

Pickens Presbyterian Church



311 WEST MAIN STREET
PICKENS, SOUTH CAROLINA 29671

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

August 23rd, 2026

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Eleven o'clock

The Church Gathers

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Introit

“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love”

Peter Scholtes

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 Jim Mahanes, Liturgist

Prelude

“God, Our Strength and Mighty Fortress”

ST. ERCONWALD

***Call to Worship**

Hear O Israel! I am calling! Are you listening? *We are here and we are ready.*

Beloved Children, who do you say that I am?

You are our rock and redeemer. Our trust is in you. Our hearts, minds and souls belong to you!

I created you, named you and have a calling for your life.

We give thanks with our whole hearts for your steadfast love!

ALL: Come, let us worship God!

***Prayer of Praise**

***Hymn #489**

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

The Church Confesses

Prayer of Confession

God of truth, like a moth that gnaws at wool, our brokenness eats away at our souls. We allow the cacophony of greed, selfishness, apathy and ignorance to drown out your voice as you call us to see the suffering in our world and respond to the needs of your children. In our busy lives, we convince ourselves that there is no time to help, no space for prayer and no need for justice. Forgive us. Remind us that only when we slow down and breathe deeply of your Holy Spirit and holy Word can our ears hear your voice. Inspire us to greater love for you and for one another. . . . (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)

**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 Jim Mahanes

1st Testament Reading Exodus 1.8 – 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 Romans 12.1-8

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

Anthem "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!" Hymn #138, Heber, Dykes
PPC Choir & Friends

Sermon "Your Living Sacrifice"

Dr. David Torrey

The Church Responds in Faith

***Hymn #369**

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

***Affirmation of Faith**

(The Confession of 1967, 9.24-26)

The new life finds its direction in the life of Jesus, his deeds and words, his struggles against temptation, his compassion, his anger, and his willingness to suffer death. The teaching of apostles and prophets guides men and women in living this life, and the Christian community nurtures and equips them for their ministries.

The members of the church are emissaries of peace and seek the good of all in cooperation with powers and authorities in politics, culture, and economics. But they have to fight against pretensions and injustices when these same powers endanger human welfare. Their strength is in their confidence that God's purpose rather than human schemes will finally prevail.

Life in Christ is life eternal. The resurrection of Jesus is the sign that God will consummate the work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ. Amen.

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

[GIVE NOW](#)



Offertory "Faith" Op. 102, no 6

Felix Mendelssohn

***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 #765 Insert** "May the God of Hope Go with Us"

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude "Simple Gifts"

arr. Ivan Lohvin

(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
8/16/26 *Ann McDonald (family friend of Steve)	health concerns
8/16/26 Pat Fisher (Donna Owens' mother)	health concerns
7/26/26 Grace Anderson (Ginger Chastain's mother)	health concerns
Continual David Goldsmith	health concerns
Continual Ty Mayes	life issues
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), Ty Mayes, 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.*

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

**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.*

IT'S COMING NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2026! It is the first of our 5th Sunday Lunch on the Grounds (in ASH) following worship. Please bring enough for your family + 1 person. The meal will be potluck with the church providing chicken. If you want to bring something hot, we can put it in the warming cabinet during worship. For more information, see Vickie Swaynham or Jan Sparks. Please use the tear-off at the bottom of the back page to indicate if you'll be attending OR reply to Thursday's Cliffnotes.

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.

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**

CAFÉ JUSTO COFFEE: See Jonathan Holder to purchase. 1-pound bags - \$15.00ea, and 5-pound bags - \$70.00ea. Make checks payable to PPC 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. Contact the office to schedule an event or meeting, admin@pickenspresbyterian.org

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

<u>SERVING:</u>	<u>TODAY (August 23rd)</u>	<u>August 30th, 2026</u>
Elder of the Week:	Nancy Jo Owens	Jeff Price
Liturgist:	Jim Mahanes	Jeff Price
Sanctuary Guild:	Peggy Torrey	Peggy Torrey
Ushers:	Jim Miller, Robert Simms, Dennis & Christa Schwab	Jonathan Holder, Jim Miller, Mark Taylor, Robert Simms
Refreshments:		
Camera Operation:	Robert Simms	Carole Reed
Sound Board:		
Nursery Volunteers:		
Sanctuary Flowers:	Debbie Teeple	Deb Holtel
Communion Set-up:		
Communion Servers:		
Food Pantry (M & W)		
Morris Fund (1 st & 3 rd) Tue		David Chamlee

<u>Lectionary readings for today:</u>	<u>Lectionary readings for next Sunday:</u>
Liturgist: Jim Mahanes Exodus 1.8—2.10 Psalm 124 Romans 12.1–8 Matthew 16.13–20	Liturgist: Jeff Price Exodus 3.1–15 Psalm 105.1–6, 23–26, 45b Romans 12.9–21 Matthew 16.21–28

_____ **Family**
 # Attending: _____ **will attend the 5th Sunday Potluck on the Grounds next Sunday,
 August 30th, 2026.**

May the God of Hope Go with Us 765

Song of Hope / Canto de esperanza



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our
¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en



lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -



on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.



Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.



work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.
Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.

This Argentine folk melody sets Spanish and English words, both created by a PC(USA) missionary with much Latin American experience. The two versions complement each other: the Spanish text offering a prayer to God, and the English one providing inspiration for the singers.