

Pickens Presbyterian Church



311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

October 8th, 2023 19th 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 Gratefulness

Tina LaFoy

Preparation for Worship

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

Prelude

“How Firm a Foundation”

Arr. Cindy Berry

***Call to Worship**

Let us come to learn. *Let us come to witness.*

Let us come to change. *Let us come to repent.*

Let us come to worship.

ALL: Come, Let us worship God!

***Prayer of Praise**

***Hymn of Praise (#35, on p. 6)** *“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”*

The Church Confesses

***Invitation to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession:**

God of the law and the prophets, We do not want to admit all the commandments we have broken. We worship idols of money, success, and power. We use your name to justify whatever we do. We do not honor each other; we covet, we lie, we wish evil upon others. Our sins are too many to name. Forgive us. Speak to us and we will listen, remembering that you are our freedom and deliverer. . . . (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 Cindy Townsend*

1st Scripture Reading: Exodus 20.1–4, 7–9, 12–20

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

Special Music *"Love Medley" Arr. Marilyn Ham
Steve Ellison – Piano*

2nd Scripture Reading: Matthew 21.33–46

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

Time with Young Disciples

Sermon *"Synonym for Stewardship #4"*
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 (#353, pg. 7)**

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

Offering

Offertory

"Grace Medley"

Arr. Don Wyrzten

***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 (#269, pg. 8)**

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

***Benediction**

Postlude

"Praise Medley"

Nathan Di Gesare

(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>
Bert Allison	health concerns
Janice & Mike (friends of Liza, Donna, and Kerry)	his health concerns

**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.

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.

CHURCH RETREAT: The CE committee is assessing interest in a Church Retreat to Montreat Conference Center. Please **fill out the tear-off on the bottom of the page** and leave in the offering plate.

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:

Offering last Sunday: General Fund: **\$6,360.**, Building Fund: **\$0.00.**
Total General Offering Year-to-Date: **\$169,012.93, includes \$14,912 online.**
Total General Expenses Year-to-Date: **\$208,812.88.**
Contributions Needed Weekly to Maintain 2023 Budget: \$5,316.60.

Yes, I/my family would be interested in attending a Church Retreat at Montreat.

Name: _____ How many would attend? _____ What are the ages? _____

<u>Serving:</u>	<u>October 8, 2023</u>	<u>October 15, 2023</u>
Pulpit Elder:	Cindy Townsend	Starla Taylor
Sanctuary Guild:	Debbie Hendricks	Debbie Hendricks
Ushers:	Cindy & Austin Townsend	Roger Gettys & Jimmy Gilliam
Refreshments:	TBD	Kay Tilley
Camera Operation:	Carole Thomas	Ginger Chastain
Communion Servers:		

<u>Lectionary readings for today:</u>	<u>Lectionary readings for next Sunday:</u>
Pulpit Elder: Cindy Townsend	Pulpit Elder: Starla Taylor
Exodus 20.1-4, 7-9, 12-20	Exodus 32:1-14
Psalms 19	Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 3.4b-14	Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 21.33-46	Matthew 22:1-14

Church Activities and Events This Week: Online calendar: <http://73970421.view-events.com>

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, Oct 8	9:30am	Sunday School	All Saints' Hall
	10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal	ASH
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	ASH
	11:00am	Worship Service – 19 th Sunday after Pentecost	ASH
	12:30pm	All Committee Meetings	TBD
	5:30pm	Youth Fellowship	ASH
Monday, Oct 9	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	11:00am	Centering Prayer	ASH
	6:00pm	Girl Scouts	Ed Bldg/ASH
Tuesday, Oct 10	4:30pm	Onsite Prayer Group	All Saints' Hall
Wednesday, Oct 11	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 12	12:00pm	DEADLINE – Bulletin & Cliffnotes	All Saint's Hall
Friday, Oct 13		<i>Office Closed</i>	
Saturday, Oct 14			
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 – 20 th Sunday after Pentecost	ASH
	12:30pm	Session Meeting	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

35 Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

1 Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous - ly
 3 Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so
 dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his
 gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his

tem - ple draw near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for aye we a - dore him.

This very strong 17th-century German hymn employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalms 150 and 103:1-6. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 353

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and
 2 When dark-ness seems to hide his face, I rest on his un-
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the
 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in

righ - teous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
 whelm-ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he
 him be found, dressed in his righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

Refrain

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all
 then is all my hope and stay.
 less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth-er ground is sink-ing sand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24–27/Luke 6:47–49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.

269 Lead On, O King Eternal!

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,

hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents shall be our home.
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
 for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears;

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong,
 for not with swords' loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums;
 your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light.

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 with deeds of love and mer - cy the heaven-ly king-dom comes.
 The crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Not everything that looks like a battle ends up being one. This text, written for a seminary graduation, works well with its martial tune in the first stanza; but later stanzas turn from such imagery and focus on "deeds of love and mercy" and courage for life's journey.