

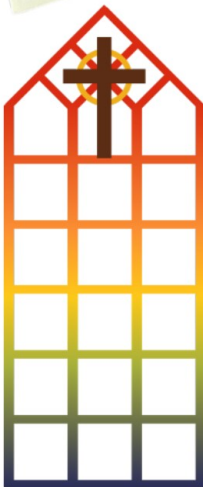


**First Presbyterian Church**  
1169 Clark Street SW  
Covington, Georgia 30014-2314

July 6, 2025

First Presbyterian Church,

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
First Presbyterian Church, Covington, Georgia



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

# Gathering As God's Beloved People

## Gathering Music

*Lord, Who Made the Earth and Heaven  
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah  
Fairest Lord Jesus*

AR HYD Y NOS  
Thomas Hastings  
ST. ELIZABETH

## Invitation to Worship

## Chiming of the Hour

## Prelude

*O Lord Most Holy*

César Franck

## Welcome & Announcements

## ✠ Call to Worship

*adapted from Psalm 66:1-5*

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

**sing God's glorious name;**

**shout out glorious praise.**

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

**All the earth worships you;**

**they sing praises to your name."**

Come and see what God has done:

**tell of God's awesome deeds among all people!**

## ✠ Hymn of Praise 509

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

HOLYMANNA

## ✠ Call to Confession

Bob Tabb

## ✠ Personal Silent Confession

## ✠ Community Confession

Bob Tabb

**Patient God, you call and call**

**and we come up with every excuse**

why we can't answer,  
at least not right now.

**Forgive our fear.**

**Remind us that when we answer your call,  
we will not be sent out alone,  
but filled with your gifts,  
surrounded by your children,  
and held in your love.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,  
our Rock and Redeemer. Amen.**

### ✠ **Assurance of God's Love & Forgiveness**

Bob Tabb

Church, we are forgiven!

**We are free to try again.**

### ✠ **Hymn 582**    *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*    GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

***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**

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you!**



## *Proclaiming the Word*

**Wondering with God's Children**

## **Anthem**

*This Little Light Of Mine*

Mark Fiddie, solo

arr. by Jacqueline B. Hairston

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

## **Scripture Reading**

*Ephesians 4:1-16*

Pew Bible page 193

## **Message**

*Bear With One Another in Love*

Rev. Erin Morgan



# *Responding to the Word*

## **✠Hymn of Response 318**

*In Christ There Is No East or West*

ST. PETER

*In Christ there is no east of west, in him no south or north,  
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth,  
In Christ shall true heart everywhere their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord closebinding human kind.  
Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.  
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.  
In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.  
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.*

## **Commissioning Mission Trip Participants**

## **✠Affirmation of Faith**

*The Apostles' Creed*

Bob Tabb

**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

Bob Tabb

**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

Bob Tabb

*You are invited to "Text to Give" your offering! Text\* FPCCOV followed by your donation amount to: 73256 and follow the link to give online, or scan the QR Code to visit the giving page! Select "2025 Pledge" if you made a pledge during stewardship season. Select "Non-Pledge" for a general offering.*



## Offertory

*Prelude in F Major*  
Alice Walker

by J.S. Bach

## ✦ 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

## ✦ Prayer of Gratitude



## *Being the Church in the World*

## ✦ Sending Hymn 322

*We Are One in Christ Jesus*

SOMOS UNO

## ✦ Charge & Benediction

## ✦ Postlude

*Prelude in A Minor*

J.S. Bach



# Worship Practices

**Neeley's Notions on Letters**—This Summer we will explore some letters that have withstood the test of time: Letters from Paul to the Romans, Galatians, and Colossians. I have always appreciated the art of writing personal letters. Writing letters of gratitude or just a note to say I love you is a spiritual discipline for us all to cultivate. It is a timeless art! I wonder what Paul would write in a letter to us today. We will wrestle with this very question during our worship series. I would love to hear from you about a letter you cherish. Why is it meaningful to you? Would you be willing to share it with me? I would love to create worship liturgy for this series using letters of gratitude, letters of encouragement, wisdom, and hope!

During Paul's letter series, there will be a station in the narthex for you to practice the spiritual discipline of writing letters. Please stop by the Letter Writing Station in the narthex before or after worship to write a letter!

If you would rather practice writing a letter at home or while on vacation, I encourage you to take on our Summer Letter Writing Challenge. Each week, write one letter (or more!) based on the prompts below. Use this time to connect, encourage, and share God's love through your words.

