



FIRST  
**PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**  
COVINGTON

**May 10, 2026**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

✠ *You are invited to stand in body OR in spirit*



# *Gathering As God's Beloved People*

## **Gathering Music**

*Prelude and Fugue in C Major*

J.S. Bach

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Dan Miller

*Praise Him! Praise Him!*

Charles Callahan

## **Invitation to Worship**

## **Chiming of the Hour**

## **Prelude**

*They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*

Peter Scholtes

## **Welcome & Announcements**

## **Musical Tribute to Mothers**

*Amazing Grace*

Arr. by Gary Lanier

Aubrey Evans (flute), Alice Walker (piano)

## ✠ **Call to Worship**

Hannah Freeman

God of heaven and earth,

Creator of our world and everything in it,

Holy is your name.

**In You we live and move and have our being;**

**we are Your children, the work of Your hands.**

Come, Holy Spirit, move among us as we worship.

**Open our eyes to Your presence;**

**open our ears to Your Word.**

Receive the worship of our hearts and minds and bodies.

**May it be a pleasing offering to You.**

## ✠ **Hymn of Praise 12**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

## ✠ **Call to Confession**

Hardy Sideris

## ✠ **Community Confession**

*Prayer written by Katie Cook*

Hardy Sideris

**Holy God,**

**we come together to worship,  
a people who would like to think that we love you  
with all our hearts and souls,  
with all our might,  
but there are so many other things in our lives  
that clamor for our attention  
that we often relegate you to Sundays and Wednesdays,  
and times when we want you to rescue us.**

**Most of us really do want you to be the one  
in whom we live and move and have our being.**

**We really do want to hear your voice  
above all of the other voices in our lives.**

**But we get bogged down in the daily routine.**

**We forget who we are.**

**We forget who you are.**

**We forget what the church is supposed to be.**

**So here we are,**

**standing before you today,  
with our human foibles and our short attention spans,  
asking that you would make yourself known to us,  
that you would help us to recognize the presence of the Holy,  
that you would continue to challenge us, inspire us,  
and make us into the people you want us to be.**

**Forgive us for our ignorance.**

**Amen.**

## ✠ **Assurance of God's Love & Forgiveness**

Church, we are forgiven!

**We are free to try again.**

✠ **Hymn 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

*We invite our children to come forward and to play shakers during this song!*

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.***

***As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

***World without end, without end. Amen.***

***World without end, without end. Amen.***

***World without end, without end. Amen.***

***As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

✠ **Passing of the Peace**

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**



## *Proclaiming the Word*

**Wondering with God's Children**

**Anthem**

*A Communion Meditation*

by Don Besig

Chancel Choir

**Prayer for God's Wisdom & Understanding**

**Scripture Reading**

*Acts 17:22-31*

Pew Bible page 137

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

*Missing Piece*

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane



## *Responding to the Word*

✠ **Response 263**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*

CORONATION

## Offering Our Gifts: An Invitation to Generosity

Pam Iannucci

You are invited to "Text to Give" your offering! Text\* FPCCOV to: 73256 and follow the link to give online, or scan the QR Code to visit the giving page! Select "**2026 Pledge**" if you made a pledge during stewardship season. Select "Non-Pledge" for a general offering.



## Offertory

*The Lord's My Shepherd (Brother James' Air)*  
Alice Walker, organ

M. Searle Wright

## ✠ Response 606

*Doxology*

OLD HUNDREDTH

***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.***



## *The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

### Invitation to the Table

### The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**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.**

### Words of Institution

## Communion of the People

*Church, you are invited to partake with bread and cup upon hearing the words "The gifts of God for the people of God." We recognize Christ is present with us as the Body of Christ in our sanctuary and in our homes this day. May the Holy Spirit dwell with you as we participate in the sacrament of communion together. One bread, one body!*  
*See our Worship Practices section for more details.*

## Prayer After Communion



### *Being the Church in the World*

✦ **Sending Hymn 645**     *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*     MIT FREUDEN ZART

✦ **Charge & Benediction**

✦ **Postlude**     *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*     David Cherwien



### *Serving Today*

**Usher Chair** | Jodi Atkins

**Tech Team** | Kenny Compton, Jonny Atkins

**Acolytes** | MaryRantz Lane, Elizabeth Fraser Browning, Nova Puckett

**PW Banner Bearers** | Janet Carmichael, Julia MacKenzie

**Liturgists** | Hannah Freeman, Pam Iannucci, Hardy Sideris

**This Sunday our worship leaders represent our Presbyterian Women's Circles:**

Martha, Elizabeth Ann, and Rahab. The banner pictured on our worship guide cover and being marched in is our Presbyterian Women banner. Interested in learning more about Presbyterian women? Fill out the "serve" pew card with your contact and "PW" and one of our circle leader will be in touch!



