



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
COVINGTON, GA



seeking:

*Who are you
looking for?*

EASTER SUNDAY
6:30AM APRIL 9, 2023

✠ *Please stand in body or spirit*



Gathering As God's Beloved People

Gathering Music “Alleluia” with “The Majesty and Glory of Thy Name” M. Hayes
Amazing Grace Early American Melody
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name Arr. Myra Schubert

Welcome and Announcements

✠ Call to Worship

What are you looking for?

The light before dawn.

What are you looking for?

A reason to hope.

What are you looking for?

Joy after grief and flowers after winter.

What are you looking for?

A place to belong.

What are you looking for?

We are looking for the Messiah.

Good news! Come in. Love is alive!

Surely God is in this place.

✠ Hymn of Praise

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!

All creation, join to say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

✠ Call to Confession

✠ Community Confession

God of resurrection,
We confess, like a dog with a bone, we run aimlessly.
We chase our tails, looking for things that provide answers
to the suffering of the world, looking for comfort to our longest nights.
You meet us in the darkness before dawn,
but we mistake you for the gardener.
Forgive us for seeking after worldly things.
Forgive us for forgetting to seek you.
Speak to us. Call us by name, that we might recognize you in our midst.
With hope and gratitude we pray, amen.

✠ Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness

Family of faith,
No matter how many times we lose sight of God, God never loses sight of us.
We might spend our whole days seeking, but we are always found.
So hear and believe the good news of the gospel,
the good news proclaimed in resurrection:

**What once was lost is found. We are held in God's loving embrace:
forgiven, claimed, and sent to serve. Alleluia!**

Church, we are forgiven!
We are free to try again.

✠ Hymn of Response

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

ALLELUIA NO. 1

***Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord;
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.***

❖
Proclaiming the Word

Special Music

By the Mark
Dan and Perri Walden

Gillian Welch

Prayer for God's Wisdom and Understanding

Scripture Reading

John 20:1-18

Message

"I have seen the Lord!"

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

❖
Responding to the Word

✦ **Hymn of Response**

Christ is Alive!

TRURO

***Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.***

***Christ is alive! No longer bound; to distant years in Palestine,
But saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.***

***Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.***

✦ **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in resurrection—
**mysterious, beyond our understanding, and yet,
like tulips after the snow: real.**

We believe in Easter morning—

in the promise of a God who would roll back every stone to return to us.

We believe in Jesus—

who calls us by name and asks, "Who are you looking for?"

So we look—

for justice, for mercy, for God in our midst.

And as we look, we sing, "**Alleluia!**"

Amen.

Easter Prayer



Being the Church in the World

✠ **Sending Hymn**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

EASTER HYMN

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!

Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!

Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!

Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!

Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!

Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!

✠ **Charge and Benediction**

✠ **Postlude**

"Alleluia" from EXSULTATE JUBILATE

W.A. Mozart

Easter Lilies

The flowers are given to the glory of God in witness to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Donations above the cost of flowers will go to support our witness and outreach programs. Following today's service 11:00am we ask for those who gave to collect their lilies and enjoy them at home.

In memory of:

Pete & Pat Arnold, Steve Bozarth

Clayton Bailey, Sr.

William Cobham, Maggie McNeeley,
Gladys Cornick, Gloria Mims

Ray & Edy Moy; Howard & Madelle Boteler

JoAnn Crews

Michael Dobbs, Joan Wyatt, & Jim Stillerman

Jim & Sandy Elder

Ann Bouchillon

Janet Fraser

Our parents: Lois & S.A. Ginn,
Dot & Bill Fortson

Bobby Harper, Kenneth & Wilma Pearson

Sam B. Hay, Jr.

Jim Stillerman

Gene & Rita Bilz, John William Howell & Joanne Howell,
Hugh & Mary Newsome, Bill & Betty Lunsford

Ursula Kaminski

My mom, Jean Carol

Grammie Rentz & Papa Burnside

Guy McGiboney

Lucy Pearl Jones

Jim Stillerman

Given by:

The Doug Arnold Family

Bernice Bailey

Hattie & Angelic Bellinger

Gary & Susan Boteler

Tom Crews

Denny & Cathy Dobbs

The Elder Family

Bart & Ruth Frankena

Amy Fraser

Stephanie & Billy Fortson

Pat Harper

Lauren & Sam Hay

Noah & Ada Hicks

Nicole & Kraig Howell

*Leonard, Chrissy, &
Alex Kaminski*

Beth and Lonnie Lamb

*Robert, Neeley, Kately,
Paisley, & MaryRentz Lane*

Carol McGiboney

Doreatha L. Murrain

Kathy & Bill Stillerman

In memory of: (cont.)

