



World Communion Sunday

October 4, 2026

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
COVINGTON, GA**

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



Gathering As God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

David Cherwien

Fughetta in G Major

J.S. Bach

Everything Is In God's Blessing

ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN

Alice Walker, organ

Invitation to Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Morning Has Broken

Arr. Linda R. Lamb

Handbell Choir

Prelude

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Charles Callahan

Alice Walker, organ

Welcome & Announcements

Moment for Stewardship

Luke & Meghan Usry

✠ Call to Worship

from Jesus Sets the Table

The heavens are telling the glory of God

May our worship reflect God's glory.

The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

May we see each other as the handiwork of God.

Let our prayer and praise, our singing and proclamation project the love of God.

**We commune with Christians around the world,
with Christians throughout time.**

With Christians across geography and across time,

Let us worship!

✠ Hymn of Praise 32

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

*At this time all are invited to bring forth your items from home and place
them on the communion table!*

✠ Call to Confession

Chuck Williams

✠Community Confession

Holy One, we stand in awe of Your creation. You are the master of design. You know the change of seasons, You know the orbit of planets, and You know exactly what human beings were made for: a relationship with You. We confess that too often we think that we know best. We insist on charting our own course, and we don't feel we can completely trust anyone but ourselves. But we are wrong. You are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. You are the creator of the stars, the moon, and the sun. You created the honeybees and the grapevines. You provide the ingredients for homemade bread. You are the hope of nations. You are our resurrected Lord. You are the one who forgives our sins. You are the one who loves us more deeply than we can ever imagine. Teach us to live like You. Help us to join in your creative handiwork. In Jesus' Name we pray. 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

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

Riley Taylor

Anthem

When in Our Music God is Glorified
Chancel Choir

Arr. Harriet Ziegenhals

Prayer for God's Wisdom & Understanding

God, we do not live by bread alone, but by the Word that comes from you. We are hungry for your Word. We are thirsty for your peace. Speak to us, nourish our souls, and revive us with your love. Grant us grace and wisdom. Our hearts are open.
Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 19

Pew Bible page 498

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Message

Glory Be!

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane



Responding to the Word

✦ Response 36

For the Fruit of All Creation

AR HYDY NOS

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

Faith of Our Fathers
Alice Walker, organ

ST. CATHERINE

Prayer of Dedication & Gratitude



The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

Chuck Williams

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

Chuck Williams



Being the Church in the World

✠ **Sending Hymn 39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

✠ **Charge & Benediction**

✠ **Postlude**

Voluntary on HYFRYDOL

J.S. Bach

Alice Walker, organ



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.

Worship Art - The paintings on the tables were created during a workshop exploring artistic expressions of Psalm 19, reflecting the beauty of creation, how we are all connected and the many ways God reveals God's self through creation and one another. During the opening hymn, you are invited to bring forward the items from your "tables at home" and place them on the two tables beside the Lord's Table as part of our shared worship art.

Stewardship - This year's stewardship theme, Beyond the Bricks, reminds us that the church is so much more than the building where we gather on Sunday mornings. The church is also what happens when we walk out its doors and carry God's love into our community. By considering how you plan to offer your time, talent, and treasures in 2027 and sharing your intentions, we are able to build our church budget and calendar in a way that reflects our whole church!

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 - 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 | Yvonne Hill-Davenport

Tech Team | Brad Hawley, Kraig Howell

Acolytes | Finn Fisher, Lily Wells, Vivienne Fisher



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 First Presbyterian Community Preschool</i>
Peni Kehoe	<i>Finance Administrator</i>
Catherine Laseter	<i>Dir. of Communications & Operations</i>
Riley Taylor	<i>Dir. of Children & Youth</i>
Alice Walker	<i>Organist CAGO, AAGO</i>
Chuck Williams	<i>Parish Associate</i>

Nursery Staff

Hattie Bellinger
 Jahniyah Greene
 Kyler King
 Sarah Puckett
 Shelby Sharpe
 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, Chuck Williams
Nursery Point Person—Riley Taylor

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>

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Most recent prayer requests

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

- ✦ Judi Barton, mother of Perri Walden - stroke & rehab
- ✦ Wesley Ralston, father of Josh Walston - recovering from heart attack
- ✦ Betty Smith, friend of Stephanie Scarborough & former member - hospice care
- ✦ Brian Stollof, brother-in-law of Tina Boston
- ✦ Danny Vining - recovering from heart catheterization
- ✦ Cathy Ervin, loved one of Susan & David Flory - stage IV cancer
- ✦ Miriam Wheeler
- ✦ Terry - hit by a car on Clark St, recovering from surgery
- ✦ Mrs. B. Cross & Angie, friends of John Leavitt

Ongoing prayer requests

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

- ✦ Tootles Tinger - recovering from knee surgery
- ✦ Billy Clary, son of Bill Clary - ICU

- ✦ Dan Lindsey - lung cancer treatment
- ✦ Michelle Whitaker, daughter-in-law of Judy & David Pettis - lung issues
- ✦ Anne Cranford
- ✦ Philip Abston, father of Mary Catherine Whisnant - blood cancer treatment
- ✦ Jim Carpenter, son-in-law of Beverly & Dan Kratz - leukemia diagnosis
- ✦ Kim Julius, friend of Meghan Usry - stage IV cancer
- ✦ Ed Perkerson - early Parkinson's
- ✦ Debby Barr, friend of Jo Anna Fish - brain cancer
- ✦ Graham Wade, son of Billy & Theodosia Wade - recovering from herniated disc back surgery
- ✦ Robert Burnside, family of Paisley Lane - stemcell transplant
- ✦ Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining

Celebrations

- ✦ Congratulations to Jon Paschal for receiving the "Annandale Villager of the Year" capstone award!

