

MAY 24, 2026



**DAY OF
PENTECOST**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH COVINGTON, GA**

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

Gathering As God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

J.S. Bach

Praeludium

Gordon Young

Two Spirituals: "Go Down, Moses" & "I Want to Be Ready"

Charles Callahan

Invitation to Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

David Cherwien

Welcome & Announcements

✠ Call to Worship

written by AnnMarie Kneebone

Come, sing a new song of worship.

Come, sing a new song of praise.

Today is a day of a promise fulfilled.

With joy we celebrate Pentecost.

Pentecost – a day when power and comfort flowed.

Pentecost – a day of hope and inspiration.

A day when the Holy Spirit was revealed in flaming glory

and the glory was given to the people.

The fire of the Holy Spirit lives on in us.

Sing praises!

We sing praises, indeed!

✠ Hymn of Praise 289

On Pentecost They Gathered

MUNICH

At this time children and choir will process with ribbons!

✠ Call to Confession

Chuck Williams

God pours out the Spirit upon us, but we do not always welcome God's gifts.

Let us confess our doubts and fears,

That we might find forgiveness and newness of life.

✠Community Confession

Infinite God,

You come to us in many colors, shapes, and languages.

You speak to each of us in the way we can understand.

You reach out to us and meet us where we are.

But we are quick to limit you to what we can understand and control.

Forgive us, and set your Spirit loose among us.

Challenge us, surprise us, and open us to your power,

that we might know you more deeply,

follow you more faithfully,

and love you more fully.

Amen.

✠Confessional Response 288

Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

✠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

Happy Birthday Church!

Anthem

Holy Spirit, Rain Down
Chancel Choir

by Russell Frager

Interactive Scripture Reading

Acts 2:1-21

Pew Bible page 119

Sarah Carmichael (Portuguese)

Bill Clary (German)

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Message

Fire Refines

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane



Responding to the Word

✦ **Response 291**

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

SPIRIT

✦ **Affirmation of Faith**

excerpt from A Brief Statement of Faith

Chuck Williams

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,

and binds us together with all believers

in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit

who inspired the prophets and apostles

**rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.**

**In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Prayers of the People

Pentecost Prayer Stations

You are invited to participate in the interactive prayer stations provided throughout our worship space. You may also choose to remain in your seat and reflect on the scripture.

Offering Our Gifts: An Invitation to Generosity

Chuck Williams

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

How Majestic Is Your Name
Alice Walker, organ

John Carter

✠ Response 606

Doxology

OLD HUNDRETH

***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 & Gratitude



Being the Church in the World

✦ **Sending Hymn 290**

O Day of Joy and Wonder!

JONATHAN'S TUNE

✦ **Charge & Benediction**

✦ **Postlude**

Prelude and Fugue in B-Flat Major

J.S. Bach



Worship Practices

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.



Serving Today

Usher Chair | Jodi Atkins

Tech Team | Dan Walden, Laramy Wells

Acolytes | Braden Woodham, McKenna Boston



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
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 & Head of Staff</i>
Mark Fiddie	<i>Dir. of Music & Worship Arts</i>
Denise Gabriel	<i>Dir. of Community Preschool</i>
Peni Kehoe	<i>Finance Administrator</i>
Catherine Laseter	<i>Dir. of Communications & Operations</i>
Alice Walker	<i>Organist CAGO, AAGO</i>
Chuck Williams	<i>Parish Associate</i>

Nursery Staff
 Hattie Bellinger
 Akeelah Fletcher
 Jahniyah Greene
 Laina Lalane
 Sarah Puckett
 Shelby Sharpe
 Jordyn Williams
 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

Reaching Out

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>

Engaging

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>

Belonging

Gary Boteler	<i>Finance (2027)</i>
Pam Stillerman	<i>Welcome (2026)</i>
Bethany Wells	<i>Welcome (2028)</i>

Connecting (Deacons)

Cathy Dobbs	<i>Pastoral Care (2027)</i>
Denny Dobbs	<i>Pastoral Care (2027)</i>
Beverly Kratz	<i>Faith & Fellowship (2028)</i>
Darcel Tabb	<i>Faith & Fellowship (2027)</i>

More

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>



FIRE REFINES



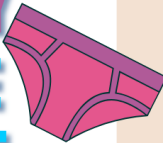
We welcome everyone into our church family!

