



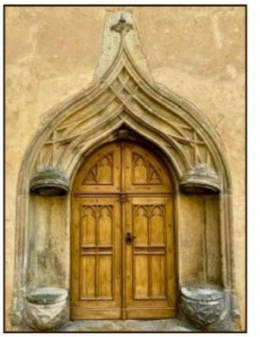

Stewardship Season

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026



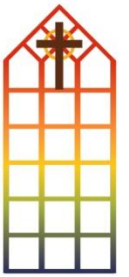












First Presbyterian Church Covington, GA







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

❖

Gathering As God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Prelude in C — Fred Bock
Fanfare Prelude on ST THOMAS — Aaron Williams
You Shall Come in with Joy! — William Moore
Alice Walker, organ

Invitation to Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Alice Walker, organ

Welcome & Announcements

Moment for Stewardship — Bob & Darcel Tabb

☩Call to Worship

What do you bring to worship?
What gifts do you share with God?
We bring our whole selves:
our gifts, our treasures, our skills, and our praise.
How do you show up to praise God, our Master Builder?
We come with willing hearts,
ready to offer what we have and who we are.
Do we hear the call of Moses,
inviting the people to bring their gifts and build together?
We hear the call!
We are preparing to build, to serve, and to share.
Can we imagine, Church, what God might build through us?
Let us worship the Living God!

☩Hymn of Praise 309 *Come, Great God of All the Ages* — ABBOT'S LEIGH

✟Call to Confession

✟Community Confession *For Believing Your Gifts Still Matter* by Kate Bowler

O God, I feel disengaged, discouraged, and yes,
actually embarrassed that I even have to ask:
have I misunderstood entirely what I am good for?
O God, give me some meaningful work to do,
where the gifts you have given me can do some good.

God have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Spirit have mercy.

Blessed are we who have heard Your voice saying "Come, follow me."
and long to be drawn more and more into Your goodness.
who invite You once more into the home of our very hearts,
to come and be with us, just as we are.
Blessed are we, the poor in spirit, who sit and wait and listen.
O God, tell me plainly, what should I do?
Speak to me in a way that lets me know that it's You talking
and not just my own need or desire.
Give me courage to strip away impediments–
any improper loves or misguided desires.
O God, grant grace to move freely, without the self-consciousness
that can misdirect or taint a good intention.
Show me o Lord: what is the gift, the one that is mine to give?
for this time, and for this place.

Blessed are we who ask You, God,
to do in us the work that needs to be done,
that we might do the work that You would have us do,
according to the good purposes You had in mind for us
from the beginning.

God have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Spirit have mercy.

Bless it. Start it. Flow.

✞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

Anthem *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* by William M. Runyan
Mark Fiddie, solo

Prayer for God's Wisdom & Understanding

Old Testament Reading *Exodus 35:4-19* Pew Bible page 82

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Message *Preparing to Build* Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

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Responding to the Word

✞Response 463 *How Firm a Foundation* FOUNDATION

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

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.

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

Simple Gifts SHAKER TUNE

Alice Walker, organ

✞Response 694 *Great God of Every Blessing* AURELIA

Prayer of Dedication & Gratitude

❖

Being the Church in the World

✞Sending Hymn 298 *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* ABBOT'S LEIGH

✞Charge & Benediction

✞Postlude *Go Your Way with Rejoicing!* Douglas Wagner
Alice Walker, organ

❖

Worship Practices

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. Our theme invites us to consider: What are the building blocks of our faith? How have our homes, families, church, and community shaped us? And how do those building blocks teach us to be good stewards of all that God has given us—our time, talents, resources, relationships.

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!

Worship Art - This year, as we celebrate stewardship at FPC, we are thinking Beyond the Bricks and celebrating the homes, people, and gifts that help build us into a community of faith. Our worship guide cover art is composed of photographs of doors that are meaningful to our church family. This serves as a visual reminder that while each of our doors may look different, together they represent the many people, homes, stories, and gifts that make up our church family.

Every door tells a story. Every person brings a gift. Together, we are building something remarkable as the church of Jesus Christ.

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.

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Serving Today

Usher Chair | Yvonne Hill-Davenport
Tech Team | Jonny Atkins, Dan Walden
Acolytes | Sebastian Earwood, Parker Firkus, Lorene Atkins

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVINGTON, GA

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

First Prebyterian Church 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*
Riley Taylor	*Dir. of Children & Youth*
Alice Walker	*Organist CAGO, AAGO*
Chuck Williams	*Parish Associate*

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	*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*

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Most recent prayer requests

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

- Pat Harper - recovering from surgery
- Caroline Harper, daughter of Pat Harper
- Margie Shepherd, friend of Miriam Wheeler - ICU
  Bob Woodham, grandfather of Braden Woodham - recovering from fall
- Judi Barton, mother of Perri Walden - stroke & rehab
- Wesley Ralston, father of Josh Ralston - 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 Elvin, loved one of Susan & David Flory - stage IV cancer

Ongoing prayer requests

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

- Miriam Wheeler
- Robert Burnside, family of Paisley Lane - stemcell transplant
- Mrs. B. Cross & Angie, friends of John Leavitt
- Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining
- Billy Clary, son of Bill Clary - ICU
- Tootles Tingler - recovering from knee surgery
- 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

Condolences

- Our prayers are with the loved ones of Lee Ellen Digby, including her daughter, Terri Digby, as they mourn Lee Ellen's passing on October, 5th. A service was held on October 10th.
- Our 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.

Celebrations

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

Independent and Assisted Living

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

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!

Send questions or sign up with Sara Chini

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!



ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY
November 1st

Submit names of loved ones who have passed within the last year by emailing catherine@fpccov.org
OR by writing their names & "All Saints" on a "Pray" card for the offering plate.
Submission deadline to be included in the bulletin is October 26th

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

We will have a table at Trick or Treat on Legion Field! Contact Sara Chini to voluteer. 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 11
	Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
9:45am	Sunday School
9:45am	Officer Training
11:00am	Worship - Beyond the Bricks Stewardship
	Monday, October 12 - Friday, October 16
	FPCP Fall Break
	Wednesday, October 14
10:00am	Coffee Club
5:40pm	Handbell Choir
6:30pm	Chancel Choir
	Sunday, October 18
	Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
	Diaper Drive for Change the World Day
9:45am	Sunday School
11:00am	Worship - Beyond the Bricks Stewardship
12:00pm	Cider & Doghnuts on the Lawn



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PARENTING BOOK CLUB

Currently reading

The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewireing of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness

by Jonathan Haidt

Next Meeting:

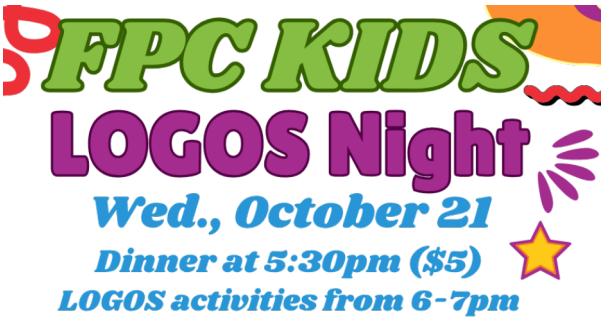
Wednesday, October 21st

6:00pm-7:00pm in the FPC Parlor

Parents and other grownups are invited to join us for our NEW Parenting Book Club!

Childcare available through our monthly Kids LOGOS night and in the nursery.





Share what "home" means to you for our 2026 Advent Devotional!

This year we are creating our own Advent devotional around the theme of "Home for the Holidays" and we'd love for you to contribute to it! Check the e-news or the narthex for more informtaion!