FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVINGTON, GA



November 8, 2026

Twenty-fourth 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 *How Firm a Foundation* Early American Melody
I Sing the Almighty ELLACOMBE
O Worship the King Ed Dunbar
Alice Walker, organ

Invitation to Worship Chuck Williams

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude *He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought* Arr. Sandra W. Sorrell
Alice Walker, organ

Welcome & Announcements Darcel Tabb

✞Call to Worship

Our God is a God of surprises-
A God who startles us with God's unexpected teachings and answers.
Our God is a God of wonder-
A God who paints in the vibrant colors of creation
and speaks through the songs of birds and chatter of children.
Our God is a God of the people-
A God who hears us, sees us, and knows us deeply.
Let us lift our voices in praise!
Let us worship our God!

✞Hymn of Praise 627 *I Love You, Lord* I LOVE YOU, LORD

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice
to worship you; O my soul, rejoice.
Take joy, my King, in what you hear;
may it be a sweet sound in your ear. (Repeat)

✞Call to Confession

Chuck Williams

✞Community Confession

God of grace, we know that you are a God of surprises, of wonder, of the people, but we also know that You are a God who gives second chances. Today, we bring to You the many ways that we have failed to live compassionately, kindly, and faithfully. For the times when our words have caused pain, forgive us. For the times when we have looked only inwards, forgive us. For the times when we have fallen short of the calling You have placed upon our lives, forgive us.

We pray this in Your holy and sacred name,

(Silent prayer)

Amen.

✞Assurance of God's Love & Forgiveness

Having brought forth our confessions, God extends to us endless grace.

Church, God sees you.

God hears you.

And most importantly, God loves you, no matter what.

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 Darcel Tabb

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 Dan Walden

Prayer for God's Wisdom & Understanding Chuck Williams

Old Testament Reading *Numbers 27:1-11* Pew Bible page 146

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Anthem *Come, Share the Lord* by Bryan Jeffery Leech

Chancel Choir

Old Testament Reading *Numbers 36:1-13* Pew Bible page 156

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Message *B-List Bible Stories: The Daughters of Zelophehad* Rev. Courtney Pittman

❖

Responding to the Word

✞Response 772 *Live into Hope* TRURO

Affirmation of Faith *from Psalm 116* Chuck Williams

As the psalmist proclaims,

"I love the Lord because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live," we too believe that God hears our voices.

We believe that in our cries of lament, in our proclamations of joy, and in our times of silence, God hears us.
We believe that Our Creator bends down to be with us– to come closer and to walk nearer to God's beloved children.
We believe that our Savior does not stay in one place, but through the Holy Spirit, moves and dances in the world.
We believe that God calls us to be hopeful, active, kind, and bold as we live out our sacred and blessed calling in this world.
It is this that we believe. 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 last year's stewardship season. Select "Non-Pledge" for a general offering.*

Offertory

Sheep May Safely Graze — J.S. Bach

Alice Walker, organ

✞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

Chuck Williams

❖

Being the Church in the World

✞Sending Hymn 543 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me* GREEN TYLER

✞Charge & Benediction Rev. Courtney Pittman

✞Postlude *Rondo* Attributed to John Bull

Alice Walker, organ

❖

Worship Practices

Sermon Series – Our current sermon series is titled "B-List Bible Stories" and was created by Chattering Chapel Studio, featuring liturgy by Rev. Courtney Pittman. The following is an introduction to the series:

Let's be real, there are some stories in the Bible that even preachers tend to avoid! Maybe they're too strange, too uncomfortable, or just leave us scratching our heads. Perhaps that's why they've landed on the B-list of Bible stories! But just because these stories don't make it into sermons very often doesn't mean they don't have something to teach us. So why not, church? Let's dive into the scriptures together and explore some of the lesser-known, often-overlooked, and downright puzzling stories of our faith. From the bold daughters of Zelophehad to the unexpected actions of Jael to the troubling tale of Ananias and Sapphira, we'll wrestle with these stories, ask some big questions, and discover how we might see ourselves and God within them. After all, sometimes the stories we'd rather skip are the very ones that invite us to grow in faith!

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. Cover art: "The Daughters of Zelophehad" from Dalziels' Bible Gallery, retrieved from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Liturgy by Chattering Chapel Studio ©2026.

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Serving Today

Guest Worship Leader | We welcome *Rev. Courtney Pittman* to worship this morning as a guest worship leader, and we thank her for sharing her gifts with us at FPC!

Usher Chair | Gary Boteler

Tech Team | Dan Walden, Jonny Atkins

Acolytes | Wesley Freeman, Sebastian Earwood, 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*	***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*

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Most recent prayer requests

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

- Mike Burns, brother of Cathy Dobbs - recovering from surgery
- Gary Nicolette, loved one of David & Susan Flory - dementia diagnosis
- 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.

- Jim Carpenter, son-in-law of Beverly & Dan Kratz - leukemia diagnosis
- Kim Julius, friend of Meghan Usry - stage IV cancer
- 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

Military Service

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

Condolences

- Our prayers are with Kenny Compton and his loved ones as they mourn the passing of his father, Lewis Compton, Sr.
- 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.

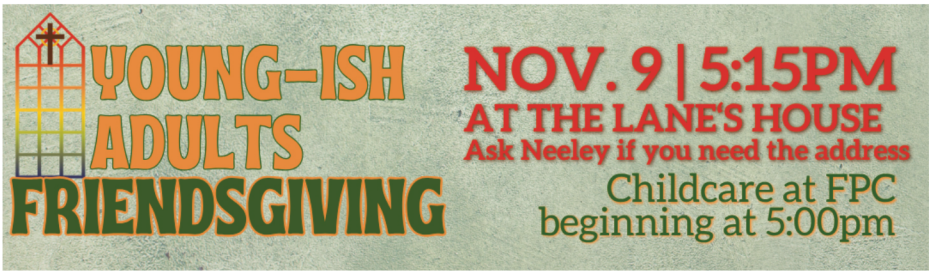
Independent and Assisted Living

- 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

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

Thornwell Sunday is November 22

We will have all-ages 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.



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

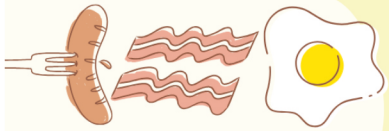
NO RESERVATIONS NECESSARY

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!

Sunday School

Sunday School classes are held at 9:45am.

Children's Class (PreK-4th)

Youth Class (5th+)

Foundations Adult Class

The Wired WORD

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!

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 8
	Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
9:45am	Sunday School
11:00am	Worship - B-List Bible Stories
	Monday, November 9
	RSVP for Soul Feast
5:15pm	Young-ish Adult Friendsgiving
	Tuesday, November 10
	Signup for Journaling Workshop
12:00pm	Lectio Divina - Pastor's Bible Study
12:00pm	Blood Drive
--5:00pm	with the American Red Cross
3:30pm	Staff Meeting
5:30pm	FPCP Board Meeting
	Wednesday, November 11
10:00am	Coffee Club
10:00am	FPCP Chapel
5:00pm	LOGOS for Kids
5:15pm	Soul Feast Chili Cook-off
6:30pm	Chancel Choir
	Thursday, November 12
9:15am	SOS Adventure to the Fox
	Saturday, November 14
8:00am	Men's Fellowship Breakfast
10:00am	Journaling Workshop
	Sunday, November 15
	Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
9:45am	Sunday School
11:00am	Worship - Communion
12:00pm	Youth Fundraising Lunch

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.

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.**