



First Sunday after Epiphany

January 9, 2022

Order of Worship

✦ Stand as able



Gathering As God's Beloved People

GATHERING MUSIC

*On Jordan's Stormy Banks
I've Got Peace Like a River
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Mark Hayes
Traditional Spiritual
Jeffrey Honoré

PRELUDE

To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord

Robert Lind

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather around the waters of grace,
the fount of blessing that shall never run dry.

In these waters, we are known.

Through these waters, we are claimed.

By these waters, we are marked by the Spirit
and bound as one family in the body of Christ!

✦ HYMN 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

✦ CONFESSION

God whose spirit moved over the waters, you have washed us in your mercy, claimed us as your own, bound us in community, and called us to lives of baptismal grace. Forgive us, O God, for we have not lived as if we were your baptized people. We stumble over opportunities for forgiveness. We prioritize our selfish interests. We are slow to disrupt what makes us comfortable, even with it means ignoring our neighbors' suffering. Forgive us, O God, and by your forgiveness, lead us back to your waters of transformation. Amen.

SOLO

*Wade in the Water
Ansley Stewart*

African-American Spiritual

✦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

✦ RESPONSE 480

Take me to the Water

TAKE ME TO THE WATER

Take to me to the water. Take me to the water. Take me to the water to be baptized. Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah. Glory hallelujah to be baptized.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be With you.
And Also with You.

Proclaiming the Word

WONDERING WITH GOD'S CHILDREN "Star Words"

ANTHEM

Down to the River to Pray
Ansley Stewart, solo

Folk Hymn

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

SERMON

Grace upon Grace

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

Responding to the Word

✦HYMN 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

"And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.'"

"Those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty."

"Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal."

"Jesus came walking towards them on the water."

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers they shall not overwhelm you."

"Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the waters were divided."

Through the waters of creation, God brought life.

Through the waters of the Jordan, God brought freedom.

Through the waters of baptism, God brings new creation.

Remember your baptism. Know that you are loved, and spend your life sharing that love with the world.

Remember your baptism. Know that you are loved, and spend your life sharing that love with the world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

OFFERTORY

✦DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

New Day's Lyric

by Amanda Gorman, first youth poet laureate of the United States

May this be the day

We come together.

Mourning, we come to mend,

Withered, we come to weather,

Torn, we come to tend,

Battered, we come to better.

Tethered by this year of yearning,

We are learning

That though we weren't ready for this,

We have been readied by it.

We steadily vow that no matter

How we are weighed down,

We must always pave a way forward.
This hope is our door, our portal.
Even if we never get back to normal,
Someday we can venture beyond it,
To leave the known and take the first steps.
So let us not return to what was normal,
But reach toward what is next.
What was cursed, we will cure.
What was plagued, we will prove pure.
Where we tend to argue, we will try to agree,
Those fortunes we foreswore, now the future we foresee,
Where we weren't aware, we're now awake;
Those moments we missed
Are now these moments we make,
The moments we meet,
And our hearts, once all together beaten,
Now all together beat.
Come, look up with kindness yet,
For even solace can be sourced from sorrow.
We remember, not just for the sake of yesterday,
But to take on tomorrow.
We heed this old spirit,
In a new day's lyric,
In our hearts, we hear it:
For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne.
Be bold, sang Time this year,
Be bold, sang Time,
For when you honor yesterday,
Tomorrow ye will find.
Know what we've fought
Need not be forgotten nor for none.
It defines us, binds us as one,
Come over, join this day just begun.
For wherever we come together,
We will forever overcome.

Being the Church in the World

✦SENDING HYMN 623

I've Got Peace like a River

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sing of God Made Manifest (SALZBURG)

David Cherwien

Worship Notes

The Presbyterian Association of Musicians was a resource for this worship service.

Friendship Registers

There are Friendship registers in each pew. We ask that you sign in each week that you attend. If you are a visitor or interested in church membership signing in helps us with a way to contact you. The registers are also our way to know who to call in the case of a Covid-19 exposure. Thanks!

Serving Today:

We Welcome **Ansley Stewart**, as our guest musician. Ansley is a singer and songwriter.

Tech Team: Brad Phillips, Dan Walden, Jonny Atkins; **Acolyte:** Harry Hawkins;

Usher Chair: Stephanie Scarborough

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 your offering: Text to: 73256
 Enter FPCCOV as your message, click to send
 Or use this link: <https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyterianChurchCov/give/FPCCOVtext>

