

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

First Presbyterian Church Covington



NOVEMBER 2, 2025
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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



Gathering As God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

All Creatures of Our God and King

by Hal H. Hopson

Crown Him with Many Crowns

by Christopher Tambling

Allegro from Concerto in F Major

by J.S. Bach

Invitation to Worship

Choral Introit

The Morning Trumpet

by B.F. White

Mark Fiddie, solo

Prelude

Shout to the Lord

by Darlene Zschech

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!**

✠ **Praise Hymn 263**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

CORONATION

✠ **Call to Confession**

✠ **Personal Silent Confession**

✠ **Community Confession**

Eternal God,

**although we are the communion of saints,
we are also a circle of sinners.**

We cling to death,

**hiding in tombs that we have carved out of fear and stubbornness,
ignoring your call to come out.**

We fail to unbind each other

from oppression, poverty, and abuse.

You lay a feast before us,

but we fill ourselves with selfishness and wonder why we are hungry.

We are convinced that our best days are behind us,

not believing that you are making all things new.

Forgive us, we pray, and show us the light that we yearn to see.

**Lead us out of the cave and into your everlasting way,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

Water: Amelia Evans

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**

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



Proclaiming the Word

Wondering with God's Children

Baptism of Daniel Kenneth Atkins

Elder Loucy Hay

✠ **Baptismal Response 188**

Jesus Loves Me!

JESUS LOVES ME

***Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.
Jesus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee saying "Let them come to me."
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.***

Anthem

When in Our Music God Is Glorified
Chancel Choir; Jim Patrick, trombone;
Jeff Cutchins, trumpet

arr. by Harriet Ziegenhals

Prayer for God's Wisdom & Understanding

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 1:11-23

Pew Bible page 192

Message

Divine Inheritance

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane



Responding to the Word

✠Response 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE

Verses 1, 4, 5

✠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.

Penny Blakeney Doug Bolton Homer Borders

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

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 last year’s stewardship season. Select “Non-Pledge” for a general offering.*



Offertory

Jeff Cutchins, trumpet; Alice Walker, organ

✠ Response 606

Doxology

OLD HUNREDTH

***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.



Being the Church in the World

✠ **Sending Hymn 384**

Soon and Very Soon

SOON AND VERY SOON

✠ **Charge & Benediction**

✠ **Postlude**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

by Oliver Holden

❖
All 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. Today we ring the bell to their names in remembrance of our FPC Family.

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

FPC Family

Penny Blakeney

Doug Bolton

Homer Borders

Remembering

Mary Lee Aldridge

Joseph Bell

Wesley Berg

Kip Birch

Brenda Buckelew

Kim Fratesi

Alyson Harden

Josephine Harden

Matt Harris

Alan Herndon

Buck Herndon

Charlie Kennon

JoAnn Kimble

Thad Pate

Glen Selin

Marvin Wells

Jack Wheeler

Bob Wheeler

Loved one of

Alice Walker

Debi Selin

Tom Crews

Debi Selin

The Buckelew & McSwain families

Mark & Jennifer Fogarty

Judy Davis

Judy Davis

Ida Harris

Carolyn Watson

Carolyn Watson

Larry Kennon

Terri Fullerton

Laramy & Bethany Wells

Debi Selin

Laramy & Bethany Wells

Miriam Wheeler

Miriam Wheeler

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 by Nettie Jane Kenney, featuring a twenty-block "Housetop" variation quilt, created circa 1960.

"In the rural community of Gee's Bend, Alabama, African American women have been making quilts for generations. Taught by their mothers, grandmothers, and aunts, these women use scraps of old overalls, aprons, bleached cornmeal sacks - anything they can find. The mere scraps are then transformed into spectacular works of art, each one displaying a unique pattern with vibrant color and complex geometric composition." —excerpt from Susan Goldman Rubin's *The Quilts of Gee's Bend*.

The love and artistry of quilting are often inherited traditions, passed tenderly from one generation to the next. Many learned to stitch at young ages, sitting beside mothers and grandmothers, absorbing not only the techniques of quilting but also the patience, creativity, and care it embodies. These quilts once warmed their families—both literally and emotionally—becoming symbols of connection, hope, sacrifice, and love.

Now, decades later, these same quilts are celebrated as works of art. In 2002, pieces like Kenney's were featured in an exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, honoring the enduring legacy of quilting and the stories and traditions stitched into every piece.

