

# Pickens Presbyterian Church



311 WEST MAIN STREET  
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026

9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Eleven o'clock

## *The Church Gathers*

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Choral Introit**

*“In Christ Alone”*

**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 Jeff Price, Liturgist

**Prelude**

*“Sing Praise to Him”*

arr. Keith Rowley

**\*Call to Worship**

(from Psalm 119)

The decrees of the Lord are wonderful,

*The unfolding of God’s word gives light and understanding.*

Turn to us, O God, and be gracious to us.

*Make your face shine upon your servants.*

We come together to worship the living God.

*ALL: Come, let us worship God!*

**\*Prayer of Praise**

**\*Hymn #466 Insert**

*“Come and Fill Our Hearts”*

## *The Church Confesses*

**Prayer of Confession**

*God of grace, we want to understand what the kingdom of heaven is like, but our minds are clouded by cares and concerns of the world. We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things. We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes in mysterious ways. We fail to be whole-hearted in our faith and discipleship. We fail to put our trust in the treasures of your kingdom instead of the treasures of the world. Gracious God, hidden and manifest, give us eyes to see and ears to hear your good news for the world even here and now. Transform our lives and our world by your grace. . . . (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 and wave Christ’s peace to our folks in our farthest pew, then turn to the person in front of you, behind you, and beside you to share Christ’s peace with them)*

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*\*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 Jeff Price

**1<sup>st</sup> Testament Reading**

Genesis 29.15-28

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

**Time with the Children of God**

Elder Tina LaFoy

**2<sup>nd</sup> Testament Reading**

Romans 8.26-39

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

**Special Music**

*"There Is a Balm in Gilead"*  
Rev. Terri Price – Soloist

*African-American Spiritual*

**Sermon**

*"Convinced"*

Dr. David Torrey

### **The Church Responds in Faith**

**\*Hymn #339**

*"Be Thou My Vision"*

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

*(from The Barmen Declaration, 8.14-8.16)*

*As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures. We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords — areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him. Amen.*

**Offering**

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

[GIVE NOW](#)



**Offertory**

*"Hymn of Promise/How Great Thou Art"*

arr. Lynette Maynard

**\*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 #430**

*"Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!"*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**

*"Guide Us, O Thou Great Jehovah"*

arr. Terri Hutchings

*(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](http://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](mailto: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         |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 7/26/26                                           |                 |
| *David Goldsmith                                  | health concerns |
| *Debbie Teeple                                    | health concerns |
| Continual                                         |                 |
| Ty Mayes                                          | life issues     |
| Nigerian Christians                               |                 |
| Venezuela Earthquake victims & families           |                 |
| Humanitarian Crisis in Cuba, Gaza, Lebanon & Iran |                 |
| *new this week                                    |                 |

## **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, David Goldsmith, Howard Harden, Samuel Hood (John & Jana Holland's nephew), Beverly & Burnett Kelly, Drema LaFoy (Tina's mother), Hank Owens, Tom Pettigrew (son-in-law of Jo Ann Taylor), Bev Timerding (Deb Holtel's sister), Melvin Tolliver (Deb Holtel's uncle), Troy Tolliver (Deb Holtel's cousin), 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".

**Venezuela earthquakes.** Gifts to "DR999999 – designate Venezuela earthquakes"

*\*Make checks payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with DR support number on memo line.*

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**CHURCH EVENTS THIS WEEK:** Online calendar: <http://PickensPresbyterian.org/Calendar>

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*\*A printed copy of the Calendar of Events for the week and the list of Church Leadership and Contacts is always available in the Narthex and Parlor Hallway where you get your bulletin.*

**SIGN UP HERE TO BRING REFRESHMENTS:** For Sunday fellowship time in All Saints' Hall at 10:30am for food and fellowship. Sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/FellowshipSnacks> or via the QR code or link in the CliffNotes.

**SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Adults, are you ready for a new study? The Seekers Sunday School class invites you to join discussions about the book Credo, by William Sloane Coffin (Rev. Sloan in the Doonesbury comic strip.) The book is a compelling collection of his most powerful quotations, sermons, and writings. The book is thoughtfully organized into thematic sections, giving readers direct access to his thoughts on:

- Faith, Hope, and Love
- Social Justice and Civil Liberties
- Patriotism, War, and Peace
- The Church and the End of Life

The Seekers meet Sunday mornings 9:30-10:30 in the church parlor.

**WARMTH & COMFORT MINISTRY:** Ongoing until Fall: word search books, large print Bibles, puzzles (less than 1000 pieces), toiletries, and items of warmth (hats, scarves, socks, fleece throws) are always welcome. Please deliver to the Church Office Collection Box. **Questions: Contact Tammy Ferguson @ 864-238-4652 or [warmthandcomfortfortheelderly@gmail.com](mailto:warmthandcomfortfortheelderly@gmail.com)**

**CAFÉ JUSTO COFFEE:** See Jonathan Holder to purchase. 1-pound bags are \$15.00ea, and 5-pound bags are \$70.00ea. Make checks payable to the church with coffee in the memo line or pay through our online Realm system, text info below or QR code above next to “Offertory.”

**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](mailto:admin@pickenspresbyterian.org)

**SET UP YOUR GIVING ONLINE** using our secure Realm system. SET UP A SINGLE OR RECURRING CONTRIBUTION, Offering, Pantry and Morris fund, or Youth Conference! **Simply scan the QR Code above in the worship service order next to “Offertory.”**

**SERVING:**

**TODAY (July 26<sup>th</sup>)**

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026**

|                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                    |                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Elder of the Week:                                                                                                                                                         | Nancy Jo Owens                                     | Austin Townsend                                                                                                                                           |
| Liturgist:                                                                                                                                                                 | Jeff Price                                         | Ken Townsend                                                                                                                                              |
| Sanctuary Guild:                                                                                                                                                           | Nancy Jo Owens                                     | Cindy Wood                                                                                                                                                |
| Ushers:                                                                                                                                                                    | Leo Tilley, Ken Townsend,<br>Jonathan & Karleyanne | Robert Simms, Mark Taylor,<br>Jonathan & Karleyanne                                                                                                       |
| Refreshments:                                                                                                                                                              |                                                    |                                                                                                                                                           |
| Camera Operation:                                                                                                                                                          | Robert Simms                                       | Anna Chastain                                                                                                                                             |
| Sound Board:                                                                                                                                                               |                                                    |                                                                                                                                                           |
| Nursery Volunteers:                                                                                                                                                        |                                                    |                                                                                                                                                           |
| Sanctuary Flowers:                                                                                                                                                         | Vickie Swaynham                                    | Cindy Townsend                                                                                                                                            |
| Communion Set-up:                                                                                                                                                          |                                                    | Austin Townsend                                                                                                                                           |
| Communion Servers:                                                                                                                                                         | Nancy Jo, Vickie, Tina, Jim, Deb H                 |                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b><u>Lectionary readings for today:</u></b><br>Liturgist: Jeff Price<br>Genesis 29.15–28<br>Psalm 105.1–11, 45b or Psalm 128<br>Romans 8.26–39<br>Matthew 13.31–33, 44–52 |                                                    | <b><u>Lectionary readings for next Sunday:</u></b><br>Liturgist: Ken Townsend<br>Genesis 32.22–31<br>Psalm 17.1–7, 15<br>Romans 9.1–5<br>Matthew 14.13–21 |

# Come and Fill Our Hearts

466

## *Confitemini Domino*

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.  
*Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo-nus.*

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu - ia!  
*Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!*

This prayer chant—intended for repeated singing—was originally created for a Latin text (Psalm 106:1a and Psalm 118:1a, 29a) on which the present English text is loosely based. Chants at Taizé often use Latin because it is a language free of political overtones.

TEXT and MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982

Text and Music © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

CONFITEMINI DOMINO  
Irregular