



Christmas Eve

Service of Worship and
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Pickens Presbyterian Church

311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

The Church Gathers

Chiming of the Hour

Preparation for Worship

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

Prelude

“Pastoral Symphony”

Handel/ Barnett

***Call to Worship & Lighting the Advent Candle**

*Peggy & David
Torrey*

. . . to nestle among the greens.

We name this candle Hope.

We name this candle Peace.

We name this candle Joy.

We name this candle Love.

We name this candle Christ.

. . . he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

***Advent Wreath Song “The Candle of Hope”** (by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette)

1. The candle of hope we light in this hour

Proclaims that the Lord is coming in power.

We wait for a future, now hidden from view,

When Christ in his glory will make all things new.

2. The candle of peace shines bright with God’s plan;

The wolf will lie down and dwell with the lamb.

Our guns and our weapons, our hatred and war,

Will give way to gardens that heal and restore.

3. The candle of joy reminds us to sing,

For God is at work to do a new thing.

The proud will be humbled; the lowly will rise.

God’s kingdom is one of delight and surprise.

4. The candle of love tells what we are worth:

God loves us so much, God came to the earth!

An angel brought news of a child who would be

The one who would save us and set us all free.

*5. The Christ candle's light that shines for us here
Tells out the good news that God has come near!
God came, a poor baby, in one time and place,
To show all creation the wealth of God's grace.*

***Advent Wreath Prayer**

Lord Jesus, as we search for signs of Christ's presence this week, help us to become the signs of Christ's presence that others are searching for. As these candles are but a glimpse of the light of the heavens, help us to be a glimpse of heaven on earth. Help us to shine like stars in the world. Amen.

***Hymn #145**

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

The Church Confesses

***Invitation to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession:**

*Emmanuel, you have given us a gift that we can never deserve. You do not ask us to be worthy. You do not ask us to earn your love. Yet the ways we have fallen short threaten to overtake us. But we know we can come to you, even on this holiest of nights, to seek the forgiveness you offer so freely, grateful for your mercy.
. . . (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.

***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: Isaiah 9.2-7

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

***Hymn #43**

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Psalter Reading: Psalm 96.1-13

Special Music: “*I Saw Three Ships Coming Sailing In*” *English Folk Song*
Vocalists: Donna Simms, June Simms and April Suffern

2nd Scripture Reading: Luke 2.1-20
This is the Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Special Music: “*O Tannenbaum*” *German Folk Carol*
Trumpet: Adam Marsh, French Horn: June Simms

Sermon “*Fear Not!?!*”
Rev. Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

Offering

Offertory “*Once In Royal David’s City*” *Arr. Brad Nix*

***Prayer of Dedication**

***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.*

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.*

Prayer of Consecration

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and
praise, O Holy God,

. . . joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the
faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory
of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

*heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

. . . Great is the mystery of faith:
*Christ was born,
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.*

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 and Pouring of the Wine

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.*

Special Music

"O Holy Night"
Piano: Steve Ellison

Arr. Mark Hayes

The Service of Lights

A Candlelight Hymn

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

(To be sung while the candlelight is being passed)

- 1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.*
- 2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heaven-ly hosts sing: "Al-le-lu-ia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."*

3. *Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*
4. *Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Al-le-lu-ia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

***Recessional Hymn**

“Joy to the World”

(The congregation will form a circle on the front sidewalk and continue singing until all are outside)

