Pickens Presbyterian Church

311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

August 17th, 2025 10th Sunday after Pentecost Eleven o'clock

The Church Gathers

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Introit *"Behold, I Make All Things New"* *From Iona Community*

Friendship Pads

Please print your name(s), and contact information, 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 Elder Jeff Price, Liturgist

Prelude *"O Lord of Heaven, Unto You Be Glory Given"* *arr. Jacob B. Weber*

***Call to Worship**

In a world where lies surround us, ***your word is like fire, God nearby!***
In a world full of false prophets and empty promises, ***your word is like fire, God nearby!***
In a world where words don't have meaning, ***your word is like fire, God nearby!***
We are here, ready for our faith to be kindled by your word.
ALL: Come, Let us worship God who is nearby!

***Prayer of Praise**

***Hymn # 460** *"Holy God, We Praise Your Name"*

The Church Confesses

Prayer of Confession

Ever-loving God, we confess that we are not always ready to trust your love. You call us to step forward in radical faith, but we cling to what is familiar, comfortable and non-controversial. You are eternally at work in the world, but we struggle to discern your presence in the signs of the times. Forgive us, O God. By your grace, give us courage to stand for what is right and good and to risk love and justice even when it is unpopular. Teach us faithfulness and perseverance for the journey ahead. . . . *(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.***

Passing of the Peace** Peace be with you. ***And also with you.

(Please turn to the person in front of you, behind you, and beside you to share Christ's peace with them)

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

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 Isaiah 5.1-7

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

Responsive Reading Psalm 80.1-2, 8-19

[1]Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth

[2]before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!

[8]You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

[9]You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

[10]The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;

[11]it sent out its branches to the sea, and its shoots to the River.

[12]Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

[13]The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

[14]Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine,

[15]the stock that your right hand planted.

[16]They have burned it with fire, they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.

[17]But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.

[18]Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

[19]Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Time with Young Disciples Elder Tina LaFoy

2nd Scripture Reading Luke 12.49-56

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

Special Music *"Spirit, Open My Heart"* *Irish Melody, Words by Ruth Duck*
Soprano Soloist: Rev. Terri Price

Sermon *"Church Fights"* Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

***Hymn # 388** *"O Jesus, I Have Promised"*

***Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

GIVE NOW

Offertory *"The Lord Is My Shepherd"* *arr. Don Wyrtzen*

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)

The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them up to the Lord. . . .***

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 #354** *"Guide My Feet"*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"* *Trad. Spiritual*

(Please remain seated until worship ends after the Postlude)

The Church Enters the Mission Field

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the name of Jesus the 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 register for our newsletter.

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)

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)

CONCERNS

Name (relationship)	**Concern**
*Howard Harden	health concerns
*Regenia Williams (Darrell Cook's sister)	health concerns
*Jane Townsend	health concerns
8/10/25	
David Hinkle (Husband of Cindy – CDC Teacher)	hospice care
Hughes Hyatt (Son of friend of Marianne)	health concerns
Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza	
7/27/25	
Faye Durham (Sister of Joe Padgett)	health concerns
7/20/25	

**new this week*

CELEBRATIONS

LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERN LIST

Bert Allison, **John Blackwood**, **Caroline Bowen**, **Katherine Acker Brooks**, **Barbara & Joe Christopher**, **Margaret Dawkins**, **Shawn Erickson** (Ron & Sylvia's son), **Jane Gillespie**, **Samuel Hood** (John & Jana Holland's nephew), **Beverly Kelly**, **Drema LaFoy** (Tina's mother) **& Tina**, **Brad Michael** (Bob Michael's Son), **Hank Owens, Susan Steedman** (Sarah Mahanes' Mother), **Kay Tilley**, **Bev Timerding** (Deb Holtel's sister), **Melvin Tolliver** (Deb Holtel's uncle), **John & Tiffanie Torrey** (David's brother & Sister-in-law).

EXTRA GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Peace in Ukraine. PDA support: gifts to DR000156.
Humanitarian Aid to Gaza. Text PDAIP to 41444, or gifts to "**DR000081-Israel/Palestine**".
US Flood Relief. PDA support: gifts to DR000191.
*Make checks payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with DR support number on memo line.

CHURCH EVENTS THIS WEEK: Online calendar: http://PickensPresbyterian.org/Calendar

1ST ANNUAL HYMNFEST: The Foothills Presbytery Music Ministry Leaders will present the 1st Annual HymnFest Mass Choir next **Sunday, August 24th, 4:30pm at John Knox Presbyterian**, 35 Shannon Dr. in Greenville. The program will feature choirs and musicians from across the presbytery. This is a free event.

MISSIONS: Would you like to grill hamburgers/hot dogs, bake cookies/brownies or help plan music for **Sunday, September 28th**, when Pickens Presbyterian Church, Griffin Ebenezer Baptist Church and Pickens City Parks and Recreation host a **Pickens Faith Community Picnic from 1:00 to 5:00pm?** Please see Sharon or Jo Anne to let us know how you would like to be involved or just to let us know you plan to come for the fellowship, food and fun!

SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL: The Seekers class has begun a new short-term study on "Non-Violence; Faith-based strategies for justice and peace." **Join us 9:30-10:30am in the Church Parlor. See Jo Anne Gessell, Mark Taylor, Jan Sparks, or Kathy Chamlee for a copy of the readings. All are Welcome!**

WARMTH & COMFORT MINISTRY: September - November Drive: Items of warmth such as hats, gloves, scarves, blankets, socks, lap quilts, or monetary donations for them to purchase items for the residents. **Items much be new or handmade due to state regulations. Due by November 10th in Church Office Collection Box.** Questions: Tammy Ferguson @ 864-238-4652 or warmthandcomfortfortheelderly@gmail.com

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TIME: 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.**

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Last Sunday's Giving: **$5,100.**
Weekly Amount Needed to meet Budget**: $6,148.**
2025 Budget: **$319,714.**

SERVING:	TODAY (August 17th)	AUGUST 24, 2025
Elder of the Week:	Sharon Stark	Austin Townsend
Liturgist:	Jeff Price	Sharon Stark
Sanctuary Guild:	Nancy Goldsmith	Nancy Goldsmith
Ushers:	Nancy Goldsmith,	Nancy Goldsmith,
Refreshments:	Dianna Morris	TBD
Camera Operation:	Robert Simms	Ginger Chastain
Sound Board:		
Nursery Volunteers:		
Sanctuary Flowers:	Sharon Stark	Liza Holder
Communion Set-up:		
Communion Servers:		

Lectionary readings for today:	Lectionary readings for next Sunday:
Liturgist: Jeff Price Isaiah 1.1, 10–20 Psalm 50.1–8, 22–23 Hebrews 11.1–3, 8–16 Luke 12.32–40	Liturgist: Sharon Stark Jeremiah 1:4–10 Psalm 71:1–6 Hebrews 12:18–29 Luke 13:10–17