First Presbyterian Church Covington, GA

A Service for Presbyterian Heritage Sunday

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 27. 2023



Gathering As God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy Hear Us Now, Our God and Father All Creatures of Our God and King/ The Heavens Are Telling Charles Callahan Mark Sedio Susan Caudill

Prelude

Now Thank We All Our God

Paul Manz

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming of the Hour

Processional

Highland Cathedral

Ulrich Roever and Michael Korb

The Order of Procession

The Pipes & Drums The Beadle Clergy The Flag of the Christian Church The Flag of the United States of America The St. Andrews Cross Flag United States Air Force Tartan Banner United States Air Force Tartan Banner United States Coast Guard Tartan Banner United States Marine Corps Tartan Banner United States Navy Tartan Banner Family Tartan Banners

†Call to Worship

O come, let us worship and praise the Lord our God.

For the Lord our God has worked through the lives of women, men and families, to grant us a great legacy of faith.

The Lord our God is with us today, as God has been present with God's people in the past, and will be present with us in the future.

May our worship proclaim there is but one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all. Praise be to God.

+Hymn of Praise 394 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Call to Confession

†Community Confession

from The Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland

Merciful God, we humble ourselves in Thy presence, confessing our unworthiness and sinfulness in Thy sight. We have broken Thy holy law. We have not sought first Thy kingdom and righteousness. We have been anxious and troubled about many things, and have neglected the things that belong to our peace. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves, or done to others as we would hope they would do to us. Most gracious God, our heavenly Father, who hast given Thy Son, Jesus Christ, to save Thy people from their sins; forgive us, we beseech Thee; cleanse us from all unrighteousness, and renew a right spirit within us; through the grace of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

***Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness**

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

*****Response to God's Grace 582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shine on Me

GLORY TO GOD

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

Hymns of Hope, Songs of Faith

Additional Words and Arr. by Joseph M. Martin

Incorporating "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" based on ST. ANNE "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" based on SLANE "Lead On, O King Eternal" based on CWM RHONDDA and LANCASHIRE

Prayer for God's Wisdom and Understanding

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 4:1-6

Pew Bible page 193

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Called to Unity

Rev. Dr. Buz Wilcoxon



Responding to the Word

+Hymn of Response

We Do Confess One God Alone

DUNDEE

We do confess one God alone, the Lord to whom we cleave, whom only we must praise and serve, in whom we do believe.

By grace God chose us in the Son, great bishop of our souls, the Mediator, Head, High Priest, through prophecies foretold.

The Spirit of the risen Christ indwells our hearts by faith and brings forth all of our good works to guide us in God's grace.

As God is one so is the Kirk, all nations, races, tongues, true marked when Word and sacraments with discipline are sewn.

Blessing of Congregation and Tartans

Gracious God, through the particular family of Abraham and Sarah, you promised to bless all the families of the earth. These tartan banners come from particular families and a particular culture, but they too remind us of you calling us to be a worldwide, multiethnic, multilingual family of faith around the world. As the various colors and patterns in these banners are woven together to create beauty, so too weave us together as a diverse tapestry that reflects your image. Thank you, O God, for your Word which has ordained a rich heritage of faith and sacrifice from our ancestors, from Adam to Noah, from Noah to Abraham, from Abraham to David, so onward to the incarnation of Jesus Christ, to the establishment of his church: our brothers and sisters in Christ everywhere. Never let us forget that a heritage of faith is a responsibility to be shared.

Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

Thank you, O God, for the blessing of family; the warmth, comfort, and security of family love. Never let us forget that our family love is a gift to be shared, that the stranger may be as welcome as a sibling.

Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

We praise you, O God, for those who have lived and died in Christ that we might have the freedom to dwell in a community of faith. Never let us forget that the days of sacrifice are not yet over, that we too, have lives to live in faith.

Bless us that we may be a blessing, O Lord.

On behalf of all families, and nations, we stand before God to acknowledge our heritage, recognizing the hard and messy as well as the holy and beautiful. We pray God's blessing on God's servant people in all lands.

We proclaim that we are all united in the covenant of Jesus Christ, for there is but one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of us all.

†Affirmation of Faith from The Scots Confession of 1560

We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory. 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.

Offering Our Gifts: An Invitation to Generosity

Offertory	The Rose of Kelvingrove	David Knox				
	Tom Crawford, bagpipes	Arr. by S. Rohe				
₱Response 606	Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow	OLD HUNREDTH				
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;						
praise God, all creatures here below;						
-	e ye heavenly host;					
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.						