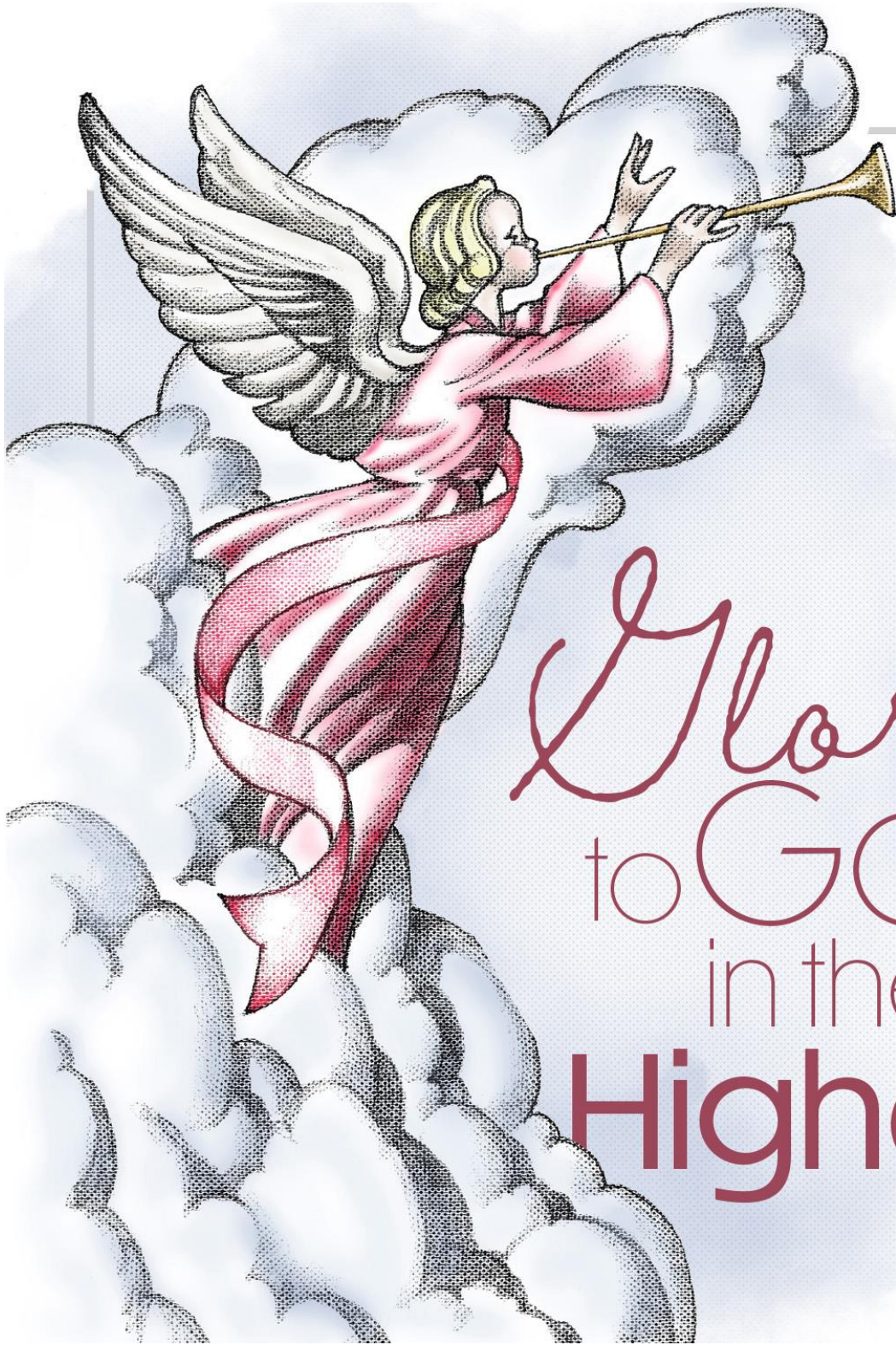
1. *Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*
2. *Joy to the world! the Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*
3. *No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.*
4. *He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations
prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.*

(Continue singing until everyone is outside)

***Christmas Blessing**

Worship Has Ended – Service Begins

**Please stand in body or spirit.*



Glory
to GOD
in the
Highest

PICKENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ministers – All Members

Transitional Pastor – The Reverend Dr. David Torrey dtorrey219@gmail.com

Parish Associate – The Reverend Beverly Kelly

Church Administrator/Treasurer – Mrs. Cyndi Banks admin@pickenspresbyterian.org

Church Administrative Assistant – Ms. Linda Banks 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

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

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