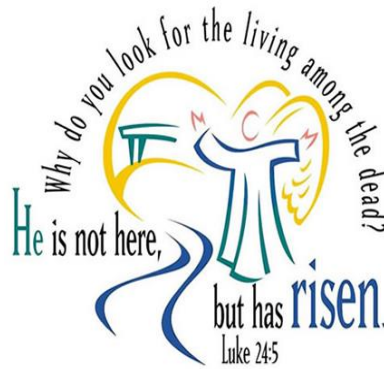


Pickens Presbyterian Church



311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

May 3rd, 2026

5th Sunday of Easter

Eleven o'clock

National Bereaved Mother's Day

The Church Gathers

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Introit

"The Church's One Foundation"

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 Liza Holder, Liturgist

Prelude

"By All Your Saints Still Striving"

Trad. English Melody

***Call to Worship**

(based on Psalm 31:1-5, 14-15)

Our God refuses to shame us. God's justice delivers us.

Praise God, who gives us shelter and guidance!

Our God listens to us. God rescues us from danger.

Praise God, who gives us shelter and guidance!

Our God renews our spirits. God is always faithful.

Praise God, who gives us shelter and guidance!

We trust our God.

ALL: Come, Let us worship God!

***Prayer of Praise**

Hymn #457

"I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"

The Church Confesses

Prayer of Confession

God of compassionate mercy, your grace and love extend to all people. We are called to forgive others, as you forgive us. Far too often, however, we wield forgiveness like a weapon. We see others doing wrong and feel haughty when we grant them grace. We call out the sins of the powerful but fail to notice our own power. We become narrow in our quest for truth, and ignore other people, in other rooms, crying out for your justice. Help us search ourselves and seek forgiveness from those we have made beg us for mercy. Connect us to others and guide us to share power and grace as we follow you. . . . (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.

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

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 and wave Christ's peace to our folks watching via live-stream, then 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 Liza Holder

1st Testament Reading 1 Peter 2.2-10

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

Time with the Children of God

Elder Tina LaFoy

2nd Testament Reading John 14.1-14

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

Anthem

"We Gather at Your Table, Lord"

Walter Ehret

Sermon

"Knowing Him"

Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

***Hymn #442**

"The Church's One Foundation"

***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

GIVE NOW



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

Offertory

"How Can I Keep From Singing"

Robert Lowry

***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, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all God's benefits.

Prayer after Communion

***Hymn # 485**

"To God Be the Glory"

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

"To God Be the Glory"

arr. Jenifer Cook

(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)

Name (relationship)	Concern
4/12/26 Vickie Swaynham and Ron Jones	health concerns
4/05/26 Wayne Johnson (friend of Darrell Cook)	health concerns
Jakob Milliken (Deb Holtel's grandson)	health concerns
Ty Mayes	life issues
Continual Nigerian Christians	
Humanitarian Crisis in Cuba, Gaza, Lebanon & Iran	
<i>*new this week</i>	

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), Shirley Gilkison (Deb Holtel's cousin), Jane Gillespie, 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), Troy Tolliver (Deb Holtel's cousin), 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>

PPC FOOD PANTRY: Today we will receive the Change-for-Change and Coupon Cans special offering to support the church's Food Pantry and Little Free Pantry.

CIRCLE MEETINGS: The Sarah Emily (10:00am) & Eve Circles (5:30pm) **will meet Tuesday, May 5th**. Both Circles will study **Lesson 9**, in "*Finding Resilience, Joy, and our Identity in Jesus Christ*", by Rhashell D. Hunter. **The Eve Circle will have a potluck Salad Sampler Supper following their lesson.**

MISSION COMMITTEE SURVEY: The Missions Committee wants your input on how to further meet the needs in our community. We routinely support the two Food Pantries, Jane B. Morris Fund, annual MLK Celebration and Community Harvest Meal with GEBC, Family Promise, Meals on Wheels, Simmons Ministry, Foothills Presbytery and Café' Justo. **Please see the survey insert and place it the offering plate or drop it by the church office by Monday, May 11th, 2026. Thank you for your input! Missions Committee**

PENTECOST SUNDAY: Pentecost Sunday, or Whitsunday, will be celebrated on Sunday, May 24th. Red is used that day recalling the fiery tongues that descended upon the apostles when they received the Holy Spirit. It is customary to wear red that day. Please remember to wear something red for Pentecost Sunday!

CHURCH CALENDAR: To Prevent Space / Time Conflicts, please check the calendar link above or the QR code in the weekly Cliffnotes for availability, and contact the office to schedule an event or meeting, admin@pickenspresbyterian.org

COFFEE IS BACK! See Jonathan Holder to purchase. All one-pound bags are \$15.00 each and 5-pound bags are \$70.00. Available in ground and whole bean. Make checks out to the church with coffee in the memo line or pay through our secure online Realm system, see text info below or QR code above next to "Offertory."

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.

SET UP YOUR GIVING ONLINE using our secure Realm system. SET UP A SINGLE OR RECURRING CONTRIBUTION, Pantry and Morris fund, or Youth Conference! **Text your donations to 73256, using the message PICKENSPRES, OR simply scan the QR Code above in the worship service order next to "Offertory."**

SERVING:

TODAY (May 3rd)

May 10th, 2026

Elder of the Week:	Ken Townsend	Vickie Swaynham
Liturgist:	Liza Holder	Louise Hope
Sanctuary Guild:	Vickie Swaynham	Vickie Swaynham
Ushers:	Dennis & Christa Schwab, Chad & Meg Cole	Dennis & Christa Schwab, Chad & Meg Cole
Refreshments:	Debbie Teeple	TBD
Camera Operation:	Ginger Chastain	Anna Chastain
Sound Board:		
Nursery Volunteers:		
Sanctuary Flowers:	Cindy Wood	Debbie Teeple
Communion Set-up:	Tina LaFoy	
Communion Servers:	Robert S, Mark T, Tina La, Nancy Jo O, Sharon S	
<u>Lectionary readings for today:</u> Liturgist: Liza Holder Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14		<u>Lectionary readings for next Sunday:</u> Liturgist: Louise Hope Acts 17:22-31 Psalm 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21