Military Service

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

Condolences

- ✦ Our thoughts and prayers are with the loved ones of Cy Wolverton as they mourn his passing on September 20th. A service will be held on October 19th at 2:00pm at Roswell UMC with Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane officiating.
- ✦ Our prayers are with Dave Pettis and his loved ones as they mourn the passing of his mother, Margaret Pettis.
- ✦ Our prayers are with Robert Lane and his loved ones as they mourn the passing of his dear friend Kayla Saager-Beckley.

Independent and Assisted Living

- ✦ Reid Buckelew - Merryvale Assisted Living
- ✦ 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
- ✦ Lynda Patrick - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Louise White - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Bob Woodham - Prema at Ashton Hills

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

CHANGE THE WORLD DAY OCT. 24

Volunteer to help FPC with our tables at Change the World Day or ask about how to you can help our witness team prepare!

The witness team is asking for diaper donations to help families in need.

Drop your donations into the bin in the narthex by October 18!



Send questions or sign up with Sara Chini

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



TRUNK OR TREAT

October 25th starting at 5pm

Join us for trunk or treat with a concession stand, bounce house and a costume contest!

IT'LL BE A SPIRITED & SPOOKY FUN TIME!



Want to have a trunk?
Email your name and theme to riley@fpccov.org by October 19th

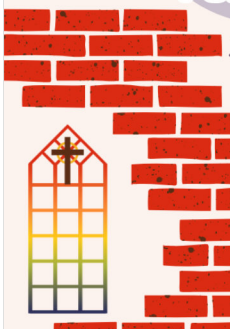
First Presbyterian Church and First Pres Community Preschool

1169 Clark St SW, Covington, GA

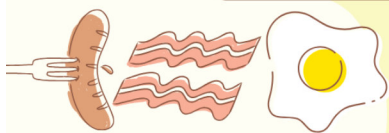
FPC STEWARDSHIP 2027
Beyond the Bricks
COMMITMENT
JAMBOREE!
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25
FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Join us for this free event after worship to celebrate with

BBQ food truck
 Cornhole
 Caricatures
 Face painting
 Bounce house
 and more!



Men's Fellowship
Breakfast SATURDAY, OCT. 10TH
 8:00AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL
 COST: \$10 PER PERSON



RSVP to Chuck by emailing chuck@fpccov.org or by filling out a "Serve" card for the offering plate!

New and recently joined members are also invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall following worship on October 11th for a **New Member Lunch!**

Talk to Pam Stillerman or Bethany Wells if you'd like to help us welcome our new members



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

the Y
DISCOVER COVINGTON
TRICK OR TREAT
on Legion Field



We will have a table at Trick or Treat on Legion Field! Contact Sara Chini to volunteer. We will be there for the 2:00pm-4:00pm event on Halloween (Saturday, Oct. 31) AND for the sensory-friendly event on Friday, Oct. 30 from 10:00am-12:30pm!

You are invited to bring candy donations to the narthex by October 26!

Sunday, October 4
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
 PCUSA Special Offering
 9:45am Sunday School
 9:45am Presbyterianism 101
 11:00am Worship - World Communion Sunday
 12:00pm Welcoming New Members
 4:30pm Blessing of the Animals
Tuesday, October 6
 10:00am PW Elizabeth Ann Circle
 10:30am PW Martha Circle
Wednesday, October 7
 10:00am Coffee Club
 10:00am FPCP Chapel
 5:40pm Handbell Choir
 6:30pm PW Rahab Circle
 6:30pm Chancel Choir
Thursday, October 8
 11:30am Lunch Bunch on the Square
Saturday, October 10
 8:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
Sunday, October 11
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
 9:45am Sunday School
 9:45am Officer Training
 11:00am Worship - Beyond the Bricks Stewardship
 12:00pm New Member Lunch



Presbyterian Women

Elizabeth Ann Circle: Meets Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1

1st Tues. at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall & on Zoom!

Martha Circle: Meets Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1

1st Tues. at 10:30am in the homes of circle members!

Rahab Circle: Meets Oct. 7, Nov. 4, Dec. 2

1st Wed. at 6:30pm in the Parlor. Childcare included!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH
AT 4:30PM ON THE PLAYGROUND

GRAB YOUR LAWN CHAIR AND BRING ALL YOUR BELOVED PETS FOR A SPECIAL BLESSING

*Lord, we thank you for the gift of
this global table where all are
welcome, and none are strangers.*

*As we eat this bread and drink this
cup, we pray that you would make
us one in you, regardless of our
languages, cultures or circumstances.*

Amen.



