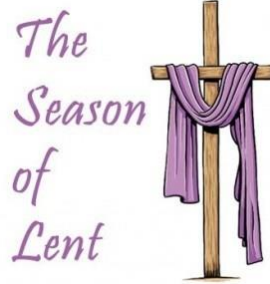


Pickens Presbyterian Church



311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

March 15th, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Eleven o'clock

The Church Gathers

Chiming of the Hour
Choral Introit
Friendship Pads

“Trust and Obey”

J Sammis, D Towner

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 Carole Reed, Liturgist

Prelude

“Stay with Us”

arr. John A. Behnke

***Call to Worship**

(from Psalm 146)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to God all my life long.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord:

Who made heaven and earth, and all that is in them.

Who executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoner free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow.

The Lord will reign forever.

ALL: Come, Let us worship God!

***Prayer of Praise**

Hymn # 476

“Worship the King, All Glorious Above!”

The Church Confesses

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful God, we continue to want more, blind to the blessings we already possess. We want everything now, blind to the value of patience and hard work. We take so much delight in our own accomplishments that we are blind to people in need. Forgive us! Cleanse us of our entitlement, anxiousness and pride. Help us see the world with your eyes so that we can be people of gratitude, courage and compassion, because of what we see in Christ Jesus our Lord. . . . (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.*

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

***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.*

The Church Proclaims God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Carole Reed

1st Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 16.1-13

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

Time with the Children of God

Elder Tina LaFoy

2nd Scripture Reading

John 9.1-41

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

Anthem

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

L M R Stead

Sermon

"Where is the Trust?"

Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

***Hymn # insert**

"Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters"

***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, Wonderful Jesus"

Ernest O. Sellers

***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 # 411**

"Arise, Your Light is Come!"

***Lenten Litany and Benediction**

Christ, as a light illumine and guide me.

Christ, as a shield overshadow me.

Christ under me;

Christ over me;

Christ beside me on my left and my right.

*This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.*

*Be in the heart of each to whom I speak;
in the mouth of each who speaks unto me.*

*This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.*

Christ as a light;

*Christ as a shield;
Christ beside me on my left and my right.*

Postlude

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”
(Please remain seated until worship ends after the Postlude)
The Church Enters the Mission Field

arr. Greg Howlett

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
<small>3/08/26</small> *Della Black	health concerns
<small>2/22/26</small> Deborah Roach (retired CDC Teacher)	health concerns
Debbie Teeple	health concerns
Randy Morgan (friend of Butch & Dianna Morris).....	health concerns
<small>2/15/26</small> Troy Toliver (Deb Holtel’s cousin)	hospice
Jane Townsend.....	health concerns
<small>Continual</small> People of Cuba	worsening conditions due to embargo
Nigerian Christians Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza	
<i>*new this week</i>	

The Christian love and sympathy of the congregation are extended to the family and friends of **Susan Steedman** (mother-in-law of Chase Mahanes) on her dying to this life on Saturday, March 7, 2026.

CELEBRATIONS

LONG TERM PRAYER CONCERN LIST

Bert Allison, John Blackwood, Martha Brooks, Caroline Bowen, Katherine Acker Brooks, Barbara & Joe Christopher, Margaret Dawkins, Shawn Erickson (Ron & Sylvia’s son), **Jane Gillespie, Mike & David Goldsmith, Howard Harden, Samuel Hood** (John & Jana Holland’s nephew), **Beverly & Burnett Kelly, Drema LaFoy** (Tina’s mother), **Hank Owens, Bev Timerding** (Deb Holtel’s sister), **Melvin Tolliver** (Deb Holtel’s uncle), **John & Tiffanie Torrey** (David’s brother & wife).

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**”.

**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>

CHURCH WORKDAY: There will be a church workday on Saturday, March 21st, beginning at 9:00am. Tasks will include weed-eating, pruning, and general clean-up of the church grounds.

