

Pickens Presbyterian Church



311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

November 23rd, 2025

Christ the King Sunday

Eleven o'clock

The Church Gathers

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Introit

“All Praise to You, My God, This Night”

Thomas Ken

Friendship Pads

Please print your name(s), & contact information, pass the pad, pass it back, note the names of your neighbors and greet them by name after worship.

Concerns in the Life of the Church

Elder Starla Taylor, Liturgist

Prelude

“With Thankful Hearts”

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

***Call to Worship**

(based on Luke 1:68–79)

We gather to worship God, who looks favorably on all the humans they created.

We sing blessings to God, who stands with us for justice and salvation.

We gather to worship God, who worked with many prophetic humans in every time and place.

We sing blessings to God, who makes faithful promises, to us and our ancestors.

We gather to worship God, whose tenderness we see shimmering in the breaking of dawn.

We sing blessings to God, who guides our feet on paths of peace.

ALL: Come, Let us worship God!

***Prayer of Praise**

***Hymn #551**

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

The Church Confesses

Prayer of Confession

(based on Jeremiah 23:1-4)

O God of justice and mercy, you call us to be shepherds who gather and protect those more vulnerable than ourselves. We speak of your justice, but our actions continue to leave others scattered on the edges of society. In the name of our own safety, we shield ourselves from others, push them away with closed doors, hostile looks, and insensitive questions. Even as we protest the actions of the rich and powerful, we have still absorbed their desire for king-like power. We remain tempted by the dream of the Good Life, where goodness for some only comes at the expense of many. Raise us up, O God, from our willful ignorance; bring us back into the fold; help us shepherd in the genuine change that reflects your just promises.

. . . (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 Starla Taylor

1st Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 23.1-6

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

Time with Young Disciples

Elder Tina LaFoy

2nd Scripture Reading

Colossians 1.11-20

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

Anthem

"A Simple Thanksgiving"

arr. by Joseph M. Martin

Sermon

"God's Idea"

Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

***Hymn #151**

***Affirmation of Faith**

(from the Belhar Confession)

We believe in the triune God, Parent, Child, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through the Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe

- *that God has revealed Godself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people*
- *that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor, and the wronged*
- *that God calls the church to follow them in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry*
- *that God frees the prisoner, supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, and blocks the path of the ungodly*
- *that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream*

Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel. To the one and only God, Parent, Child, and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.

Offering

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



GIVE NOW

Offertory

"Blessed Assurance"

arr. J. Bert Carlson

***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 #147**

"Blessing and Honor"

***Charge and Benediction
Postlude**

*“In Our Day of Thanksgiving”
(Please remain seated until worship ends after the Postlude)*

arr. Dave Mackie

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)

Name (relationship)	Concern
*Chil Francis	health concerns
*Troy (Deb Holtel’s cousin).....	health concerns
*Ron Erickson	health concerns
*Doug Tate.....	health concerns
<small>11/9/25</small> Angie Case (friend of Liza)	health concerns
<small>11/9/25</small> Lisa Suffern (April’s Mother-in-law)	health concerns
<small>11/9/25</small> Donna Gessell (Jo Anne’s sister)	health concerns
Heather Cirelli (friend of Kathy Chamlee)	health concerns
Mike & David Goldsmith.....	health concerns
<small>11/2/25</small> Hank Owens.....	health concerns
<small>Continual</small> Hurricane Melissa victims	recovery
Nigerian Christians	
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, Howard Harden, 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](#)”.

Hurricane Melissa. PDA support: gifts to [DR000194](#).

**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>