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

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

After worship on May 31st we will welcome new members to FPC! Then our welcome team and session will host those who have recently joined for a new member lunch in the Fellowship Hall!

UNDIE SUNDAY
UNDERWEAR DRIVE
FOR FOSTER CARE



JULY 19

Bring NEW undies to worship to help children and youth in the transitions of foster care!



FPC's Seasoned Older Saints' Monthly Lunch

S.O.S Lunch Bunch

Olive Garden

Monday, June 1
at 11:30am

Sunday, May 24
Day of Pentecost

9:45am Pentecost Breakfast

11:00am Worship

Monday, May 25

Office CLOSED for Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 26

12:00pm Lectio Divina—Pastor's Bible Study

5:30pm FPCP Board Meeting

6:30pm Session Meeting

Wednesday, May 27

10:00am Coffee Club

3:30pm Staff Meeting

5:45pm Handbell Choir

6:30pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, May 28

5:30pm Witness Team Meeting

Saturday, May 30

9:00am Meals on Wheels

Sunday, May 31
Trinity Sunday

9:45am VBS Volunteer Training

9:45am Summer Sunday School

11:00am Worship

12:00pm Welcoming New Members

12:30pm New Member Lunch

FPC KIDS

June 29 | Pizza in the Park
Central Park | 5:00pm

July 13 | Trail Walk & Scoops
Meet at Legion Field for a group walk on Cricket Frog Trail to the square for ice cream | 6:00pm

July 26 | Weesner Cabin Day
Hamburgers, hotdogs, fishing fun!
RSVP to Neeley | 5:00pm

SUMMER

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Most recent prayer requests

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

- ✦ Alison Riley, friend of Chuck Williams - cancer
- ✦ Mark Wells, loved one of Lily Wells
- ✦ Ricky, friend of John Leavitt - recovering from colon surgery
- ✦ Will Allfather, cousin of Kim Lindsey - cancer treatment
- ✦ Clements Middle School

Ongoing prayer requests

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

- ✦ Anne Cranford - cancer
- ✦ Ruth McDaniel, former member - recovering from a brain bleed
- ✦ Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining

- ✦ 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

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

Military Service

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

Prayer requests and updates may be given the pastor, put in the offering plate, or emailed to catherine@fpccov.org

Summer Sunday School starts May 31 at 9:45am!

Adults: We will combine our adult classes with a Feasting on the Word curriculum in the Gathering Room!

Youth: We invite our Youth to join us at Bread and Butter for a casual time of coffee and conversation. We will meet in the narthex at 9:45am to walk over together and we'll walk back for worship!

Children: Our children will continue regular Sunday School through the summer!

Summer Choir: We will have Summer Choir at 10:30am on Sunday mornings! All are welcome to pop in and help us prepare to lead the hymns in worship each week!

CHANGEMAKERS LAB VBS at FPC

JUNE 15-18

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

3 y/o - 5th grade

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THE FUN!

To register, visit fpccov.org/vbs

DONATE SOME THINGS FROM AROUND YOUR HOUSE FOR VBS!

- Donations can be brought to the Gathering Room!
- 20oz plastic bottles
- Large cardboard boxes
- Wide-mouth glasses/jars

VOLUNTEER FOR VBS at FPC

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

Mandatory training
MAY 31
at 9:45am

Email Neeley to signup!
neeley@fpccov.org

MISSION MANIA

join FPC for
local missions
this Summer!

July 20-23

For more info visit
fpccov.org/signup