

# Pickens Presbyterian Church



311 WEST MAIN STREET  
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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





## *The Church Responds in Faith*

### **Offering Offertory**

*“Silent Night”*

*F Gruber, J Mohr*

*Instrumental Ensemble: Robert Wood – Guitar, Alex Armock – Flute, Anna Chastain – Clarinet, Jayden Harden – Cello, Nevaeh Harden – Violin, O.D. Hendricks – Mandolin, Joe Padgett – Mandola*

*The Congregation is invited to sing vs 1 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> playing.*

**\*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 #41**

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

### **\*Advent 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**

*“Sussex Carol”*

*Trad. English Melody*

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

## *The Church Departs and Service Begins*

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

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**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](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)*

<u>Name (relationship)</u>	<u>Concern</u>
*Jim Mahanes.....	health concerns
*Norm Rentz.....	health concerns
Jeanne Bowen.....	health concerns
Mary Dawn Mills (Niece of Raymond & Margaret Dawkins) .....	health concerns
Gary Sparks.....	health concerns
Katherine Acker Brooks .....	health concerns

*\*new this week*

**Peace in Ukraine.** PDA support: gifts to [DR000156](#).

**Maui Fire Victims.** PDA support: gifts to [DR000165](#).

**Humanitarian Aid to Israel/Palestine.** PDA support: text PDAIP to 41444, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with “**DR000081-Israel/Palestine**” on the memo line.

### Long Term Prayer Concern List

“Gig” Alexander, Bert Allison, Barbara & Joe Christopher, Jane Gillespie, Scott Kelly, Tommy Owen, John Owens, Faye Padgett, Jo Ann Taylor, Melvin Tolliver (Deb Holtel’s uncle), John & Tiffanie Torrey (David’s brother and sister-in-law), Israel/Gaza conflict.

The Christian love and sympathy of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of **Walter Philbates**, cousin of Jo Anne Gessell, on his dying to this life recently.

The Christian love and sympathy of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of **David Crowe**, son-in-law of Jane Gillespie, who passed away November 29.

The Christian love and sympathy of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of **Maxine Blackwood**, mother of John Blackwood, who died to this life on Sunday, December 10.

## 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.

**SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL:** The Seekers Adult Sunday School class is currently discussing the daily Advent readings from the Presbyterian Outlook magazine. All are invited to join us on Sundays at 9:30am in the church Parlor.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS:** Please join your church family in reading “Apocalyptic Advent: Embracing Hope in the Second Coming of Christ” from Teri McDowell Ott, Editor of the Presbyterian Outlook. There are printed copies of the full devotional available **in the Narthex**, and a link is included in our weekly Cliffnotes.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS – SPECIAL EVENTS & SERVICES:

Lessons and Carols – 11:00am **Today**

Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion – 11:00pm on December 24<sup>th</sup>

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR CDC:** 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 via the **QR code in the Cliffnotes.**

## GENERAL FUND UPDATE:

Offering last Sunday: General Fund: **\$2,567.00.**

Total General Offering Year-to-Date: **\$223,281.40, includes \$19,114 online.**

Total General Expenses Year-to-Date: **\$253,354.65.**

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

<u>Serving:</u>	<u>December 17, 2023</u>	<u>December 24, 2023</u>
Pulpit Elder:	Cindy Townsend	David McCormick
Sanctuary Guild:	Debbie Teeple	Debbie Teeple
Ushers:	Tina LaFoy & TBD	Ivy & Roy Stoddard
Refreshments:	TBD	TBD
Camera Operation:	Robert Simms	Anna Chastain
Sunday Youth Meals:	<i>No Youth Meeting</i>	<i>No Youth Meeting</i>
Communion Servers:		Starla & Mark T, Cindy & Austin T, Tina La

### Lectionary readings for today:

Pulpit Elder: Cindy Townsend  
Isaiah 61.1–4, 8–11  
Psalm 126 or Luke 1.46b–55  
1 Thessalonians 5.16–24  
John 1.6–8, 19–28

### Lectionary readings for next Sunday:

Pulpit Elder: David McCormick  
Isaiah 9.2–7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2.11–14  
Luke 2.1–14 [15–20]

## Church Activities and Events This Week:

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

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, Dec 17	9:30am	Sunday School	
	9:30am	Instrumental Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	All Saints' Hall
	11:00am	Worship Service – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Advent/Service of Lessons & Carols	Sanctuary
Monday, Dec 18	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	11:00am	Centering Prayer	Parlor
	6:00pm	Girl Scouts	Ed Bldg/ASH
Tuesday, Dec 19	9:00am	Jane B Morris Utility & Kerosene Fund	Church Office
	4:30pm	Onsite Prayer Group	All Saints' Hall
Wednesday, Dec 20	8:30am	Food Pantry	Church Office
	10:00am	CDC Children's Chapel	All Saints' Hall
	10:30am	Bible Study	ASH
Thursday, Dec 21	12:00pm	<b>DEADLINE</b> – Bulletin & Cliffnotes	
	4:00pm	<b>NO</b> Sailboat Church Prayer Group	All Saints' Hall
Friday, Dec 22		<i>Office Closed</i>	

Saturday, Dec 23	3:00pm	Morris Family Christmas Event	All Saint's Hall
Sunday, Dec 24	9:30am	Sunday School	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Adult Choir Rehearsal	All Saints' Hall
	10:30am	Fellowship Time	
	11:00am	Worship Service – 4 <sup>th</sup> Advent/Christmas Eve	
	11:00pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service	

**Sermon Notes:**

# PICKENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ministers – All Members

Transitional Pastor – The Reverend Dr. David Torrey [dtorrey219@gmail.com](mailto:dtorrey219@gmail.com)

Parish Associate – The Reverend Beverly Kelly

Church Administrator/Treasurer – Mrs. Cyndi Banks [admin@pickenspresbyterian.org](mailto:admin@pickenspresbyterian.org)

Church Administrative Assistant – Ms. Linda Banks [office@pickenspresbyterian.org](mailto:office@pickenspresbyterian.org)

Interim Choir Director – Dr. Marianne Holland

Interim Organist – Mr. Steve Ellison

Director of Child Development Center – Mrs. Chasity Lesley [chasitylesley@ppcdc.net](mailto:chasitylesley@ppcdc.net)

## SESSION & COMMITTEES

### Class of 2023

Ken Acker  
Roger Gettys  
Rocky Harden  
Roy Stoddard  
Ken Townsend

### Class of 2024

Tina LaFoy  
Donna Owen  
Debbie Teeple  
Cindy Townsend

### Class of 2025

Nancy Goldsmith  
David McCormick  
Robert Simms  
Starla Taylor

Trustee: Allison Ranson    Trustee: Debbie Carmical    Trustee: Tim Crocker

**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

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

**Child Development Center:** Jim Mahanes

**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

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

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Instagram: [www.instagram.com/pickenspresbyterian](http://www.instagram.com/pickenspresbyterian)