ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

First Presbyterian Church Covington, GA





November 1, 2026

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

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

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Gathering As God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Fanfare Prelude on ST. THOMAS — Aaron Williams
Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart! — Arthur H. Messiter
Festive Prelude on ST. THEODULPH — Melchior Teschner
Alice Walker, organ

Invitation to Worship

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Let All Who Have Breath Praise the Lord! — Douglas Wagner
Alice Walker, organ

Welcome & Announcements

☩Call to Worship

We remember, O God…
The countless saints of history
who have blazed a trail of courage through time,
We remember, O God…
The tender touch of loved ones,
the example of heroes,
the healing words of comforters,
the remarkable acts of fearless ones.
We remember, O God…
The gentle strength of grandmothers,
the loyalty of friends,
the kindness of strangers,
the joy of children,
the sacrifice of parents.
We remember, O God…
The supreme love of Jesus,

the blessing of his Spirit,
the reminder of his words,
the sharing of his suffering,
the glory of his resurrection:
shown forth in the lives of his disciples,
young and old,
dead and living,
articulate and silent,
strange and familiar,
brilliant and ordinary.

We remember in every time and place the saints of God
who have shown us the Lord.
Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses…
let us worship God with joy!

✞Hymn of Praise 263 *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!* CORONATION

✞Call to Confession Chuck Williams

✞Community Confession Prayer by A Sanctified Art LLC

Holy God,
We want to make you proud.
We want to hide away our faults so no one can see.
We want to be considered worthy of sainthood.
But you know our faults anyway.
You know every detail of our lives.
Forgive us for trying to pretend we're perfect.
Holy God,
We confess that we dance along the line
between self-improvement and vanity.
We read self-help books,
listen to sages who tell us how we can achieve perfection,
and try to eliminate all the mess from our lives
so we can feel in control.

Forgive us for striving to be godlike
when all you've ever asked of us is to be human.
Holy God,
We forget that even the saints are human.
Even the saints are messy and complicated.
Our heroes are flawed, our loved ones make mistakes,
and our idols aren't really made of solid gold.
We confess that we are quick to judge the faults of others
we have placed on a pedestal, as though they aren't human too.
Forgive us for expecting too much of one another.
Forgive us, we pray.
Give us grace to trade the illusion of perfection
for the real life you have gifted us,
and hold us secure in the promise of future glory. 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!

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Proclaiming the Word

Wondering with God's Children Riley Taylor

Anthem *God Who Built This Wondrous Planet* by Craig Courtney
Jeff Cutchins, trumpet

Prayer for God's Wisdom & Understanding

New Testament Reading *Revelation 7:9-17* Pew Bible page 249
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Message *A Tissue for Every Tear* Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

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Responding to the Word

✞**Response 649** *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

✞**Recognition of Saints** *All Saints' Day Litany*

We remember the great ancestors of our faith,
from Abraham and Sarah to Paul and Phoebe:
Ancestors of the faith, we remember you.
We remember the prophets and priests,
the ministers and teachers who have taught us the way of God:
Teachers of the faith, we remember you.

We remember our grandparents and parents, aunts and uncles,
those who have gone before us in our lifetime:
Family of our faith, we remember you.
We lift up the memories of children and grandchildren, brothers and sisters,
husbands and wives, and parents whose lives ended too soon:
Those close in our heart, we remember you.
We lift up to You, O God,
the names of those we have lost in this past year from our lives,
knowing that they are with Your heart forever.
As we read these names, we will pause after every name
to remember, pray, and give thanks for their life.

Sarah T. Davis
Lee Ellen Digby
David Michael Laib
Kenneth Ivan Walker, Jr.
John "Cy" Wolverton
John Dearing
Dr. Dale L. Evans
Joseph "Pat" Patrick
Jane Williams

We celebrate the lives of those we have named, O God,
and lift up many more names in our hearts.
Family of God, we remember you, and we honor you.
We know you are with us in the spirit of worship,
and you will not be forgotten.
We give thanks, O God,
for all who have gone on to join with You beyond this life.
We trust in the hope of resurrection and the promise of new life in Christ,
and know that in our grief and celebration, O God,
You are with us through it all, and we are not left alone.
In the name of Christ, in whom love lives forever, we pray.
Amen.

✞Hymn of Recognition 326 *For All the Saints* SINE NOMINE
Verses 1, 2, 3

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 last year's stewardship season. Select "Non-Pledge" for a general offering.*

Offertory

Simple Gift — Arr. Susan E. Geschke

Handbell Choir

✞Hymn of 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.

Prayer of Dedication & Gratitude

by Kate Bowler

Today we are drawn into remembrance.
The complexity of love and loss both warms our hearts and chills our bones.
Invisible connections are revealed
just as the light of the sun illuminates the lines of a web,
we see that our lives are connected to those who are no longer here.
Blessed are we who acknowledge the impressions made
by those who've passed a child's nose, a joke carried on,
a chair left in our name, a story that we now tell.
Blessed are you who have learned to make sense of a world
that doesn't make sense without them.
And blessed are you with grief present still
who carry the weight of surviving a loved one,
of keeping the memories and sharing the stories.
O God, you alone know the whole of it.
You know their sufferings, their joys, their hopes,
their winding paths and every movement of their souls.
Restore our souls, even as you receive theirs.
Welcome them in with the kind of embrace we wish we could give them.
Blessed is the time they were given and the time you now have.
Whether in life or in death, love is there.