Prayer of Gratitude

All are invited to join in our community Prayer of Gratitude by lifting up a one-word prayer of thanksgiving.

Being the Church in the World

Sending Hymn 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

Charge and Benediction

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.

***Retrieval of the Tartans**

PRecessional

Scotland the Brave

Traditional Scottish Tune Arr. by John Kuzma



Special thanks to our guest musicians

Tom Crawford, bagpipes; Ashley Frost, drum

Tech Team | Dan Walden, Jonny Atkins, Brad Hawley Usher Chair | Louly Hay-Kapp Acolyte | Kately Lane

Guest Worship Leader

Rev. Dr. Buz Wilcoxon presently serves as the Marianne & E.G. Lassiter Chaplain & Dean of Spiritual Life at Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina.

Wilcoxon was ordained as a minister of word and sacrament by the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 2008. He served as associate pastor at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Greenville, South Carolina and as the senior pastor at Spring Hill Presbyterian Church in Mobile, Alabama.

Wilcoxon is a former member of PC's Board of Church Advisors and a current member of the Columbia Theological Seminary Board of Trustees. He has been a stalwart servant in the larger church, having served on numerous committees in the Presbytery of South Alabama, the Synod of Living Waters, and the PC (USA).

He also wrote the hymn words for today's hymn of response to the message, *We Do Confess One God Alone.*

♥ Worship Notes

The Kirkin' o' the Tartan service celebrates the Scottish heritage of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. It is truly a North American custom, but based on the history of the Scots in Scotland during the days of the Act of Proscription, a time in which the wearing of the kilt was banned in the Highlands. Legend has it that the Highlanders hid pieces of tartan and brought them to church to be secretly blessed in the service.

During WWII, before the Americans joined the war, the Reverend Peter Marshall, originally from Coatbridge, Scotland, was the minister at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian in New York City. He also served as Senior Pastor here at FPCC from 1930-33 and Chaplain of the United States Senate from 1947-49. Desiring to draw attention to the threat that war brought to the British people and to raise funds for British war relief, Marshall held the first Kirkin' o' the Tartan service on April 27, 1941. His sermon title was "The Kirkin' o' the Tartan," and in it Marshall spoke about the oppression of the Scots during the days of the Act of Proscription, and then drew his congregation's

attention to the global threat of cultural annihilation and genocide posed by the Nazi dictatorship. All funds raised from the service went directly to a mobile kitchen in Scotland.

Thank you for joining us today in honor of Presbyterian Heritage Sunday for this Kirkin' o' the Tartan service as we celebrate and learn more about the rich history of Presbyterianism in America and our heritage in the Church of Scotland.

* The Company of Tartans

United States Air Force - Billy Fortson United States Army - Bill Clary United States Coast Guard - Denny Dobbs United States Marine Corps - Kenny Compton United States Navy – Doug Bolton Angus District Modern – John McCarthy Black Watch - Bob Tabb Buchanan Ancient - Carol McGiboney Buchanan Modern - Pat Harper Fraser Hunting Modern - Amy Fraser Harris - Wayne Scarborough Hay Modern - Sam Hay Inverness District Modern - Darcel Tabb MacDonald Modern - Paisley Lane MacDougall Modern - Kraig Howell MacGregor Red - Miriam Wheeler MacNaughton Muted - Eleanor Scarborough Thompson Grey - Stephanie Scarborough



Children in Worship

We have a "Children in Worship" guiding brochure available in the Narthex! This brochure is intended to serve as an aid to parents and other members of our congregation in welcoming our children to worship.

Children are always welcome to wiggle and giggle in the pews at FPC! During worship children are invited to join us at the front of the Sanctuary for a time of Wondering with God's Children. Afterwards, children planning to go to the nursery will be escorted downstairs by Pastor Neeley or Pastor Erin. This is to help you stay in worship and us get them to the nursery safely. If you need help finding the nursery, you are invited to ask an usher to point the way.

Sound System

We are excited to announce that Session has approved updating the sound system in our Sanctuary! Our sound system has not been updated in several years and we believe this is a valuable way to make our church welcoming and accessible for all of God's people. The new system is designed to improve the sound in the space, not only in volume but in clarity and it will include a Bluetooth hearing aid connectivity option.

Due to supply chain delays we do not have a firm timeline for installation, so we still encourage congregants who are hearing impaired to sit close to the front near the main speakers. Currently we expect to have the equipment by October and have it installed in time for Advent! Know that you have been heard and you are loved!