- ◇ *July 6*—Write to a neighbor (past or present)
- ◇ *July 13*—Write to church member who could use encouragement
- ◇ *July 20*—Write to someone you love – tell them why
- ◇ *July 27*—Write to someone who is sick or going through a hard time
- ◇ *August 3*—Write to someone who influenced you as a kid or someone you admire

**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. *Connect* 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 Pastors. *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 and hymns are available in the narthex. Please return the large print binder to an usher at the end of worship so it may be updated for next week. 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. Today's liturgy was written by Carol Prickett of the *Presbyterian Outlook*.



# Serving Today

**Usher Chair** | Kenny Compton

**Acolytes** | Holden Evans, Amelia Evans

## First Presbyterian Church Staff

Neeley Rentz Lane	<i>Senior Pastor</i>	<i>Nursery Staff</i>
Erin Morgan	<i>Associate Pastor</i>	Hattie Bellinger
Mark Fiddie	<i>Dir. of Music &amp; Worship Arts</i>	Catrina Crowe
Peni Kehoe	<i>Finance Administrator</i>	Akeelah Fletcher
Catherine Laseter	<i>Dir. of Communications &amp; Operations</i>	Jahniyah Greene
Alice Walker	<i>Organist CAGO, AAGO</i>	Laina Lalane
		Jordyn Williams
		Sylvia Woods

## Emergency Response Team

<i>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:</i>	
<b>Primary Point People</b>	—Neeley Rentz Lane ( <i>Lead</i> ), Erin Morgan ( <i>Nursery</i> )
<b>Medical Response</b>	—Nichole Howell, Pam Stillerman
<b>Facility/Security Response</b>	—Kenny Compton, Stan Hall, John McCarthy

## Officers

<b>Reaching Out</b>	
Sara Chini	<i>Witness (2026)</i>
Stephanie Scarborough	<i>Witness (2027)</i>
<b>Engaging</b>	
Charles Ardis	<i>Faith Formation (2025)</i>
Krista Firkus	<i>Faith Formation (2027)</i>
Nichole Howell	<i>Worship (2025)</i>
Hardy Fortson Sideris	<i>Worship (2027)</i>
<b>Belonging</b>	
Gary Boteler	<i>Finance (2027)</i>
Pam Stillerman	<i>Welcome (2026)</i>
<b>Connecting (Deacons)</b>	
Cathy Dobbs	<i>Pastoral Care (2027)</i>
Denny Dobbs	<i>Pastoral Care (2027)</i>
Dana Hall	<i>Faith &amp; Fellowship (2025)</i>
Darcel Tabb	<i>Faith &amp; Fellowship (2027)</i>
<b>More</b>	
Jodi Atkins	<i>Strategic Planning (2026)</i>
Kenny Compton	<i>Facilities (2026)</i>
Jo Anna Fish	<i>Personnel (2027)</i>
John McCarthy	<i>Clerk of Session</i>
Danny Vining	<i>Personnel (2025)</i>



## *Worship Notes & Doodles*

We invite you to fill the space below with the thoughts, reminders, and doodles that you may be blessed with during and after worship.

A large grid of dots for writing notes and doodles, consisting of 18 rows and 20 columns of small gray dots.



**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.*

- ✦ Angelic Bellinger - back issues
- ✦ Dan Walden - chemo
- ✦ Carolyn Watson - recovering from stroke with improvement
- ✦ Kayla Legg, friend of Kim Lindsey - praying for a healthy full-term pregnancy
- ✦ Susan Pizsel, family friend of Beverly Kratz - cancer
- ✦ Kelli Williams, niece of Danny & Beth Vining - recovering from double mastectomy
- ✦ Bob Woodham, grandfather of Braden Woodham - recovering from broken hip after fall
- ✦ Jeff Cullen, friend of Angie Woodham - cancer not responding to chemo
- ✦ Jennifer Stenander, friend of Angie Woodham - upcoming heart surgery, currently stable with medication

**Prayer requests and updates** may be given to either of our pastors, put in the offering plate, or emailed to [catherine@fpccov.org](mailto:catherine@fpccov.org)

### Ongoing prayer requests

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

- ✦ Jill Chandler, sister of Brad Hawley - cancer
- ✦ The Rauk family, friends of Kim Lindsey - 14 year old fighting brain cancer
- ✦ Susan, friend of Mark Fiddie
- ✦ Doug Ernest, friend of Billy & Theodosia Wade - pulmonary fibrosis & grieving the passing of his wife
- ✦ Darrell Blalack, grandfather of Amanda Goddard - non-Hodgkins lymphoma spread to spleen
- ✦ Memama, great-grandmother of Paisley Lane
- ✦ Emily Phillips, granddaughter of Carol McGiboney - recovering from surgery
- ✦ Chris Weesner - upcoming eye surgery
- ✦ Kim Fratesi, friend of Mark & Jennifer Fogarty - pancreatic cancer
- ✦ Nancy, friend of Mark & Jennifer Fogarty - stage IV pancreatic cancer