**WORLD COMMUNION
OFFERING**

We are there...to share our table, to share loving kindness.

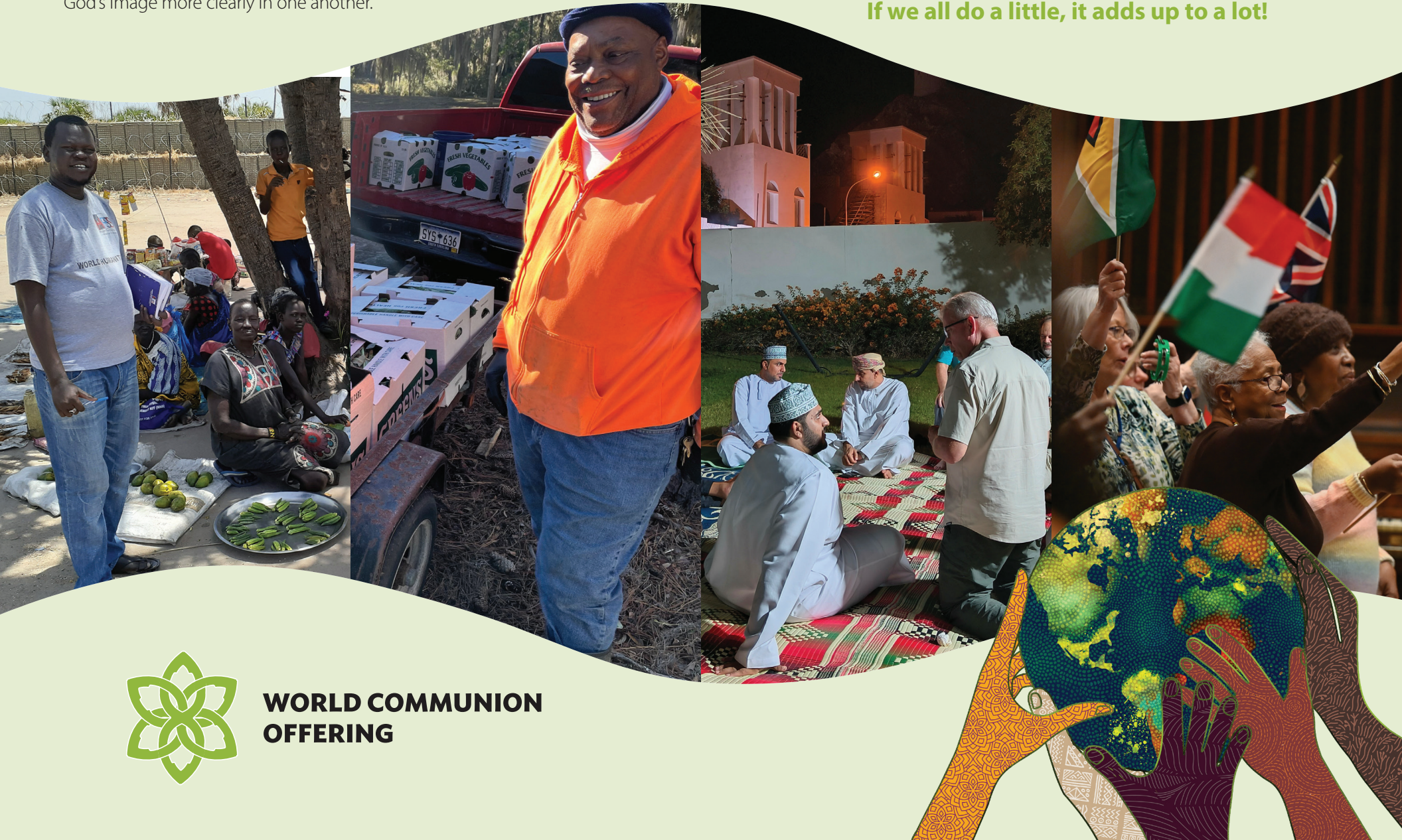
We join siblings in Christ across the globe in God's mission of welcome, justice and hope. We step beyond the boundaries of our neighborhood and into the life of the worldwide Church, learning to see God's image more clearly in one another.

In a world that often feels divided, this Offering helps us remember that we belong to one another, even to people we may never meet.

With our gifts, we witness this truth and celebrate what it means to belong to a global, connected Church shaped by God's endless love in Jesus Christ.

Thank you for your participation in the World Communion Offering.

If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!



**WORLD COMMUNION
OFFERING**



WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

The World Communion Offering works to ensure all God's people flourish as God intends through ministries working for racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith relations.

Thank you for your participation in the World Communion Offering.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

WAYS TO GIVE —

- + Through your congregation
- + Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/give/wco
- + Text GIVEWCO to 41444 or scan this QR code



-or-

You can help sustain these important ministries that are supported by the World Communion Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year. Checks may be sent to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); P.O. Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

To learn more about how your gift to World Communion Offering makes a difference, visit pcusa.org/wco.



The World Communion Offering is one of three annual Special Offerings. The Churchwide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church, bringing together the diversity of the PC(USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.