

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ.

And Christ was born for us,

Christ died for us,

Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us.

Christ prays for us.

There is, therefore, now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, for anyone who is in Christ is of the New Creation.

The old is finished, gone!

Behold! New life has begun.

Friends, believe the good news:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

✦ GLORIA PATRI

Hymn 579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

✦ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

As forgiven people of God, we are freed to love and extend God's peace to others.

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM

Send Down the Fire

HAUGEN

Sanctuary Choir Jon Paschal, guitar

THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

All the children are invited to come forward for the Word for Children. Afterward, children kindergarten and younger may go to children's activities downstairs.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

I Peter 3:15

SERMON

William B. Wade, Jr.

Can I Get a Witness?

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

✦ HYMN 322

**** Spirit of the Living God**

LIVING GOD

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A DECLARATION OF FAITH VIII.2

We believe that God sends us to tell all nations that Christ calls everyone to repentance, faith and obedience.

We are to proclaim by word and deed that Christ gave himself to set people free from sin and self-hatred, from igno-

rance and disease, from all forms of oppression, and even from death.

We are to offer them in Christ's name fullness of life now and forever.

We must not distort the gospel by weakening its promises or demands, by identifying it with oppressive structures, by pointing to ourselves instead of Christ.

We must not restrict our proclamation to persons just like ourselves. We invite people everywhere to believe in Christ and become his followers.

We urge them to join us in telling others the good news and in struggling for justice, compassion, and peace.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

p. 16 in front of hymnal

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY

On Eagle's Wings

Janet Linker

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 392, stanza 4

HALL

Take thou our selves, O Lord, heart, mind and will; through our surrendered souls, Thy plans fulfill. We yield ourselves to Thee - time, talents, all; we hear, and henceforth heed, Thy sovereign call.

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Dear God, we pray

that you will use this prayerful time to help our church reach out to our community with the good news of Jesus Christ so that others may commit their hearts and lives to Christ;

that you will help us as a church to look at the community we live in and that you would break our hearts over the needs of real people whom you want us to serve and with whom you want us to be in relationship;

that you will deepen our relationship with you, God, and that our relationships with each other in the church will be built up and deepened;

for the ability to perceive, through your Holy Spirit, the people in our lives in whom you are at work already, and to pray that they would come to know Christ as Lord and Savior;

that you would personally give us the strength, wisdom and humility to share our faith with our friends, neighbors, family and those you place in our lives; for we pray in Jesus' name.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

✦ HYMN 525

Here I Am, Lord

SCHUTTE

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

✦ CHORAL RESPONSE

Shout to the North

SMITH

Sanctuary Choir

✦ POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Susan Caudill

✦ Please stand, if you are able.

**** Hymns with the ** will appear in the new hymnal, *Glory to God*. Some of them are already in the current hymnal.**

Worship Notes

* Please enter the sanctuary in a spirit of reverence as we prepare to worship God. Remember to **turn on your cell phones** again when you leave.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

†Maxine Blankenship—home

†Cy Wolverton—broken arm

†Debbie Gossage—home after shoulder surgery

†Claude Bennett (friend of Milton Patton)

†Revis Blakeney, Jr - nephew of Reed Blakeney; stage IV cancer

†Judy Childs Hopkins—chemotherapy (friend of Debbie Gossage)

†Sylvia Smith, Leukemia, (friend of the Kennons)

†Jeannie Liem—awaiting kidney transplant

†William Lawson—chemotherapy (Terri Digby's uncle)

†Donnie Vining—chemotherapy (nephew of Beth and Danny Vining)

†Jackie Wood—brain tumor (Bernice Bailey's neighbor)

†Marvin Paige—cancer (Perri Walden's uncle)

†Courteney LeCroix Hoover—waiting for double lung transplant, Florida

†Shirley Smith—awaiting kidney transplant (Clarence Price's sister)

Covington Square

†Rita Harrell

†Joy Knight

Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:

†Sarah Chesnut—Covington Manor

†Mary Cline—Azalea Gardens, Conyers

†Russ Cole—Azalea Gardens

†Gretchen Buendia - Parkwood Rehabilitation Center, Snellville

Benton House

†Helen and George Stamps

†Mary Crudup

†Doris Mote

Military:

†Savannah (Cannon) Knudson

Out of the Country

†Reneé Robinson—China (Bettie Miller's granddaughter)

†Ben Johnson and Family—China (J. L. and Barbara Johnson's grandson)

Hospital Visitor:

Betty Robinson

To keep our concerns up-to-date, names may remain on this list for up to four weeks. Please contact the church if you wish your name or family member's name to be continued or removed.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Mid-Week Feast: Wednesdays, at 6:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The menu is: spaghetti, tossed salad, corn, fried chicken and garlic bread. Bring a dessert to share. Please make your reservation by using the form found in the pew pocket, or by e-mailing the church office or by visiting our website using the link provided. Enter the # of adults and children 10 and over; and the number of children age 9 and below. Cost for supper is \$5 for adults and children age 10 or older. Children under 10 will remain \$3.