Jim Stillerman, T.A. & Evelyn Underwood,
Hyman & Marguerite Stillerman
James & Vera Knight, Ken & Rosalie Tabb
Arnold, Bonnie, & Dale Tingler
Hazel Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth I. Walker, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Griffin, Sr., Barbara Phillips
Our parents
Jack & Barbara Weesner, Guy McGiboney
Jean Carol Mundy
Mary Abston

Given by:

Pam Stillerman
Bob & Darcel Tabb
Roger & Tootles Tingler
Ken & Alice Walker
Carolyn & Curtis Watson
Chris & Donna Weesner
Jack & Miriam Wheeler
The Whisnant Family

In honor of:

Our church leaders
Pam Stillerman
FPC Staff & FPC Choirs
Douglas & Sherri Bolton
Sam & Loucy Hay, Reverend Louly F. Hay
Pam Stillerman
My mom, Arnetta
Our church family

Family & friends
All who mourn loss of loved ones
Penny Blakeney, my sister
All nine of our precious grandchildren
Our children & grandchildren
Carol McGiboney
Janet Carmichael, Alicia Taylor
Jack & Miriam Wheeler

Given by:

Anonymous
All of us
Doug & Sherri Bolton
Patrick & Janet Carmichael
Lauren & Sam Hay
Noah & Ada Hicks
Lonnie and Beth Lamb
*Robert, Neeley, Kately,
Paisley, & MaryRantz Lane*
Jeff & Julie MacKenzie
Doreatha L. Murrain
Dave Noble
Bob & Darcel Tabb
Carolyn & Curtis Watson
Chris & Donna Weesner
Jack & Miriam Wheeler
Miriam Witherspoon-Wheeler





Worship Practices

Music printed in our bulletin and streamed online is covered by One License #A-728738 authorizing their use. Easter Sunday's worship guide cover is an acrylic painting by Catherine Laseter. Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | Logo and branding by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

*All are invited to join us for refreshments in the Narthex Hallway
this morning starting at 10:00am.*



1169 Clark Street SW, Covington, GA 30014 | fpccov.org | 770.786.7321

Our Mission Statement

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.

Want to Get Involved?

Reach out to become a more involved member of the church! We always have something happening that we would love for you to be a part of. You could be an integrated member of our church by volunteering with witness team, becoming an usher, joining a book club, singing in the choir or many other activities. Contact the office and we'll point you in the right direction!
Email: catherine@fpccov.org or call: 770-786-7321

Officers

- Reaching Out**
- Curtis Watson *Witness (2024)*
- Engaging**
- Charles Ardis *Christian Ed (2025)*
- Pat Harper *Worship (2024)*
- Nichole Howell *Worship (2025)*
- Mary Catherine Whisnant *Christian Ed (2024)*
- Belonging**
- Doug Bolton *Welcome (2025)*
- Louly Hay Kapp *Marketing (2023)*
- Bob Tabb *Finance (2023)*
- Connecting (Deacons)**
- Tom Crews *Pastoral Care (2025)*
- Dana Hall *Faith & Fellowship (2025)*
- Eleanor Scarborough *Pastoral Care (2023)*
- Darcel Tabb *Faith & Fellowship (2024)*
- More**
- Billy Fortson *Personnel (2024)*
- Stan Hall *Facilities (2023)*
- John McCarthy *Clerk of Session*
- Ed Perkerson *Strategic Planning (2023)*

First Presbyterian Church Staff

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------------|
| Neeley Rentz Lane | <i>Senior Pastor</i> | |
| Erin Morgan | <i>Associate Pastor</i> | <i>Nursery Staff</i> |
| Alicia Taylor | <i>Dir. of Music & Worship Arts</i> | Hattie Bellinger |
| Alice Walker | <i>CAGO, AAGO Organist/
Ambassador Choir</i> | Sierra BlackShear |
| Catherine Laseter | <i>Dir. of Communications
& Operations</i> | Laina Lalane |
| Peni Kehoe | <i>Finance Administrator</i> | Amariah Ray |
| | | Kyla White |

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Illness

- ✦ Mary Annese, mother of Barbara Martin - shingles
- ✦ Richard, friend of Jack and Miriam Wheeler
- ✦ Mike Crews, son-in-law of Jack and Miriam Wheeler - awaiting bladder cancer test results
- ✦ Megan Almond, granddaughter of Pat Harper
- ✦ Linda Trenthan, friend of congregation
- ✦ Lucas and Morgan, friends of Faye and Joel Kitchens - complicated pregnancy issues
- ✦ Terri Sherril, friend of Beth and Danny Vining - shoulder surgery
- ✦ Dan Walden - knee surgery
- ✦ Jennifer Idrobo, friend of Jonny Atkins - bone marrow biopsy
- ✦ Brenda Buckelew, mother of Jennifer Buckelew
- ✦ Patsy Freeman, sister of Judy Davis - dementia