Like the women of Gee's Bend inheriting the passion of quilting, what is something you have inherited?



Worship Practices

Baptism—Baptism is one of two sacraments practiced by Presbyterians; Communion is the other. The act of baptism is deceptively simple—but in a handful of water, there is a deep well of mystery and meaning.

In baptism, we are called to a new way of life as Christ's disciples, sharing the good news of the gospel with all the world. Presbyterians describe baptism as a sign and seal of the covenant of grace made by God through Jesus and extended to us. In baptism, God claims us as beloved children and members of Christ's body, the church, washing us clean from sin as we renounce the power of evil and seek the will and way of God.

All four Gospels report the baptism of Jesus by John in the Jordan River (Matthew 3:13–17; Mark 1:9–11; Luke 3:21–22; John 1:29–34). When we are baptized with water in the name of the Trinity, we share in Christ's own baptism.

Presbyterians celebrate baptism as a communal act of public worship! Today we, as the body of Christ, will say "YES" to walking alongside Daniel Atkins as we seek to nurture and love him as his family of faith!

We invite you to speak to Pastors Neeley or Erin if you are interested in baptism for yourself or your child.

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.

Our Mission—First Presbyterian Church Covington is a Christian community existing to glorify God by welcoming all of God’s children. We celebrate through serving, teaching, praying, eating, crying, singing, and dancing with the Holy Spirit. As works in progress, we seek to respond to God’s presence in our church, lives, and community.

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 guide cover art courtesy of the Soul Grown Deep Foundation and Pitkin Studio/Art Resources, New York, retrieved from *The Quilts of Gee's Bend* by Susan Goldman Rubin and Melissa J. Barrett published by Abrams Books for Young Readers.



Serving Today

Guest Musician | We welcome Jeff Cutchins to worship this morning as a guest musician and we thank him for sharing his gifts on the trumpet with us at FPC!

Usher Chair | Sara Chini

Tech Team | Brad Hawley, Dan Walden

Acolytes | Thornton Holder, Parker Firkus

First Presbyterian Church Staff		
Neeley Rentz Lane	Senior Pastor	Nursery Staff
Erin Morgan	Associate Pastor	
Mark Fiddie	Dir. of Music & Worship Arts	Hattie Bellinger
Denise Gabriel	Dir. of Community Preschool	Catrina Crowe
Peni Kehoe	Finance Administrator	Akeelah Fletcher
Catherine Laseter	Dir. of Communications & Operations	Jahniyah Greene
Alice Walker	Organist CAGO, AAGO	Jordyn Williams
		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 People—Neeley Rentz Lane (Lead), Erin Morgan (Nursery)	
Medical Response—Nichole Howell, Pam Stillerman	
Facility/Security Response—Kenny Compton, Stan Hall, John McCarthy	

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



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.

- ✦ Terri Fullerton
- ✦ James Eason, grandfather of Hannah Freeman
- ✦ Ricky, friend of John Leavitt - colon cancer
- ✦ Dan Walden - bone marrow transplant
- ✦ Sherri Thomas, friend of Kim Lindsey - recovering from blood clot removal
- ✦ Patrick Carmichael
- ✦ Austin Belknap, friend of Angie Woodham - breast cancer
- ✦ Parker Ford, friend of Angie Woodham - cancer

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

Ongoing prayer requests

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

- ✦ Ruth Bradshaw, mother of Kim Lindsey - home for physical therapy after fall
- ✦ Mr. Mosley, friend of Ruby Wells - seizures
- ✦ Pam Stillerman - recovering from surgery
- ✦ Glenn Hayes, brother of Brenda Howell - third consecutive foot surgery
- ✦ Kayla Legg, friend of Kim Lindsey - praying for a healthy pregnancy
- ✦ Bill Loebler, friend of Billy Wade - cancer
- ✦ Nancy, friend of Mark & Jennifer Fogarty - stage IV pancreatic cancer
- ✦ Vonda Wiebe, daughter of Peggy Stallings - recovering from accident

- ✦ Dale Evans, friend of Billy Wade & former member - recovering from surgery
- ✦ Jill Chandler, sister of Brad Hawley - cancer
- ✦ Katelyn Jackson, niece of Kim McSwain - stage 3 breast cancer

Independent and Assisted Living

- ✦ Reid Buckelew - 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

Join us as we gather our congregations in worship.