The Wednesday Night Study Group: On Wednesday, October 3, 2012, the group studies **Martha, Mary and Lazarus**, sisters and brother, and beloved friends of Jesus, all three playing a major roll in the Fourth Gospel. This is a DVD presentation by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, Professor, Vanderbilt University Divinity School. The study group meets in the Parlor at 6:45 pm. following the Mid-Week Feast.

Presbyterian Women Events and Projects

Several people have asked about the best way to contribute to **Living Water for Girls**. Please make checks out to First Presbyterian Church Covington and mark for Living Water for Girls. After one month Peni will send a check for the total amount collected.

The Knitting and Crocheting Group has resumed their schedule of meeting on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. At 2:00 p.m. in the Youth Lounge. This group knits prayer shawls for members of the congregation and friends of the church. They also are crocheting mats from plastic grocery bags for the homeless. Please call Linda Boyd, 770-833-4942 or e-mail her at: linda.h.boyd@comcast.net, for additional information.

On Veterans Day, Sunday, November 11, the Presbyterian Women will host a luncheon immediately after the morning worship service to honor our veterans. If you are a veteran, please call the church office and leave your name and branch of service. We assume a person who has served in the armed forces is a veteran.

GLORY TO GOD!! This is the name of the new revised hymnal soon to be available for all Presbyterians. The cost of each hymnal ordered before Dec. 16 is only \$15. What a great way to honor someone or just contribute to our ministry of music. Please read the leaflet, which can be found on the round table in the narthex, and consider buying some new hymnals for our church or yourself. For more information check the website: www.PresbyterianHymnal.org.

This Week at FPC

Sunday, September 30

9:00 Handbell Choir
9:30 Children's Choir
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service

Tuesday, October 2

Presbyterian Women's Circles
See insert
4:00 Exercise Class

Wednesday, October 3

4:00 Adventure Club
6:00 Mid-Week Feast
6:45 Sanctuary Choir
6:45 DVD Study

Thursday, October 4

10:30 Ambassador Choir
11:30 Prayer Group

Sunday, October 7

9:00 Handbell Choir
9:30 Children's Choir
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
5:00 Youth Connection

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COVINGTON

If you would like information about membership or the programs, mission, and fellowship of the church, speak to one of the pastors as you leave or call the church office at 770-786-7321.

E-mail:

Pastor: Billy Wade: wbwade@bellsouth.net

Dan Walden: djwalden@mac.com

Church Office: penihaug@bellsouth.net

Website: www.fpccov.org

Mailing Address: 1169 Clark Street

Covington, Georgia 30014

Mission Trip Scheduled for October 14: The deadline for joining the Tuscaloosa mission team is today. If you are interested please contact Patti Lanford.

Food Pantry needs: Bring your donations to the church or drop them off at the food pantry from 9:00-11:00 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Call 770-784-0037 for directions.

Special requests for October: oatmeal, grits and boxed cereals.

THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

Nursery Volunteers today:

Moss Family
Garvin Family
Next Week:
Bates Family
Luton Family

Ushers:

The Blair Family

Sound System:

Ken Walker

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2012

Bernice Bailey
Rebecca Bates
Mac Cranford
Judy Hooten
Day Kennon

Class of 2013

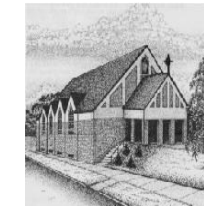
Patrick Carmichael
Judy Davis
Denny Dobbs
Aubrey Evans
Dave Gregory

Class of 2014

Debra Arnold
Bill Loebler
Roger Tingler
Cy Wolverton

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr.	<i>Pastor</i>	Alice Walker	CAGO, AAGO
Louly Fowler Hay	<i>Parish Associate</i>	<i>Organist/Ambassador Choir</i>	
Dan Walden	<i>Director of Youth</i>	Pauleen Green & Maria Serrato	
	<i>and Children's Ministry</i>	<i>Nursery</i>	
Peni Haug	<i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Krissy Jones	<i>Director of the</i>
Alan Bunn	<i>Music Director</i>	<i>Early Learning Center</i>	



**Eighteenth Sunday
after Pentecost**
September 30, 2012



Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Anna Laura Page
Heavenly Sunlight Diane Bish

INTROIT *Shout to the North* SMITH
Sanctuary Choir

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, Sisters and brothers, gather together.
From all the bruises of a busy week, gather.
Plunge your sorrow and worry into the fountain of life.
Here, find comfort and hope.
Give your questions and doubts to the heart of God.
Here, find a peace that lightens the load and restores faith.

✦ HYMN 487 *When Morning Gilds the Skies* LAUDES DOMINI

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION from Psalm 130
Redeeming God, you bring life out of dead ends, and hope in the midst of despair. Forgive us for doubting that you are still at work even in the darkest hour, even in the most painful moments. Forgive us for our hesitant action, our cautious compassion, our too frequent reluctance.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

Hymn **372, stanza 1
**Lord, I want to be a Christian
in-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.
In-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.**