## Worship Practices

**Communion**—All are invited to come forward to take communion. The ushers will guide you to two stations on either side of the Lord's table to receive the bread and the cup. You may choose to receive prepackaged communion elements or a gluten-free option which are available at the Lord's table. If you are not physically able to come forward and would still like to receive communion, please let an usher know and it will be brought to you. Communion elements are taken to the nursery for children to participate in the sacrament. If you would not like to receive communion, you are welcome to stay in your seat for a time of prayerful reflection.

**First time visiting? We're so glad you're here!**—Please take a moment to fill out the Visitor Card in the pew pocket in front of you. After worship, let us know it's your first time—we have a gift for you with info about our church and a free treat from The Little Rabbit Bake Shop!

Want to learn more about our church family, baptism, communion, or Bible study? Just mark it on the card—we'd love to connect with you!

**Offering Cards**—The offering is an act of worship! We encourage you to place something in the offering plate as it comes to you. Throughout the pews you will find a selection of "offering cards" which we invite you to use to share how you intend to be a good steward this week. *Visit* with us as a newcomer by sharing about yourself or your family. *Pray* with us by offering a prayer which will be shared with the pastor. *Serve* with us by telling us how you will use your time and talent this week. Or *Give* with us by placing either a card to represent your online gift or physical cash or check offering. These offering cards are an invitation to generosity!

**Accessibility**—A limited supply of large print worship guides are available in the narthex. If you'd like to learn about connecting your Bluetooth hearing aids to our Sanctuary sound system we invite you to talk to our Tech Team.

**Use**—One License #A-728728 authorizes the use of music printed in our worship guide and streamed online. \*Messages and data rates may apply when using Text to Give. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.



**FIRST  
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CHURCH  
COVINGTON, GA**

**1169 Clark Street SW Covington, GA 30014**  
**fpccov.org 770.786.7321**

**First Presbyterian Church Staff**

Neeley Rentz Lane	<i>Senior Pastor &amp; Head of Staff</i>	<i>Nursery Staff</i>
Mark Fiddie	<i>Dir. of Music &amp; Worship Arts</i>	Hattie Bellinger
Denise Gabriel	<i>Dir. of Community Preschool</i>	Akeelah Fletcher
Peni Kehoe	<i>Finance Administrator</i>	Jahniyah Greene
Catherine Laseter	<i>Dir. of Communications &amp; Operations</i>	Laina Lalane
Alice Walker	<i>Organist CAGO, AAGO</i>	Jordyn Williams
Chuck Williams	<i>Parish Associate</i>	Sylvia Woods

**Emergency Response Team**

*In the event of an emergency including tornado, fire, intruder, and medical emergencies, the Emergency Response Team will lead the church's response and may be identified by wearing yellow visibility vests. If these people are not present for an emergency secondary responders will wear ERT vests. Please follow any directions given by the following people in the event of an emergency:*

- Primary Point Person—Neeley Rentz Lane
- Facility/Security Response—Kenny Compton, Stan Hall, John McCarthy
- Medical Response—Nichole Howell, Pam Stillerman

**Officers**

<b>Reaching Out</b>	
Sara Chini	<i>Witness (2026)</i>
Yvonne Hill-Davenport	<i>Witness (2028)</i>
Stephanie Scarborough	<i>Witness (2027)</i>
Bob Tabb	<i>Thriving Congregations (2028)</i>
<b>Engaging</b>	
Krista Firkus	<i>Faith Formation (2027)</i>
Hardy Fortson Sideris	<i>Worship (2027)</i>
Chuck Williams	<i>Faith Formation (2028)</i>
Angie Woodham	<i>Worship (2028)</i>
<b>Belonging</b>	
Gary Boteler	<i>Finance (2027)</i>
Pam Stillerman	<i>Welcome (2026)</i>
Bethany Wells	<i>Welcome (2028)</i>
<b>Connecting (Deacons)</b>	
Cathy Dobbs	<i>Pastoral Care (2027)</i>
Denny Dobbs	<i>Pastoral Care (2027)</i>
Beverly Kratz	<i>Faith &amp; Fellowship (2028)</i>
Darcel Tabb	<i>Faith &amp; Fellowship (2027)</i>
<b>More</b>	
Jodi Atkins	<i>Preschool (2026)</i>
Kenny Compton	<i>Facilities (2026)</i>
Jo Anna Fish	<i>Personnel (2027)</i>
John McCarthy	<i>Clerk of Session</i>

