

Pickens Presbyterian Church



311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

September 7th, 2025 13th Sunday after Pentecost Eleven o'clock

The Church Gathers

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Introit

“Behold, 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 Ken Acker, Liturgist

Prelude

“I Need Thee Every Hour”

R Lowry, arr. R Bonam

***Call to Worship**

(based on Psalm 139 and Jeremiah 18)

Like clay on a wheel *God forms us: shaping us, molding us, creating us.*

And like moldable clay, *God continues to shape us.*

ALL: Come, Let us worship God!

***Prayer of Praise**

***Hymn #476**

“O Worship the King, All Glorious Above”

The Church Confesses

Prayer of Confession

O God, you have given us a firm foundation in Jesus Christ, yet we have chosen to build on sinking sand. The works of our hands crumble around us, and our best efforts are not good enough; sin is real, and we are powerless before it. Forgive us for thinking we know best. Mend our broken values and create in us hearts that seek your purposes, so that what we build with our lives may give you glory. . . . (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)

***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.

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

The Church Proclaims God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Ken Acker

1st Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 18.1-11

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

Time with Young Disciples

Elder Tina LaFoy

2nd Scripture Reading

Luke 14.25-33

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

Special Music

"It Is Well with My Soul"

Philip P Bliss, arr. Gary Lanier

Colby Gerald – Horn, Charlene Means – Piano

Sermon

"Under Construction"

Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

***Hymn # 343**

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering and Change-for-Change Food Pantry Offering

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



[GIVE NOW](#)

Offertory

"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" T J Williams, arr. P Rodreguez

***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)

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 *(As we are one body, let us wait to eat and drink together)*

"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 #391**

"Take My Life"

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

"I Keep Falling in Love with Him"

D Wolfe, arr. C McMillen

(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 |
|--|-----------------|
| *Mike and David Goldsmith | health concerns |
| *Julie Clarke (friend of Vickie Swaynham)..... | health concerns |
| *Shirley & Mike (Cousins of Deb Holtel) | health concerns |
| 8/31/25 | |
| Steve Ellison | health concerns |
| 8/24/25 | |
| 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 | |

**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>

PPC FOOD PANTRY: Today we receive the **Change-for-Change special offering** to support our Emergency Food Pantry and Little Free Pantry. Thank you for your generosity in supporting our neighbors.

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

We also welcome our new Choir Director, Mr. Colby Gerald. Please take a moment to speak with him following the service.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for next Sunday, September 14, 2025, immediately following the 11:00 Worship service for the purpose of Electing Officers for the Class of 2028, and to Elect members to the 2026 Officer Nominating Committee.

AN INVITATION: If you enjoy "making a joyful noise" please join the choir as we are starting a new season and begin working on Christmas music. Rehearsals are on Wednesday afternoons 4:30-5:30 in the sanctuary. If you play an instrument, please tell Colby – the new 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 will begin a new Bible study next Sunday, September 14th, 9:30am in the church parlor. The study will be on the New Testament books of Hebrews and James. All are welcome!

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: **\$3,010.**

Weekly Amount Needed to meet Budget: **\$6,148.** 2025 Budget: **\$319,714.**

SERVING:

TODAY (September 7th)

September 14, 2025

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|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Elder of the Week: | Nancy Goldsmith | Betsey Chalmers |
| Liturgist: | Ken Acker | Liza Holder |
| Sanctuary Guild: | Debbie Teeple | Debbie Teeple |
| Ushers: | Christa & Dennis Schwab | Christa & Dennis Schwab |
| Refreshments: | TBD | TBD |
| Camera Operation: | Anna Chastain | Carole Reed |
| Sound Board: | | |
| Nursery Volunteers: | | |

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|--|---|--|
| Sanctuary Flowers: | Vickie Swaynghan | Judy Cook |
| Communion Set-up: | Vickie Swaynghan | |
| Communion Servers: | 1-Tina, 2-Ken T, 3-Roy, 4-Betsey & 5-Robert | |
| <u>Lectionary readings for today:</u> Liturgist: Ken Acker Jeremiah 18.1-11 Psalm 139.1-6, 13-18 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14.25-33 | | <u>Lectionary readings for next Sunday:</u> Liturgist: Liza Holder Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 Psalm 14 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10 |