Pickens Presbyterian Church

311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

September 28th, 2025 16th Sunday after Pentecost Eleven o'clock

The Church Gathers

Chiming of the Hour
Choral Introit *"The First Song of Isaiah"* *Jack Noble White*

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 Peggy Torrey, Liturgist

Prelude *"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"* *Martin Luther, arr R B Costen*

***Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 146)

Come! Praise the Lord! ***Praise God for the heavens and the earth and all that is in them!***
Come! Praise the Lord! ***Praise God who feeds the hungry and uplifts the downtrodden!***
Come! Praise the Lord! ***Praise God who gives sight to the blind and sets prisoners free!***
Come! Praise the Lord! ***The Lord will reign forever! Praise the Lord!***
ALL: Come, Let us worship God!

***Prayer of Praise**
***Hymn #263** *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

The Church Confesses

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you call us to lives of service, but we confess that we ignore our neighbors in need right outside our door. You call us to share our abundance, but we confess that we choose our own comfort over generosity to others. You call us to build community, but we confess that we are too often gatekeepers, letting in only the ones that make us comfortable. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to be content with enough and inspire us to share what we have – our prosperity, our power and our love – until all your children have life and dignity in beloved community. . . . *(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.

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

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

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 Peggy Torrey

1st Scripture Reading Jeremiah 32.1-3a, 6-15

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

Time with Young Disciples Elder Tina LaFoy

2nd Scripture Reading Luke 16.19-31

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

Anthem *"My God Is a Rock"* *Traditional Spiritual, arr Ruth Morris Gray*

Sermon *"How Much Are You Worth?"* Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

***Hymn # 275** *"God of Our Life"*

***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 *"Wonderful Words of Life"* *Phillip P. Bliss, arr. Jay Rouse*

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 #332** *"Live Into Hope"*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *"Let All Things Now Living"* *Welsh Melody, arr Crystal Davis Clay*

(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.* We invite you to 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**
*Heather Sciorelli (friend of Kathy Chamlee)	health concerns
*Jeannie Bowen	health concerns
9/21/25	
Perry Dyer (relative of Darrell Cook)	health concerns
9/07/25	
Mike and David Goldsmith	health concerns
Julie Clarke (friend of Vickie Swayngham)	health concerns
Shirley & Mike (Cousins of Deb Holtel)	health concerns
8/31/25	
Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza	

**new this week*

CELEBRATIONS

LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERN LIST

Bert Allison, **John Blackwood**, **Caroline Bowen**, **Katherine Acker Brooks**, **Barbara & Joe Christopher**, **Margaret Dawkins**, **Steve Ellison**, **Shawn Erickson** (Ron & Sylvia's son), **Jane Gillespie**, **Samuel Hood** (John & Jana Holland's nephew), **Beverly & Burnett 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**

COMMUNITY PICNIC TODAY: At the Pickens Amphitheater from 1:00 until 5:00pm.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING is next Sunday, October 5th, on World Communion Sunday. This PCUSA Special Offering is for peacemaking and mission efforts. Our congregation keeps 25% for our community and will be given to The Legacy Home, Pickens County's men's recovery program based on the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous providing key insights and spiritual training for addicts in early sobriety. Their mission is to provide a bridge from addiction back into mainstream society.

WELCOME: Today we welcome to the Piano, Ms. Charlene Means as she continues to substitute for Steve while he is recuperating.

AN INVITATION: If you enjoy "making a joyful noise" please join the choir as they start a new season and begin working on Christmas music. Rehearsals are Wednesday afternoons 4:30-5:30 in the Choir Room. If you play an instrument, please tell Colby – our director – so he can add you to the instrumentalist list.

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." – Psalm 100.1-2

SEEKERS CLASS: The Seekers Adult Sunday school class has begun a new Bible study on the New Testament books of Hebrews and James. They meet at 9:30am in the church parlor. All are welcome!

EASLEY PC EVENT: Easley Presbyterian is having an Arts & Crafts Retreat at Camp Fellowship & Conference Center on October 20th – 22nd and would like to invite all who are interested to attend. Lodging is in the conference center, with single beds and private bathrooms. $250 includes 2 nights lodging, meals, craft supplies, and programming. A $50 deposit or full payment due upon registration. **If you have any questions, contact Ginna Lister at Easley PC at (864) 859-4220. Go to this link to register: https://easleypresbyterian.org/event/arts-and-crafts-retreat/**

WARMTH & COMFORT MINISTRY: September - November Drive: Items of warmth: hats, gloves, scarves, blankets, socks, lap quilts, or monetary donations to purchase items for the residents. **Items must be new or handmade due to state regulations. Due 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: **$1,909.10.**
Weekly Amount Needed to meet Budget**: $6,148.**
2025 Budget: **$319,714.**

SERVING:	**TODAY (September 28th)**	**October 5, 2025**
Elder of the Week:	Starla Taylor	Austin Townsend
Liturgist:	Peggy Torrey	Tina LaFoy
Sanctuary Guild:	Debbie Teeple	Deb Holtel
Ushers:	Christa & Dennis Schwab	TBD
Refreshments:	TBD	TBD
Camera Operation:	Ginger Chastain	Anna Chastain
Sound Board:		
Nursery Volunteers:		
Sanctuary Flowers:	Cindy Townsend	Debbie Hendricks
Communion Set-up:		Austin Townsend
Communion Servers:	1.Vickie 2. Tina 3. Sharon 4. Deb 5. Austin	

Lectionary readings for today:	**Lectionary readings for next Sunday:**
Liturgist: Peggy Torrey Jeremiah 32.1-3a Psalm 91.1-6 1 Timothy 6.6-19 Luke 16.19-31	Liturgist: Tina LaFoy Lamentations 1.1-6 Lamentations 3.19-26 *or* Psalm 137 Timothy 1.1-14 Luke 17.5-10