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Being the Church in the World

✞Sending Hymn 384 *Soon and Very Soon* SOON AND VERY SOON

✞Charge & Benediction

✞Choral Response *The Lord Bless and Keep You* by Peter C. Lutron
Chancel Choir

✞Postlude *Recessional on "To God Be the Glory"* William H. Doane
Alice Walker, organ

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Serving Today

Trumpet | We welcome **Jeff Cutchins** to worship this morning, and we thank him for sharing his musical gifts with us at FPC!
Usher Chair | Gary Boteler
Tech Team | Laramy Wells, Kraig Howell
Acolytes | MaryRentz Lane, Rose Carmichael, Willie Ralston

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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 - 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. Worship art "All Saints Day, 2017" by Ron Boozer from *Sacred Dust Connecting Us* © 2025 by J. Ronald Boozer

First Prebyterian Church Staff

Neeley Rentz Lane	*Senior Pastor & Head of Staff*	
Mark Fiddie	*Dir. of Music & Worship Arts*	***Nursery Staff***
Denise Gabriel	*Dir. of First Presbyterian Community Preschool*	Hattie Bellinger Jahniyah Greene
Peni Kehoe	*Finance Administrator*	Kyler King
Catherine Laseter	*Dir. of Communications & Operations*	Kennedy Lynn Sarah Puckett
Riley Taylor	*Dir. of Children & Youth*	Shelby Sharpe
Alice Walker	*Organist CAGO, AAGO*	Sylvia Woods
Chuck Williams	*Parish Associate*	

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 *Nursery—Riley Taylor*
Medical Response—Nichole Howell, Pam Stillerman
Facility/Security Response—Kenny Compton, Stan Hall, John McCarthy, Starr Puckett, Chuck Williams

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*

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All Saints' Day

All Saints' Day - All Saints' Day is a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord. The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. It is a time to claim our kinship with the "glorious company of apostles ... the noble fellowship of prophets ... the white-robed army of martyrs " (Te Deum). It is a time to express our gratitude for all who in ages of darkness kept the faith, for those who have taken the gospel to the ends of the earth, for prophetic voices who have called the church to be faithful in life and service, for all who have witnessed to God 's justice and peace in every nation. *–An excerpt from the Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003, 150 -151)*

Worship Art – Today's cover art is a chalkboard piece titled "All Saints Day 2017" by Ron Boozer from *Sacred Dust Connecting Us* his collection of chalk prayer drawings. The following is the artist's statement on the piece.

"Historic origins of All Saints Day date back to the 4th century, and it has been celebrated during the first week of November since the 9th century. I used this context as a visual platform to honor and remember family members or friends that are no longer with us.

In this specific drawing the butterfly symbol of rebirth serves as the framework for the smaller images, or saints. The red line of community is repeated [from other works] weaving through this community of lives that have gone before us. Each small image in the larger composition represents tangible and intangible moments and memories from lives we have encountered. Some deeply personal, some more universal."

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Our Saints

Today we remember the saints we've lost this past year. The saints listed below were members of First Presbyterian Church Covington who have passed since last year's All Saints' Day. These saints are represented by the white roses placed on the Lord's Table. Today we ring the bell to their names in remembrance of our FPC Family.

FPC Family

Sarah T. Davis	John Dearing	Lee Ellen Digby
Dr. Dale L. Evans	David Michael Laib	Joseph "Pat" Patrick
Kenneth Ivan Walker, Jr.	Jane Williams	John "Cy" Wolverton

Following below we've listed the saints submitted by our congregation, some of whom may have passed over a year ago.

Remembering	Loved one of
Barbara Blouw	Ruth Frankena
Sarah Davis	Danny & Beth Vining
D. Gregory Deitch	Mary Hatfield
Michael Adams Dobbs	Cathy & Denny Dobbs
Melissa Jo Feuer	The Fullertons & the Scarboroughs
Felton Floyd	The Scarboroughs
Pat Kennedy	Pam Iannucci
Bill Loeble	William B. Wade
Grant Moss	Louly Hay
Boyd Newton	Louly Hay
Jane Parker	Our church family
Florence Fowler Peacock	Louly Hay
Margaret Pettis	David & Judy Pettis
Kayla Saager-Beckley	The Lane Family
Dale Scarborough	The Scarboroughs
Jimmy Thurman	Pat Harper



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
COVINGTON, GA

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

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Most recent prayer requests

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

- Dan Lindsey - upcoming lobectomy
- Ruth Bradshaw, mother of Kim Lindsey
- Danny Vining - chemotherapy
- John Leavitt
- Betty, loved one of Debi Selin - stroke
- Claudette Jones, loved one of Debi Selin
- Leigh, friend of Denise Gabriel - lung cancer