# SOUL FEAST'S GOT TALENT

**MAY 13** 5:15PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL



## ON THE MENU: BRADLEY'S BBQ

RSVP for dinner by May 11th to [catherine@fpccov.org](mailto:catherine@fpccov.org) or by putting a "serve" card with your name in the offering plate

**Adults: \$8**  
**Kids: \$5**  
**Family max: \$30**



**Donations contribute to the Youth Conference Fund!**

## S.O.S. Summer!

FPC's Seasoned Older Saints!



**May 14 Live at Lunch**

Pack a lunch, grab a chair, and join us for a concert on the square | 12:00pm

**May 21 El Chapparro**

Lunch Bunch | 11:30am

**June 1 Olive Garden**

Lunch Bunch | 11:30am

**August 13 Fernbank Adventure!**

Meet at church at 9am | Cost: \$21

**Sunday, May 10**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Caring Hands Mother's Day Special Offering

Graduate Submission Deadline

9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Worship—Communion

**Monday, May 11**

RSVP for Soul Feast

**Wednesday, May 13**

10:00am FPCP Chapel

5:15pm Soul Feast's Got Talent

6:30pm Chancel Choir

**Thursday, May 14**

7:30am— Habitat for Humanity Women Build

2:00pm

10:00am FPCP Chapel

12:00pm Lunch Bunch on the Square

**Saturday, May 16**

8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast

**Sunday, May 17**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

9:45am Last Regular Sunday School

11:00am Worship—Graduates' Sunday

11:30am Godly Play following Children's Moment

5:00pm Youth Group

## VOLUNTEER FOR VBS at FPC

**JUNE 15-18**  
**9:00AM-12:00PM**

Email Neeley to signup!  
[neeley@fpccov.org](mailto:neeley@fpccov.org)

Mandatory training

**MAY 31**

at 9:45am during Sunday School



To register campers, visit [fpccov.org/vbs](http://fpccov.org/vbs)

## Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sat., May 16th  
8:00am at Town House Café

# In Our Thoughts & Prayers

## Most recent prayer requests

Requests will be moved to "ongoing" after three weeks unless the office is notified.

- ✦ Will Allfather, cousin of Kim Lindsey - cancer treatment
- ✦ Clements Middle School
- ✦ Ruth McDaniel, former member - recovering from a brain bleed
- ✦ The loved ones and STEAM Academy schoolmates mourning the loss of Aiden.

## Ongoing prayer requests

Requests will be removed after six weeks unless the office is notified.

- ✦ Maggie Gwin, family of Paisley Lane - welcoming baby McCoy!
- ✦ Rita Brown, loved one of Townes Pittman - skin cancer
- ✦ Andrew Rivas, loved one of Townes Pittman - collar bone & wrist injury
- ✦ Carter, friend of Paisley Lane - broken wrist
- ✦ Jill Chandler, sister of Brad Hawley - cancer
- ✦ Glen Eason, uncle of Hannah Freeman - recovering from car accident

- ✦ Steven Gibbons - fractured ribs
- ✦ Brenda Howell - recovering from stroke & heart attack
- ✦ Patrick Carmichael
- ✦ Danny Vining - prostate cancer treatment
- ✦ Lee Ellen Digby, mother of Terri Digby - rehab
- ✦ Brandon Vining, son of Danny & Beth Vining - prostate cancer treatment
- ✦ Ed Perkerson - early Parkinson's
- ✦ Greg Brickell, friend of Sam & Loucy Hay
- ✦ Olaava MacKenzie, daughter of Julie & Jeff MacKenzie - praying for safe travels
- ✦ Anne Cranford - cancer
- ✦ Douglas Hatfield, husband of Mary Hatfield
- ✦ Kelly Folden, friend of Jennifer Buckelew - father diagnosed with cancer
- ✦ Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining
- ✦ Virginia, mother of Tammi Welch

## Military Service

- ✦ Koen Ardis - Navy
- ✦ Benjamin Iannucci, III - Air Force

## Condolences

- ✦ Our prayers are with the loved ones of Ken Walker, including his wife Alice, as they mourn Ken's passing on April 18, 2026. A visitation and service were held on April 23.
- ✦ Our prayers are with Jean Elder as she mourns the recent passing of several loved ones including her sister Jackie, her nephew Robert, and her dear friend Shirley.
- ✦ Our prayers are with the loved ones of Joseph "Pat" Patrick as they mourn his passing on April 12, 2026.