- ✦ Haislee Grace, friend of Barbara Martin - 18 month old on dialysis
- ✦ Lucy Milner, sister of Day Kennon
- ✦ Sophia Hawley

### Condolences

- ✦ Our thoughts and prayers are with Susan Tancraitor and her loved ones as they mourn the passing of her husband, John Tancraitor on June 15, 2025.

### Independent and Assisted Living

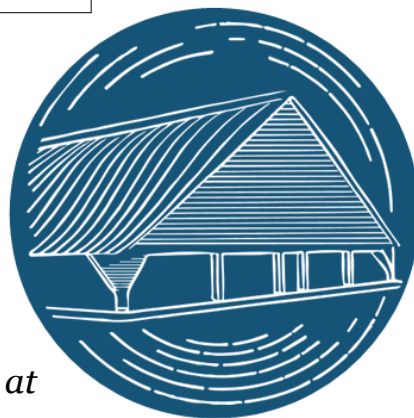
- ✦ Penny Blakeney - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Jean Elder - Florida with her daughter
- ✦ Dot Fincher - Madison, GA
- ✦ Louly Hay - Presbyterian Village Athens
- ✦ Carol McGiboney - Prema at Ashton Hills
- ✦ Jon Paschal - Annandale Village
- ✦ Louise White - Prema at Ashton Hills

### Military Service

- ✦ Koen Ardis - Navy
- ✦ Clint & Daryl Williams - Army

## FPC at Salem Campground Meeting

**Salem Campground Meeting** will be **July 11-18 at 3940 Salem Rd, Covington, GA 30016.** Services will be held daily at **11:00am and 7:30pm.**



Our very own Alice Walker and her sister Becky Ramsey will be playing dual pianos for each morning and evening service.

On **Monday, July 14th** at the **11:00am service** **Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane** will offer the **Prayers and Singing Ambassadors** will be singing in worship.

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane will offer the Prayers once again on **Thursday July 17th**, for the **7:30pm service** with music provided by the **FPC Chancel Choir** combined with the **First United Methodist Church Choir.**

A nursery is provided for both services.

## Preschool Supply Wish List!!

SUPPORT OUR TEACHERS BY GIVING THE GIFT OF SUPPLIES TODAY!

- CLICK THE QR CODE
- SELECT AN ITEM
- SHIP IT TO THE CHURCH
- KNOW YOU HAVE HELPED MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



## Summer Sunday School

9:45AM IN JUNE AND JULY AT FPC

*Exploring Sacred Stories:*

**A LITERARY APPROACH TO THE BIBLE**

ADULT SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE GATHERING ROOM

*Children's Summer Sunday School*

**LED BY FPC YOUTH**

IN THE CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM

*Singing in the Summer*

**SUMMER CHOIR**

MEETS ONLY ON SUNDAYS AT 10:30AM IN THE CHOIR ROOM



ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN CELEBRATION  
OF OUR RIBBON CUTTING AND

# GRAND OPENING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

THURSDAY, JULY 24 AT 11:00AM

1169 Clark Street, Covington, GA 30014

Event at the FPCP entrance on the Washington St  
side of the building. Look for the balloons!

NEWTON  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## First Pres Community Preschool is looking for volunteers for the fall!

Check the e-news  
to learn about being  
a **Room Grandparent** or  
a **Front Desk Volunteer!**

Email Neeley with your  
questions!

### Sunday, July 6 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Mission Trip to Clinton, SC

9:45am Summer Sunday School

10:30am Summer Choir

11:00am Worship

### Monday, July 7

Mission Trip in Clinton, SC

### Tuesday, July 8—Thursday, July 10

Mission Trip in Asheville, NC

### Friday, July 11

Salem Camp Meeting begins

### Saturday, July 12

8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast

### Sunday, July 13 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45am Summer Sunday School

10:30am Summer Choir

11:00am Worship—Communion



## CPR AND FIRST AID TRAINING CLASS

Tuesday, Aug. 5th  
at 9:30am in the  
Fellowship Hall  
RSVP to Neeley!  
[neeley@fpccov.org](mailto:neeley@fpccov.org)