Ongoing prayer requests

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

- Pat Harper - recovering from surgery
- Ed Perkerson - early Parkinson's
- 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
- Debby Barr, friend of Jo Anna Fish - brain cancer
- Wesley Ralston, father of Josh Ralston - recovering from heart attack
- Cathy Elvin, loved one of Susan & David Flory - stage IV cancer
- Miriam Wheeler
- Robert Burnside, family of Paisley Lane - stemcell transplant
- Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining
- 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

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

Condolences

- Our prayers are with the loved ones of Sarah Davis, including her daughter Anne Cranford, as they mourn Sarah's passing on October 17th. A service was held on October 22nd.
- Our prayers are with Ruth Frankena and her loved ones as they mourn the passing of her sister, Barbara Blouw.
- Our prayers are with Tina Boston, Paige Gibbins, and their loved ones as they mourn the passing of Brian Stolloff.

Independent and Assisted Living

- Reid Buckelew - Merryvale Assisted Living
- Tom Crews - Prema at Ashton Hills
- 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

Youth Fundraising Lunch

The youth are holding a soup & salad lunch to raise money for the Youth Conference Fund which will help our Youth go to Montreat Conferences this summer!

Sunday, November 15

following worship in the Fellowship Hall

Adults: $8 Kids: $5

NO RESERVATIONS NECESSARY

Presbyterian Women

Elizabeth Ann Circle: *Meets Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5*
1st Tues. at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall & on Zoom!

Martha Circle: *Meets Nov. 3, Dec. 1, Jan. 5*
1st Tues. at 10:30am in the homes of circle members!

Rahab Circle: *Meets Nov. 4, Dec. 2, Jan. 6*
1st Wed. at 6:30pm in the Parlor. Childcare included!

Thornwell Sunday is November 22

We will have Intergenerational Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45am. We will learn about the work being done for children at Thornwell and then pack snack bags for students who attend after school therapy with Thornwell. Then in 11:00am worship we will hear a minute for mission from a Thornwell representative and collect a special offering to support their Generations of Giving Thornwell Emphasis Month.

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, November 10th 12:00PM-5:00PM
Fellowship Hall

For an appointment, please visit redcrossblood.org
Or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).
You may also use the Red Cross Donor App
and enter sponsor code: firstprescov.

Journaling Workshop: Writing for Resilience

Saturday, November 14
10:00am-12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Led by Neeley Rentz Lane
Open to High School Youth & Adults
Free to all
Please bring a journal with blank/unlined pages

Signup with Neeley by November 10.
Childcare provided.

SOUL FEAST

DO YOU MAKE THE BEST CHILI? ENTER OUR

CHILI COOK-OFF

BY SENDING YOUR NAME AND TYPE OF CHILI TO DARCEL TABB

NOV. 11

5:15pm in the Fellowship Hall

RSVP by Nov. 9th by emailing catherine@fpccov.org or by putting a "Serve" card with your name in the offering plate

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

Everyone is invited to join our LOGOS kids for Western night and wear your best cowboy/cowgirl attire!

	Sunday, November 1
	Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost
	All Saints' Sunday
9:45am	Sunday School
11:00am	Worship - All Saints' Sunday
4:00pm	Blessing of the Animals
	Monday, November 2
12:00pm	Pastoral Care Team Meeting
	Tuesday, November 3
10:00am	PW Elizabeth Ann Circle
10:30am	PW Martha CIrcle
12:00pm	Lectio Divina - Pastor's Bible Study
	Wednesday, November 4
10:00am	Coffee Club
10:00am	FPCP Chapel
5:30pm	Handbell Choir
6:30pm	PW Rahab Circle
6:30pm	Chancel Choir
	Sunday, November 8
	Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
9:45am	Sunday School
11:00am	Worship

Join us as we gather our congregations in worship.

Monday, November 16 at 6:00pm

Community Thanksgiving Worship

Donations will support ***Southern Crescent Habitat for Humanity***

Hosted by *First Presbyterian Church Covington*

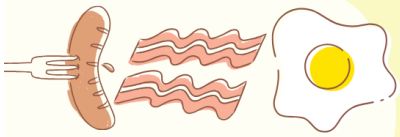
Childcare provided. *Light refreshments will follow worship.*

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

SATURDAY, NOV. 14TH

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!

YOUNG-ISH ADULTS FRIENDSGIVING

NOV. 9 | 5:15PM

AT THE LANE'S HOUSE

Ask Neeley if you need the address

Childcare at FPC beginning at 5:00pm

CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates FOR CHILDREN
ALCOVY CASA, INC.

2026 HOLIDAY HELP

DONATIONS NEEDED:

- Help us collect Gift Cards for families!
- Gift cards should be in amounts of $25 or above.
- Preferred gift cards include:
  - Kroger
  - Walmart
  - ALDI

Donations due by Dec. 6th.
Send questions to Neeley!