866, alt.
MUSIC: Arthur Henry Mann, 1881

ANGEL'S STORY
7.6.7.6.D
(alternate tune: NYLAND, 725)