EASTER LILY FUND: Memorials and Honorariums for the Easter Lily Fund will be received this year through Sunday, March 22nd, to support our Jane B. Morris Service Fund. Special offering envelopes are in the pew racks. **Memorials and Honorariums will be published in a special insert on Sunday, April 5th.**

UPCOMING WORSHIP EVENTS:

Palm Sunday – March 29, 2026 @ 11:00am

Maundy Thursday Worship service with Communion – April 2, 2026 @ 7:00pm in ASH

Good Friday Worship service – April 3, 2026 @ 7:00pm in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday

“Sunrise” Worship service – April 5, 2026 @ 8:00am ASH Patio

Breakfast – April 5, 2026 @ 8:45am in ASH

Worship service – April 5, 2026 @ 11:00am in the Sanctuary

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS: This year’s Lenten daily devotionals *“Discipleship in a Divided Age: A Lenten Journey through Matthew’s Gospel”* written by Teri McDowell Ott, Editor of the Presbyterian Outlook, and others. There are full booklet copies in the Narthex, and **there is a link to the full devotional booklet in the Cliffnotes.**

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

WARMTH & COMFORT MINISTRY: Spring Drive: Easter cards, Bows and Ribbons for doors, and word search booklets. **All items should be left in the Collection Box in the Church Office hallway. Questions: Contact Tammy Ferguson @ 864-238-4652 or warmthandcomfortfortheelderly@gmail.com**

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Last Sunday’s Giving: **\$3,295.**

Weekly Amount Needed to meet Budget: **\$6,243.** 2026 Budget: **\$324,598.**

SERVING:


TODAY (March 15th)

March 22nd, 2026

Elder of the Week:	Nancy Jo Owens	Nancy Jo Owens
Liturgist:	Carole Reed	Jan Sparks
Sanctuary Guild:	Nancy Jo Owens	Nancy Jo Owens
Ushers:	Vickie Swaynham, Tina LaFoy, Jan Sparks, Mark Taylor	Vickie Swaynham, Tina LaFoy, Butch & Dianna Morris
Refreshments:	TBD	Debbie Teeple
Camera Operation:	Anna Chastain	Robert Simms
Sound Board:		
Nursery Volunteers:		
Sanctuary Flowers:	Vickie Swaynham	Vickie Swaynham
Communion Set-up:		
Communion Servers:		
<u>Lectionary readings for today:</u> Liturgist: Carole Reed 1 Samuel 16:1–13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8–14 John 9:1–41		<u>Lectionary readings for next Sunday:</u> Liturgist: Jan Sparks Ezekiel 37:1–14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6–11 John 11:1–45


Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm) Dm (G) B \flat




1 Wash, O God, your sons and daugh-ters, new - born crea - tures
2 Ev - ery day we need your nur - ture; by your milk may
3 O how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - i - mag - ined,

(D) F (Bm) Dm




of your womb. Num-ber them a - mong your peo - ple, raised like
we be fed. Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of
all your ways! To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our

(G) B \flat (D) F (A) C



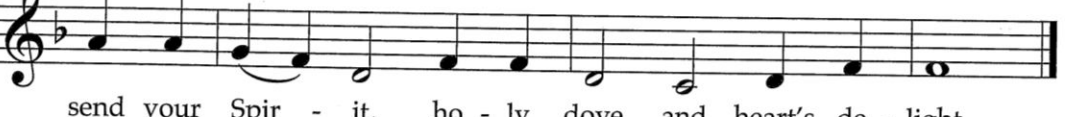
Christ from death and tomb. Weave them gar - ments bright and
bless - ing, liv - ing bread. God, re - new us; guide our
lives we wor - ship, praise! We your peo - ple stand be -

(Bm) Dm (F#m) Am (Bm) Dm (G) B \flat (A) C (D) F



spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light. Fill, a - noint them;
foot - steps, free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in
fore you, wa - ter-washed and Spir - it - born. By your grace, our

(Bm) Dm (G) B \flat (D) F



send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.
liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text incorporates many of the images associated with the water of baptism in the Thanksgiving Over the Water in *The Book of Common Worship*, especially nourishment, the calling forth of life, cleansing and renewal, freedom from bondage, and sharing in Christ's resurrection.