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

- ✦Bernice Bailey-recent fall
- ✦Kim Bailey-tests (family of Bernice & Betty Bailey)
- ✦Melissa-cancer (friend of the congregation)
- ✦Denny Dobbs-recovering from surgery
- ✦Fred Calalay (friend of Angela Gilmer)
- ✦Audrey Harper Arwood-back pain (daughter of Pat Harper)
- ✦Saba Tanner-cancer treatment (friend of Warren & Jeanie Liem)
- ✦Jennifer Magnan-stillborn child (niece of Barbara Martin)
- ✦Alton Cochran-skin cancer surgery, 11/24 (outpatient)
- ✦Jean Wolverton-See updates at Caring Bridge.
- ✦Cathy Martin-breast cancer-chemotherapy (sister-in-law of Chris Martin)
- ✦Jeff Terrell-recovering from medical procedure (friend of Steve & Louly Kapp)
- ✦Anne Cranford-treatment for breast cancer
- ✦Lynn Lanier-amyloidosis (friend of Chris Martin)
- ✦Doug Bolton-burn injury treatment
- ✦Susan Fiedler-cancer (friend of Darcel Tabb)
- ✦Blair Weaver-health issues
- ✦Sarita Pope-breast cancer (mother-in-law of Elizabeth Martin Pope)
- ✦Beverly Beasley-caring for husband who has leukemia (friend of Jean Elder)
- ✦Karen Moss-breast cancer
- ✦Karen Lein Kaasa-home health care (sister-in-law of Julie MacKenzie)
- ✦Wilford Reed-health issues (friend of Jeff MacKenzie)
- ✦Bob Darby-kidney problems (friend of Jeff MacKenzie)
- ✦Joyce Williams-Alzheimer's, breast cancer treatment (sister of Danny Vining)
- ✦Brandon Massey-blood cancer (grandson of Chuck and Sherry Brasher)
- ✦Carol Baynes-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)

Independent and Assisted Living

- ✦Travis Moss-Westbury, Conyers
- ✦Penny Blakeney-home
- ✦Julia Brubaker-Benton House
- ✦Jean Elder-currently in Florida with her daughter
- ✦Dot Fincher-Merryvale
- ✦Guy McGiboney-Merryvale
- ✦Betty Robinson-Merryvale
- ✦Louise White-Merryvale

Military Service

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



Special Celebration!
Betty Robinson's 100th Birthday is January 10th!

Condolences

We pray for the family of **Jay Milton** who died on December 18th. Jay is the nephew of **Julie Mackenzie**.

Our prayers are with **Faye and Joel Kitchens** upon the death of Joel's cousin, **Mandy Randall Anderson**.

Prayer Requests

All prayer requests should be sent to: admin@fpccov.org or by clicking the "Email Peni" button at the bottom of the Enews prayer list. Requests will be removed after 3 weeks if not updated. Please specify if you want the request in the bulletin or for pastors only, or only the confidential prayer circle.

Keep the APNC in Your Prayers

Those serving on the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee: Jodi Walden Atkins; Dana Hall; Judy Hooten; Steve Kapp; Randy Layton; Pam Stillerman & Bob Tabb.

Interested in Joining the Church?

If you're interested in joining the FPC church family, you are welcome to reach out to Neeley. You can enjoy a coffee together and discuss what it means to become a member.

To set a date:
 by email: neeley@fpccov.org;
 By phone: 770-786-7321,
 please leave a message with Peni Kehoe.

Do you have a mobile phone or a tablet?

If so, you can download the bulletin on your device to follow the service and save paper. If you pick up a paper bulletin please remember to recycle it here or at home! The environment will thank you! (Please do put your device on silent!)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Neeley Rentz Lane *Senior Pastor*
 Alisa Castilla *Seminary Intern*
 Alice Walker *CAGO, AAGO*
 Peni Kehoe *Organist/Ambassador Choir*
Church Administrator

Caring for Our Children in the Nursery
 Danielle Schubert
 Beverley Beasley
 Amiah Williams
 Ian Rein
 Kennedy Lynn

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Class of 2022
 Aubrey Evans
 John McCarthy
 Stephanie Scarborough
 Trista Hooten Wilson

Class of 2023
 Stan Hall
 Louly Hay Kapp
 Ed Perkerson
 Bob Tabb

Class of 2024
 Pat Harper
 Brad Phillips
 Curtis Watson

Please Recycle



Activities In the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

Sunday, January 9 Epiphany 1

No Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
Annual Congregational Meeting

Tuesday, January 11

12:00 Lectio Divina Bible Study (parlor)
6:00 The Art of Living Study on Zoom

Wednesday, January 12

5:45 Women on the Go Book Study (Parlor)
6:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 16 Epiphany 2

10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service with Communion

Monday, January 17, Martin Luther King, Jr.

Church Office Closed

Children's Sunday School

10:00am

Sunday School Room Downstairs
Teachers: Rotation Model
Interested in teaching?
email info@fpccov.org

Youth Sunday School

10:00am

Youth Room Downstairs
Teachers: Pam and Jim Stillerman

Adult Sunday School

10:00am

Foundations Class, downstairs

Nursery for Children

We have a nursery available for children newborn—1st grade. It is located on the lower level. Ask an usher to direct you. Children are also welcome to wiggle and giggle in the pew.

