

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVINGTON, GA



June 14, 2026

Third Sunday after Pentecost

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



# *Gathering As God's Beloved People*

## **Gathering Music**

*When, in Our Music, God Is Glorified  
All Things Bright and Beautiful  
Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

ENGELBERG  
ROYAL OAK  
Michael Larkin

## **Invitation to Worship**

## **Chiming of the Hour**

## **Prelude**

*We Will Glorify*

Marilyn Arison

## **Welcome & Announcements**

## ✠ **Call to Worship**

Lord, come into our hearts today.

**Heal us from all our pain.**

Lord, come into our lives today.

**Bring us hope and peace.**

Come, let us worship God who brings hope and peace.

**Praise be to God for God's healing mercies.**

**Amen.**

## ✠ **Hymn of Praise 35**

*Praise Ye The Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

## ✠ **Call to Confession**

Chuck Williams

## ✠ **Community Confession**

**Holy and merciful God, we confess that we long to be touched—  
to be seen, known, held, and healed. Yet we are afraid.**

**Like the woman in the crowd, we carry wounds we try to hide.**

**We fear what others might think if they knew how deeply we hurt,  
how lonely we are, how desperately we ache for connection.**

**We keep our distance. We label parts of ourselves untouchable: our grief, our shame, our scars, our questions. We label others untouchable.**

**Forgive us for the ways fear closes our hands and hardens our hearts.**

**Forgive us for avoiding the pain of others because we do not know how to bear it. Forgive us for withholding compassion, for turning away from those the world calls untouchable.**

**Still, God, you stop in the crowd.**

**You notice trembling hands.**

**You call wounded people "Beloved."**

**You do not recoil from our need.**

**In Christ, You draw near and make us whole.**

**Teach us to become a community where no one is invisible, no one is untouchable, and no one suffers alone.**

**In the name of Jesus, who meets us in our fear and restores us in love, Amen.**

## ✠ Assurance of God's Love & Forgiveness

*For When You Suffer Alone* by Kate Bowler

*I see you there, suffering alone, with the illness or pain that lingers though friends do not,—or cannot. You, in isolation, locked in, or locked out. You, the caregivers struggling in the certainty that there is not enough strength, time or resources.*

You who counsel others in their trauma but suffer deeply from your own.

You who are grieving losses, too many to name, too complex or unbecoming to speak aloud.

*Blessed are you, dear one. Searching for someone to understand, see your wounds and your hope for healing. You are seen, as you walk that hard and lonely road. Blessed are you because your loneliness speaks a deep truth: you were never meant to do this alone.*

God, comfort us, guide us, that our hope for more—a prayer which will be answered—might be protected too.

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**

*At this time, you are invited to greet your neighbor! Share the peace of the Lord with a hello, high-five, handshake, hug, or however else you feel called!*

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

**And also with you!**



## *Proclaiming the Word*

**Wondering with God's Children**

*Connection Matters*

**Anthem**

*O Divine Redeemer*  
Janet Carmichael, solo

by Charles Gounod

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

**Scripture Reading**

*Mark 5:25-34*

Pew Bible page 39

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Message**

*Sensing Faith: Touch*

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane



## *Responding to the Word*

✠ **Response 178**

*The Woman Hiding in the Crowd*

SIMMONS

## Offering Our Gifts: An Invitation to Generosity

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

*O Thou to Whose All-Searching Sight*  
Alice Walker, organ

United States Sacred  
Harmony, 1799

## ✦ 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.***



## *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.*

### ✦ Anointing

*You are invited to be anointed with oil when you come forward for communion. After receiving the sacrament there will be an anointing station. If you choose to be anointed, simply stop and we will say a prayer for you.*

## Prayer After Communion



## *Being the Church in the World*

### ✦ Sending Hymn 795

*Healer of Our Every Ill*

HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL

### ✦ Charge & Benediction

### ✦ Postlude

*Toccata*

Theodore Dubois



## *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.

**Sensing Faith** - A series on deepening our faith through engaging the five senses.

Faith is a gift of the Holy Spirit, and by God's grace, comes to us in a variety of ways. Sometimes faith comes to us through hearing: a song, a sermon, a conversation, a story. Sometimes faith comes to us through touch: a fresh breeze on a hot day, a handshake, a high five, a hug. Sometimes faith comes to us through taste: the bread and wine shared at the Lord's Table, a meal brought by a loved one, a dessert that recalls a celebration. Sometimes faith comes by seeing: a painting, a sculpture, a beachfront, or a mountaintop. Sometimes faith comes to us by smelling: incense, the pine scent of a Christmas tree, the baking of fresh bread for Communion. As being created in the image of God, we have been gifted with a variety of senses. In this sermon series, we will explore how faith is formed and nurtured through our five primary senses.