- ✦ Beverly Beasley, friend of Jean Elder - caring for husband who has leukemia
- ✦ Patrick Carmichael
- ✦ Ellen Clary, ex-wife of Bill Clary - ovarian cancer
- ✦ Larry Cox, brother-in-law of Randy Layton - cancer
- ✦ Bob Darby, friend of Jeff MacKenzie - leg amputated, kidney problems
- ✦ Patsy Freeman, sister of Judy Davis - dementia
- ✦ Karen Lein Kaasa, sister-in-law of Julie MacKenzie - home health care
- ✦ Linea Lott, niece of Tricia Hinton - leukemia treatment
- ✦ E.W. Sims, great-uncle of Robert Lane
- ✦ Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining - vision loss
- ✦ Blair Weaver - health issues
- ✦ Joyce Williams, sister of Danny Vining - Alzheimer's

Celebrations

- ✦ Congratulations to Darcel and Bob Tabb on the birth of their ninth grandchild, Leo Alan Tabb!

Condolences

- ✦ Our prayers are with Beth Lamb and her family as they mourn the passing of her mother on March 31st. A funeral will be held at Northwest Presbyterian Church in Atlanta on April 29th at 4:00pm.

Military Service

- ✦ Billy Scarborough - Marines
- ✦ Koen Ardis - Navy

Independent and Assisted Living

- ✦ Penny Blakeney - Oaks Assisted Living
- ✦ Homer Borders - Presbyterian Village
- ✦ Jean Elder - Florida with her daughter
- ✦ Dot Fincher - Merryvale
- ✦ Louly Hay - Presbyterian Village
- ✦ Travis Moss - Westbury, Conyers
- ✦ Gene Wallace - Merryvale
- ✦ Louise White - Merryvale

Prayer Requests

All prayer requests should be sent to: catherine@fpccov.org
Requests may be removed after three weeks if not updated.

You are invited to **"Text to Give"** your offering. Text FPCCOV followed by your donation amount to: 73256
Or point your camera at the QR code to give online.



Saturday, April 15th
8:00am at Town House Café
RSVP to Neeley by April 13th

Men's Prayer Breakfast

**Our playground is temporarily
CLOSED
for safety maintenance.**

SOUL FEAST'S GOT TALENT



May 10th Fellowship Hall



Everyone come and enjoy the fun! All ages are welcome!

**Showcase your hidden talent in
Soul Feast's Got Talent!**

We'll be holding a talent show in the Fellowship Hall following Soul Feast on May 10th. Email Darcel Tabb if you are interested in participating. Email your name, talent, and the approximate length of your act to darceltabb@yahoo.com

SOUL FEAST



APRIL 12



**ON THE MENU:
BREAKFAST FOR DINNER**

Feed your body and soul with FPC in the Fellowship Hall at 5:15pm.

RSVP by Tuesday, April 11th at 12:00pm to catherine@fpccov.org or 770-786-7321



Our April Soul Class:
Thriving Congregations
Join us following Soul Feast at 6:00pm to hear from our Thriving Congregations Cohort!

VBS June 5-8

Register at fpccov.org/vbs for Ready, Set, Move Vacation Bible School!



Sunday, April 9

Easter Sunday

- 6:30am Easter Sunrise Service
- 10:00am Refreshments in the Narthex Hallway
- 11:00am Worship—Resurrection of the Lord

Monday, April 10

Office Closed

Tuesday, April 11

RSVP deadline for Soul Feast

- 2:15pm Staff Meeting
- 5:30pm Witness Team Meeting

Wednesday, April 12

- 10:00am Coffee and Conversation
- 4:30pm Blessed Parenting Class
- 5:15pm Soul Feast
- 6:00pm Soul Class: Thriving Congregations

Thursday, April 13

RSVP deadline for Men's Breakfast

- 6:00pm Blossoms & Beans

Saturday, April 15

- 8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, April 16 Second Sunday of Easter

- 9:45am Sunday School
- 11:00am Worship
- 7:00pm Jammies & Jesus

FPC YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY PRESENTS

BELIEF AND - BEER -

DRINKS AND DISCUSSION
APRIL 20TH | 5:30PM | AT LUCKY DAY
CHILDCARE PROVIDED AT THE CHURCH

BLESSING OF A SKINNED KNEE

BLESSED PARENTING CLASS

Twice a month on Wednesdays
4:30-5:30pm in the Gathering Room
Childcare provided.
April 12 | April 19

Blossoms & Beans



The Ambassador
Gardening Club

Meeting on Thursday,
April 13th from 6:00pm to
7:30pm in the FPC
Fellowship Hall

Remember Earth Day is this month! Take some time to think about the Earth and visit with other gardeners at the Ambassador Gardening Club!