Worship Bags for Children

The bags are labeled with children's name tags clipped to their bag and they are invited to use the same bag every time they come to worship. For our visitors and newcomers we have bags labeled "Child of God." The bags are hanging on a rack on the right side of the narthex.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Our Annual Congregational meeting will be held today, immediately following the worship service in person and on Zoom.

Handbell Choir News

Handbell choir will resume on January 12th, with childcare available.

New Address:

Cy & Jean Wolverton
Historic Roswell Place
75 Magnolia Street
Roswell, GA 30075

"Women On-The-Go"

Monthly Book Study
January 12, 2022
5:45 pm-7:15 pm @ Church Parlor
Childcare Provided
(Read the final chapters)

The Art of Living Study Group

Tuesday evenings starting January 11th
6:00 pm on Zoom (see Enews for link)
Resource: [Henri Nowen and the Art of Living](#)
Weekly Topics: Identity, God, Love, Suffering, Freedom
Facilitators include: Judy Davis, Dan Walden, Alisa Castilla, Pat Harper, and Larry Kennon
Books are \$14. Email info@fpccov.org if you would like a book!

Basket for Teacher Treats for Fairview Elementary

There will be a red basket for collecting treats for teachers in the narthex each week. Place your prepackaged treats in the basket by noon on Thursdays for delivery to the teachers on Fridays.

Nominees for the Office of Deacon

Day Kennon

Day grew up at FPC Covington and after graduating from Agnes Scott College left Georgia and lived in four different states (teaching in elementary through college during that time) before returning to her home state. In 2001 she and husband Larry, now married for 45 years, moved into her Covington childhood home. When not involved with their five children and nine grands, Day, a two-time elder at FPC and handbell and choir member enjoys reading, tennis, gardening, and her church family in all activities like PW circle and Sunday School.

Eleanor Scarborough

"For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." And I walk by faith not by sight. This is who I am and by what I believe. I am a child of God. I have been a Presbyterian forever. Before I could walk or talk I was in church every Sunday with my daddy, mother and brothers Harold and Felton. When Wayne and I got married June 5th 1960 I went to church with my family on the morning I was to be married at Conyers Presbyterian church that afternoon.

I am a wife to my beloved Wayne of 62 years, yea. I am a mother to Wayne Jr and Stephanie. I am Grandmother (Bunny) to Lee, Billy, Amy and Justin and great grandmother (Bunny) to Layla, Alexis, Mason and Lily. I have a cat named Bobby.

I retired from Oxford College after 32 years, where, thankfully, I had some great supervisors (Joe Moon etc.). I worked as a substitute teacher at Newton County high school mostly in special need classrooms which I loved. I enjoyed working polls on election days.

In First Presbyterian Church of Covington I have been Sunday school superintendent, circle leader, long time teacher of kindergarten age children. Wayne and I took the youth on a week-long trip to Washington DC with another couple, elder for six years, vacation bible school leader and teacher, I have helped Peni in office when needed, help with Fairview school program, help worship committee, usher during church and during funerals and help with blood drives held at the church.

I am a member of the Pilot club of Covington. Wayne and I enjoy going camping in our little camper.

Darcel Tabb

Darcel and Bob Tabb moved to Covington Ga. In July of 2008. They joined CFPC church in April of 2010. Darcel has served as an Elder, Stewardship Chair for several years, sings in the adult choir, has served on the Interim Pastor search committee and is currently chair of the new Music Director/Worship Leader search team. Darcel has been a physical fitness instructor at the Covington YMCA for 13 1/2 year. She is also the MiMi to 7 Grandchildren with number 8 due in 2 weeks.

Alice Walker

Alice, and her twin sister, Becky, are organists who are certified by several professional organizations and have widely concertized in the U. S. Alice graduated from Agnes Scott College with a BA in Music and attended Graduate Studies at the Liturgical Institute in of Valparaiso University in Indiana. Organ Performance has always been Alice's passion.

Alice has been a member of FPC for 18 years, serving as Organist during that time. She has directed the Singing Ambassadors, has accompanied the Sanctuary Choir, and has worked with the Handbell Choir. The Singing Ambassadors is an ecumenical and multi-racial choir which has sung for camp meetings, nursing homes, retirement facilities and revivals an average of 10-12 times every year. In 2019 Alice was awarded the Beacon of Light Religious Award by the Newton County Senior services, Inc., for her work with this choir. In addition to her musical duties she has served in several capacities as a volunteer. She has served as a member and Moderator of the Presbyterian Women, Leader of the Martha Circle, Unit Leader for the Presbyterian of Atlanta Presbyterian Women, Facilitator of the FPC Prayer Team, member of the FPC Pastoral Care Team and member of Sunday School. Alice feels called to serve God and the people of First Presbyterian Church, and if elected will be honored to serve as a Deacon. Alice is married to Ken Walker.