**Worship Art** - During this sensing faith sermon series our worship guide cover art will show "The Five Senses" stained-glass installation designed by Louis J. Millet, installed in the William Fox Developmental Center in Illinois and photographed by Angela Orlando. The priceless stained-glass windows were created for the Keeley Institute which pioneered scientific and humane addiction treatment. Installed in 1903 the windows represent the five human senses which are renewed during recovery: seeing, hearing, feeling, tasting and smelling.

The windows are from the Chicago studio of Louis J. Millet. In 1880, George L. Healy and Louis J. Millet began their very influential partnership, Healy & Millet. Their stained glass and decorating skills are associated with some of the most important structures built in Chicago after the Great Fire. The firm also exhibited at the 1889 Paris World's Fair where their entire exhibition of "American Glass" was purchased for installation in the national Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris, France.

**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 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!



## Serving Today

**Usher Chair** | Bob Tabb

**Tech Team** | Kraig Howell, Brad Hawley

**Acolytes** | Lilla Harris, Sebastian Earwood, Emma Stillerman



1169 Clark Street SW, Covington, GA 30014  
 fpccov.org 770-786-7321

### First Presbyterian Church Staff

#### Clergy, Office & Music Staff

Neeley Rentz Lane	Senior Pastor & Head of Staff
Mark Fiddie	Dir. of Music & Worship Arts
Denise Gabriel	Dir. of First Presbyterian Community Preschool
Peni Kehoe	Finance Administrator
Catherine Laseter	Dir. of Communications & Operations
Alice Walker	Organist CAGO, AAGO
Chuck Williams	Parish Associate

#### Nursery Staff

Hattie Bellinger  
 Akeelah Fletcher  
 Jahnyah 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	Witness (2026)
Yvonne Hill-Davenport	Witness (2028)
Stephanie Scarborough	Witness (2027)
Bob Tabb	Thriving Congregations (2028)

#### Engaging

Krista Firkus	Faith Formation (2027)
Hardy Fortson Sideris	Worship (2027)
Chuck Williams	Faith Formation (2028)
Angie Woodham	Worship (2028)

#### Belonging

Gary Boteler	Finance (2027)
Pam Stillerman	Welcome (2026)
Bethany Wells	Welcome (2028)

#### Connecting (Deacons)

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

#### More

Jodi Atkins	Preschool (2026)
Kenny Compton	Facilities (2026)
Jo Anna Fish	Personnel (2027)
John McCarthy	Clerk of Session

Share your wonderings, questions & epiphanies with Neeley as we journey through these books together!

# SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

with Pastor Neeley

# SMALL BOOKS BIG GOSPEL

## CHALLENGE:

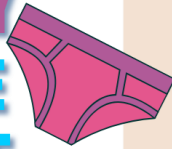
In July read these four short books of the Bible

**PHILEMON**      **JUDE**  
**TITUS**            **OBADIAH**

Don't let their size fool you... these small books carry a big message!

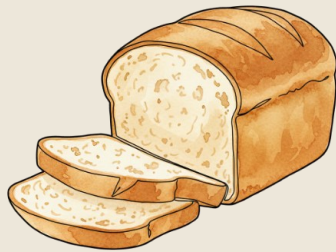
Let's grow together in God's Word this summer!

# UNDIE SUNDAY UNDERWEAR DRIVE FOR FOSTER CARE



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

# JULY 19



FPC Worship Team presents:

# BREAD MAKING CLASS

Space limited. Sign up with Neeley

Wednesday, August 5 at 4PM in the Fellowship Hall

## FPC at Campmeetings!

**Smyrna Camp Meeting** will be June 12-18. Neeley Rentz Lane will deliver the evening sermon on Tuesday, June 17 at 7:30pm with the *Singing Ambassadors* as the choir.

**Salem Campground Meeting** will be July 10-17 Alice Walker and her sister Becky Ramsey will be playing dual pianos for each morning and evening service. Our FPC Chancel Choir will sing with the FUMC Choir at the 7:30pm service on Thursday, July 16. The *Singing Ambassadors* will sing at the 11:00am service on Monday, July 13.