Community Thanksgiving Worship

Tuesday, November 18th at 6:00pm with Communion

Donations will support **Family Promise of NewRock**

Hosted by
The Church of the Good Shepherd Episcopal
4140 Clark St.

Childcare will be available.
A meal will follow worship.

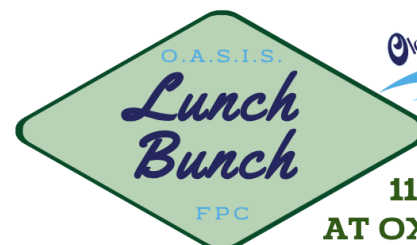



Donations to Alcovy CASA Holiday Help directly benefits children and teens experiencing foster care!

Help us collect gift cards to ensure families can afford food, gasoline, and more for the holiday season. CASA is asking for gift cards in increments of \$25 or more to places like Kroger, Walmart, ALDI, and Publix.

Donations are due by December 7th!

Send questions to Erin!



**11:30AM | NOV. 13
AT OXFORD CAFETERIA**

Come enjoy lunch with FPC OASIS at the Oxford College Cafeteria on Nov. 13 at 11:30am
RSVP to erin@fpccov.org so we can get a big enough table

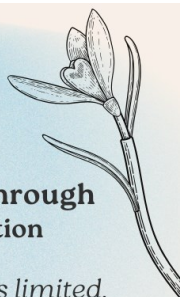
Pastoral Care Workshop: Emotional Health

Led by Neeley Rentz Lane

Learn to care for your emotional health through grounding support systems reflection

Saturday, November 15
9:00am-12:00pm | Fellowship Hall
\$10 per person, incl. lunch
Childcare available

Space is limited,
register by emailing
neeley@fpccov.org



**First Presbyterian Church Covington, GA
American Red Cross Blood Drive
Thursday, November 20th 12:00PM-5:00PM
Fellowship Hall**

SOUL FEAST

DO YOU MAKE THE BEST CHILI? ENTER OUR CHILI COOK-OFF

BY EMAILING ERIN@FPCCOV.ORG



NOV. 12

5:15pm in the Fellowship Hall

RSVP for dinner by Nov. 10th to 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!



Following Soul Feast at 6:00pm we will hear from our friends from the Newton Walton Foster Parent Association!

Youth Cake Fundraising Auction!

Join us at Soul Feast for a cake fundraiser!!! We will be auctioning off cakes made by our youth to support the youth conference fund!

A HOUSE UNITED FOLLOW UP CONVERSATION ABOUT OUR UNHOUSED SIBLINGS IN CHRIST

Hosted by our Thriving Congregations Team

NOVEMBER 13 AT 5:30PM IN THE LIBRARY

Sunday School

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

Sunday, November 2

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

All Saints' Sunday

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship—All Saints' Sunday
Baptism of Daniel Atkins
4:30pm Blessing of the Animals

Tuesday, November 4

10:00am PW Elizabeth Ann Circle
10:30am PW Martha Circle
12:00pm Lectio Divina
5:30pm Good Enough Book Club

Wednesday, November 5

10:00am Coffee and Conversation
3:30pm Staff Meeting
5:30pm Confirmation Class
5:45pm Handbell Choir
6:30pm PW Rahab Circle
6:30pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, November 6

10:00am FPCP Chapel

Saturday, November 8

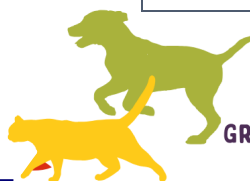
9:00am The Sacred Arts Collective Meeting

Sunday, November 9

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship—Communion

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND AT 4:30PM ON THE PLAYGROUND

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



Presbyterian Women

Elizabeth Ann Circle: Meets Nov. 4, Dec. 2

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

Martha Circle: Meets Nov. 4, Dec. 2

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

Rahab Circle: Meets Nov. 5, Dec. 3

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

OASIS OUTING MADISON, GA

Georgia Safari Conservation Park

NOVEMBER 17, 2025

Carpool will leave FPC at 9:30am

Cost: \$31 plus lunch

RSVP to Erin by November 11

CLUB 234

A time for our 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders to connect in fellowship!

BOOST & STEVI B'S

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

5:00PM-7:00PM

MEETING AT BOOST TRAMPOLINE PARK