Friendship Registers

In each pew there is a pad with a black cover that we invite everyone to fill out. If the Friendship Register is nearest to you, please fill it out and pass it down the pew so it can reach everyone. When you pass it on, we invite you to introduce yourself to your pew friends! We encourage visitors and newcomers to connect with us by filling out the Friendship Register so we can be sure to send you a message to thank you for joining us.

Use

One License #A-728728 authorizes the use of music printed in our worship guide and streamed online.



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?			Officers	
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			Curtis Watson Eng Charles Ardis Pat Harper Nichole Howell Mary Catherine Whisn Belo Doug Bolton	ant Christian Ed (2024) onging Welcome (2025)
First Presbyterian Church Staff			Louly Hay Kapp Bob Tabb Connectir	Marketing (2023) Finance (2023) ng (Deacons)
Neeley Rentz Lane Erin Morgan Alicia Taylor Alice Walker Catherine Laseter Felicia Carson Peni Kehoe	Senior Pastor Associate Pastor Dir. of Music & Worship Arts CAGO, AAGO Organist Dir. of Communications & Operations Seminary Intern Finance Administrator	Nursery Staff Hattie Bellinger Sierra BlackShear Jahniyah Greene Laina Lalane Anna Merritt	Tom Crews Dana Hall Eleanor Scarborough Darcel Tabb N Billy Fortson Stan Hall John McCarthy	Pastoral Care (2025) Faith & Fellowship (2025)

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Illness

- Wayne Scarborough, Jr., son of Wayne and Eleanor Scarborough - recovering from hip replacement surgery
- Brenda Howell rehab from car accident
- **†** Rosalia Meadors , friend of Tom Crews three year old with bone marrow failure
- Gabby Daugherty
- + Caroline Harper, daughter of Pat Harper cervical cancer
- Ken Walker upcoming surgery
- + Doris Deadwyler, friend of Judy Davis hip replacement
- + Meredith Nash, friend of Barbara Martin four year old with stage IV kidney cancer
- Bill Loeble recovering from kidney removal surgery
- **†** Bob and Beverly Beasley, friends of Jean Elder - health concerns and care
- Brenda Buckelew, mother of Jennifer **Buckelew**

- Patrick Carmichael
- + 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
- Bruce Hamilton, brother of Theodosia Wade - immunotherapy cancer treatment
- + Randy Jones, nephew of Faye Kitchens lung cancer
- ♦ Karen Lein Kaasa, sister-in-law of Julie MacKenzie - home health care
- + Lee Morris, friend of Donna Weesner meningitis
- ♦ Taylor Waters, great-niece of Gene Wallace
- + Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining vision loss
- + Joyce Williams, sister of Danny Vining -Alzheimer's

Condolences

• Our prayers are with the loved ones of former FPC Associate Pastor Rev. Nelson Albert DeBrosse as they mourn his passing on August 18, 2023. A service was held on August 25, 2023 at St. Luke's Presbyterian Church in Dunwoody.

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 Athens
- Travis Moss Westbury, Convers
- ◆ Louise White Merryvale

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

> PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER

ASSISTANCE

the wildfires in

PDA's Wildfire

892 M



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVINGTON ADMISSION IS FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

"Text to Give" your offering! Text* FPCCOV followed by your donation amount to: 73256

*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.

Life at FPC

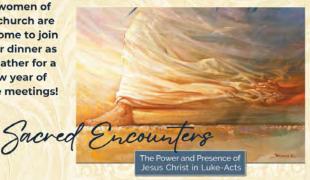




PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

All women of the church are welcome to join us for dinner as we gather for a new year of circle meetings! 2023-2024 fick-off Presbyterian Women Meeting September 14, 2023 at 5:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

and on Zoom!



PW books for 2023-24, Sacred Encounters: The Power and Prescence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts, are available for purchase in the Narthex today. Contact your PW Circle leader with questions.



Sunday, August 27 **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Worship—Kirkin' o' the Tartan

12:30pm Session Meeting

4:00pm Youth Pizza and Painting

7:00pm, Jammies and Jesus

Monday, August 28

6:00pm Grief Group

Tuesday, August 29

- 12:00pm Lectio Divina
- 3:30pm Staff Meeting
- 5:30pm Belief and Beer

Wednesday, August 30

- 10:00am Coffee Club
- 4:30pm Joyful Noise
- 5:00pm Hallelujah Kids!
- 6:00pm Carillon Handbell Choir
- 7:00pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, August 31

10:00am Pastors at Merryvale

Sunday, September 3 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:45am Sunday School

11:00am Worship— Felicia Carson

Monday, September 4

Office CLOSED for Labor Day