### Sunday, June 14

#### Third Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:45am Summer Sunday School
- 10:30am Summer Choir
- 11:00am Worship—Communion
- 12:30pm Setup for VBS

### Monday, June 15

- 9:00am— Vacation Bible School
- 12:00pm

### Tuesday, June 16

- 9:00am Vacation Bible School
- 12:00pm Lectio Divina—Pastor's Bible Study

### Wednesday, June 17

- 9:00am Vacation Bible School
- 7:30pm Neeley preaching at Smyrna Campmeeting with the Singing Ambassadors

### Thursday, June 18

- 9:00am Vacation Bible School
- 3:30pm VBS Pool Party

### Sunday, June 21

#### Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:45am Summer Sunday School
- 10:30am Summer Choir
- 11:00am Worship
- 12:00pm Popsicles on the Lawn

### Tuesday, June 23

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

### Wednesday, June 24

- 10:00am Coffee Club
- 3:30pm Staff Meeting

### Saturday, June 27

- 9:00am Meals on Wheels Delivery

### Sunday, June 28

#### Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:45am Summer Sunday School
- 10:30am Summer Choir
- 11:00am Worship
- 12:15pm Session Meeting



# FPC KIDS

## Pizza in the Park

Monday, June 29

5:00pm

Central Park

# In Our Thoughts & Prayers

## Most recent prayer requests

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

- ✦ Ron Layton, brother of Randy Layton - a-fib issues
- ✦ Addison & Eryn Storelli, infant & great-niece of Denny & Cathy Dobbs - complications with birth
- ✦ Graham Wade, son of Theodosia & Billy Wade - recovering from herniated disc back surgery
- ✦ Mikey Laib, former member - in hospital following car accident
- ✦ Ella Coleman, student of Abby Hutchinson - recovering from heart surgery
- ✦ Reid Buckelew - moved to Benton House
- ✦ Tootles Tingler - knee problems
- ✦ Aunt Shirley, aunt of Neeley Rentz Lane

## Ongoing prayer requests

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

- ✦ Alison Riley, friend of Chuck Williams - cancer
- ✦ Mark Wells, loved one of Lily Wells

- ✦ Patrick Carmichael
- ✦ Danny Vining - prostate cancer treatment
- ✦ Ricky, friend of John Leavitt - recovering from colon surgery
- ✦ Brandon Vining, son of Danny & Beth Vining - prostate cancer treatment
- ✦ Will Allfather, cousin of Kim Lindsey - cancer treatment
- ✦ Ed Perkerson - early Parkinson's
- ✦ 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

## Condolences

- ✦ Our prayers are with Brad Hawley and his loved ones as they mourn the passing of his sister, Jill Chandler, on June 6, 2026
- ✦ Our prayers are with the loved ones of former member Bill Loeble as they mourn his passing on May 30, 2026. A service will be held in Columbia, SC.

## Celebrations

- ✦ We are excited to welcome Riley Taylor as our new Director of Children and Youth. Riley will begin her time with us on July 1, 2026. We look forward with gratitude and anticipation to all that God will do through her presence among us!

## Independent and Assisted Living

- ✦ Reid Buckelew - Benton House
- ✦ Tom Crews - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Sarah Davis - Merryvale Assisted Living
- ✦ Lee Ellen Digby - Pruitt Health
- ✦ 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](mailto:catherine@fpccov.org)

FPC's Seasoned Older Saints' Monthly Lunch

**S.O.S Lunch Bunch**

**Bradley's BBQ**

July 9  
at 11:30am

Signup with Neeley!

1160 Church St



**Summer Sunday School at 9:45am!**

**Adults:** Feasting on the Word curriculum in the Gathering Room!

**Youth:** Meet in the narthex then to Bread & Butter for coffee & conversation!

**Children:** Regular Sunday School through the summer!

**Summer Choir at 10:30am:** Help us prepare to lead the hymns in worship!

**MISSION MANIA**

July 20-23

For more info visit [fpccov.org/signup](http://fpccov.org/signup)

**CPR AND FIRST AID CERTIFICATION CLASS**

Thursday, July 30th  
at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall

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



**First Presbyterian Church Covington, GA turns 200 years old in 2027!**  
Contact Neeley to join the Anniversary Celebration Planning Committee by July 15th!

**POPSICLES ON THE LAWN**

**JUNE 21 AFTER WORSHIP**



**Heavenly Prep:**  
A Workshop for End of Life Planning

August 2nd | 9:45am  
RSVP to Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane to [neeley@fpccov.org](mailto:neeley@fpccov.org)

All are invited to join us for this workshop to receive practical tools and worksheets for End of Life Planning.