## Independent and Assisted Living

- ✦ Reid Buckelew - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Tom Crews - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Sarah Davis - Merryvale Assisted Living
- ✦ Jean Elder - Florida with her daughter
- ✦ Dot Fincher - Madison, GA
- ✦ Louly Hay - Presbyterian Village Athens
- ✦ Carol McGiboney - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Jon Paschal - Annandale Village
- ✦ Louise White - Prema at Ashton Hills

Prayer requests and updates may be given the pastor, put in the offering plate, or emailed to [catherine@fpccov.org](mailto:catherine@fpccov.org)

We welcome everyone into our church family!

**We'd LOVE to have you become an official MEMBER!**

Sunday, May 31st  
Talk to Neeley if you are interested!



**GIVE HOPE THIS SPRING.**  
Give blood.

**Sunday School**  
Sunday School classes are held at 9:45am.  
Children's Class (PreK-4th)  
Youth Class (5th+)  
Foundations Adult Class  
The Wired WORD

**First Presbyterian Church  
Covington, GA  
American Red Cross  
Blood Drive  
Tuesday, May 19th, 2026  
12:00PM-5:00PM  
Fellowship Hall**



join FPC for local missions this Summer!

**MISSION MANIA**  
July 20-23  
For more info visit [fpccov.org/signup](http://fpccov.org/signup)

## Graduate Recognition Sunday will be May 17

All are invited to submit the names of their loved ones and the school from which they are graduating by TODAY, May 10 for inclusion in the worship guide. You may write it on a Prayer card for the offering plate or email [catherine@fpccov.org](mailto:catherine@fpccov.org).

# Caring Hands



ATLANTA • ATHENS • AUSTELL • DECATUR  
QUITMAN • SWAINSBORO

phginc.org

229-299-5043

For 76 years, Presbyterian Homes of Georgia has provided compassionate care for senior adults in an environment of Christian love. Your generosity is an expression of stewardship which ensures that residents never face financial insecurity.

In the 1940s, a woman asked her pastor if there would be a place for her in her final years. Your gift answers Yes to that question by providing financial support to the Caring Hands Fund, which provides financial support to residents. Your gift ensures that no resident will be asked to leave because his or her financial resources have been exhausted.

A widow asked, "Is there a place for me?" You have the opportunity to answer that question today.

“

A SIMPLE QUESTION LED TO A POWERFUL MISSION.

Does our church have a place which cares for older members who have no family and who do not want to be a burden on their friends?

”

*Presbyterian Homes of Georgia is a Christian ministry providing exceptional services to enhance the quality of life for senior adults.*

In 1942, an elderly woman at the Presbyterian Church in Quitman asked her pastor after church one day whether there was a place for people like her so that they would not have to be a burden on their families and friends. That pastor, Rev, Frank McElroy Sr., knew that there should be such a place. On September 1, 1949, the Presbyterian Home opened in Quitman with three female residents.

For 76 years, Presbyterian Homes of Georgia has provided compassionate care for senior adults in an environment of Christian love. Across our communities, we serve residents of all religious affiliations and financial standing, and we offer a full range of residential options. There are six communities in the Presbyterian Homes family:

Our Life Plan communities provide a full range of options, from fully independent living to assisted living, skilled nursing, and memory care:

- 🏠 Presbyterian Home and Retirement Community in Quitman
- 🏠 Presbyterian Village in Austell
- 🏠 Presbyterian Village in Athens

Three are affordable senior living apartment communities:

- 🏠 Philips Tower in Decatur
- 🏠 Calvin Court in Atlanta's Buckhead neighborhood
- 🏠 Swainsboro Presbyterian Apartments in Emanuel County

*A widow asked, "Is there a place for me?"  
You have the opportunity to answer that question today.*

The *Caring Hands* Fund provides financial support to ensure that all residents have access to the exceptional services promised in our mission statement. We make this promise to every resident: You will have a home here for as long as you need it. No resident has ever been asked to leave because his or her financial resources have been exhausted. Your gift answers "Yes" to that question: There is a place for you at Presbyterian Homes of Georgia.

*Caring Hands* funds can assist with:

- Addressing food insecurity
- Travel to medical or therapeutic appointments
- Assistance with medical bills or devices
- Chaplaincy programs

Whenever we see a need, we seek to fill it. **More than one-third of our 1,300 residents at our six communities benefit from some form of charitable care through *Caring Hands*.**