

Pickens Presbyterian Church



311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

December 1st, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

Eleven o'clock

The Church Gathers

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Introit *“In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”*

Friendship Pads

Please print your name(s), pass the pad, pass it back, note the names of those worshipping with you and greet them by name after worship.

Concerns in the Life of the Church

Lighting the Advent Candle

Vickie Swaynham and Ron Jones

Advent Wreath Song #12, v.1

People Look East

*People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.*

*Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.*

People, look east and sing today:

Love the guest is on the way.

Preparation for Worship

Prelude *“Comfort, Comfort You My People”* Geneva Psalter, 1551

Advent Prayer of Praise

***Hymn # 9** *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

The Church Confesses

Prayer of Confession

Coming Christ, you may not find us as you hoped. We’ve looked away from signs we do not wish to see. We’ve stopped listening to distress we do not wish to hear. We are numb to inconvenient truths. Keep us alert, O God, to the needs of our neighbors. Revive our hearts laden with compassion fatigue. Sharpen our minds clouded by worries. Sober our lives addicted to privilege. Show us the signs of your coming, that we may stand before you, the Son of Man. . . . (silent, personal confession) Amen.

**You are invited to stand in spirit or in body.*

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.*

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 Jeff Price

1st Scripture Reading Jeremiah 33.14-16

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

Time with Young Disciples

2nd Scripture Reading Luke 21.25-36

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

Anthem

"A Processional of Hope"

Joseph H. Martin

Sermon

"Lift Up Your Heads"

Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

***Hymn # 5** *"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*

***Affirmation of Faith**

Offering and Change-for-Change Food Pantry Offering

(Use the QR Code to the right for Online Giving)

Offertory

"The Christmas Spirit"

***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 and 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, . . . 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)



GIVE NOW

Lindy Kerry

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**

“Bless the Lord, O My Soul”

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all God’s benefits.

Prayer after Communion

***Hymn # 474** *“O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright”*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *“Tell All the World Come Unto Him”* *Stephanie Fisher*
(Please remain seated until worship ends after the Postlude)

The Church Enters the Mission Field

PRAYER REQUESTS: Share prayer concerns in worship, on the pew cards (place in the offering plates), or email the church office admin@pickenspresbyterian.org.
(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)

PRAYER CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

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)

CONCERNS

<u>Name (relationship)</u>	<u>Concern</u>
*Jane Townsend <small>12/1/24</small>	health concerns
*Joe Christopher	health concerns
*Claire Born (Louise Hope’s cousin)..... <small>11/24/24</small>	health concerns
Deb Holtel’s Granddaughter Sara	health concerns
Durham Bley (friend of Townsend family) <small>11/10/24</small>	health concerns

CELEBRATIONS

**new this week*

LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERN LIST

Bert Allison, Jeanne Bowen, Katherine Acker Brooks, Barbara & Joe Christopher, Raymond and Margaret Dawkins, Jane Gillespie, Samuel Hood (nephew of John and Jana Holland), **Beverly Kelly, Scott Kelly, Drema LaFoy** (Tina’s mother) and **Tina, Mary Dawn Mills** (Niece of Ray & Margaret Dawkins), **Tommy Owen, Jo Ann Taylor, Melvin Tolliver** (Deb Holtel’s uncle), **John & Tiffanie Torrey** (David’s brother & sister-in-law), **Mary Hellen Ward** (sister of Ray Dawkins).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the name of Christ, “Welcome Home” to the House of the Lord. *If you are visiting, we offer a special welcome and invite you to participate with us in mission and ministry. If you would like to become a member of our congregation, please speak to the Pastor. Visit our website (www.PickensPresbyterian.org) to begin receiving our newsletter.*

Church Events This Week:

Online calendar: <http://PickensPresbyterian.org/Calendar>

PPC FOOD PANTRY: Today we receive the **Change-for-Change** and **Coupon Cans** special offering to support the church's Food Pantry and Little Free Pantry.

POINSETTIA FUND: We are accepting memorials and honorariums for the Poinsettia Fund through next Sunday, December 8th. The poinsettias that decorate the chancel during Advent represent our Jane B. Morris Service/Fuel Fund that the gifts support. Special envelopes are in the pew racks. **Memorials and Honorariums will be listed on a special bulletin insert on December 15th and 22nd.**

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS: Please join your church family in reading “**Patterns of Divine Possibility: An Advent Search**” by 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.

CIRCLE MEETINGS: The Sarah Emily and Eve Circles **will both meet on Tuesday, December 3rd**, in All Saints' Hall at 10:00am, and 5:30pm, respectively. The Sarah Emily Circle will study Lesson Three in: *In All Things*, led by Dr. Torrey, followed by special music by Steve Ellison in the Sanctuary. The Eve Circle will be studying Lesson Four.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS SHOPPING: The youth will shop for CDC families in need this afternoon immediately following worship. **Thank you to the congregation for your support. You contributed over \$900 to this wonderful ministry!**

COOKIES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS: Deadline is today. All will be mailed tomorrow, December 2nd. Parents of college youth, please verify the mailing address with the church office. **Let's remind them of their loving church family.**

ANGEL TREE: If you want your children or grandchildren (12th grade and under) included on this year's angel tree in ASH. Please send a head photo to Donna Simms at rdajsimms@mac.com. Or, Robert may take the picture at church.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – SPECIAL EVENTS & SERVICES:

Lessons and Carols – 11:00am on December 22nd

Christmas Eve Communion – 4:00pm on December 24th

Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion – 11:00pm on December 24th

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA – Saturday, December 14th, 8:30 – 10:30am in All Saints' Hall. **Volunteers needed** to cook, serve, and cleanup. Event open to CDC families, church members and the community. **See Thursday's CliffNotes.**

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TIME: All Saints' Hall at 10:30am for food and fellowship. **Sign up to provide snacks online at:** <https://tinyurl.com/FellowshipSnacks> or via the QR code in the CliffNotes.

WARMTH & COMFORT MINISTRY: December-Christmas Drive, they are collecting small gifts for each resident. **Due by Dec 10th in the Church Office Collection Box.** **See Thursday's CliffNotes for gift suggestions.** Questions: Call/text Tammy Ferguson @ 864-238-4652 or email warmthandcomfortfortheelderly@gmail.com

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Last Sunday's Giving: **\$2,403.00**

Weekly Amount Needed to meet Budget: **\$6,077.88**

2024 Budget: **\$316,050.00**

SERVING: DECEMBER 1, 2024 DECEMBER 8, 2024

Pulpit Elder:	Jeff Price	Jeff Price
Sanctuary Guild:	Debbie Teeple	Debbie Teeple
Ushers:	The Townsend Family	The Townsend Family
Refreshments:	Nancy Goldsmith	Allison Ranson
Camera Operation:	Anna Chastain	Carole Reed
Sanctuary Flowers:	Vickie Swaynham	Sharon Stark
Communion Set-up:	Starla Taylor	
Communion Servers:	Rocky, Allison, Ken T, Ken A, Donna	