

All Saints' Sunday

NOVEMBER 5, 2023

TWENTY-THIRD
SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
COVINGTON, GA

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



Gathering As God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Theme from "The Planets"
"For All the Saints" with
"Symphony No. 1, Part 4"
"Adagio" from Chorale in A Minor

Gustav Holst
Ralph Vaughn Williams
and Johannes Brahms
César Franck

Prelude

Fanfare and Processional

NICAEA/HYMN TO JOY

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

✠ **Call to Worship**

Written by Sidney D. Fowler

In Luke's gospel, Jesus called together the disciples
and a great multitude to a level place.

There he touched, healed, and taught.

There he spoke, "Blessed are..."

There he named the blessed—the saints of the faith.

**O God, call us together as you did those so long ago
to discover your blessed people.**

Today, in this place, Christ gather us.

**Let us remember, confess, celebrate, and embody
the blessed saints of God.**

Christ, come among us. Alleluia!

✠ **Hymn of Praise 263**

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name!

CORONATION

✠ **Call to Confession**

✠Community Confession

Eternal God,
in every age you have raised up men and women
to live and die in faith.
We confess that we are indifferent to your will.
You call us to proclaim your name,
but we are silent.
You call us to do what is just,
but we remain idle.
You call us to live faithfully,
but we are afraid.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Give us courage to follow in your way,
that joined with those from ages past,
who have served you with faith, hope, and love,
we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ.

✠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 Shines on Me

GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the spirit, whose live 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

Children's Anthem

Saints Go Marching In
Children's Choirs

Kidsongs

Recognition of Confirmands

Holden Evans

Harper Holder

Kately Lane

Anthem

I Can Only Imagine
Ansley Stewart

Bart Millard

Prayer for God's Wisdom and Understanding

First Scripture Reading

1 John 3:1-3

Pew Bible page 240

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

Pew Bible page 4

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message

Saints!

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane



Responding to the Word

✦ Hymn of Response

I'll Fly Away
Ansley Stewart

Albert E. Brumley
Guitar: Rick Lollar

*I'll fly away oh Glory, I'll fly away
in the morning.
When I die hallelujah by and by
I'll fly away*

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.

Julia Brubaker Kathy Froling Angela Gilmer
Murray McClure Jean Carol Mundy
James Stillerman Gene Wallace Blair Weaver

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!*



Offertory

Precious Memories
Adrianne Ivey

by J.B.F. Wright

✠ Response 606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

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 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 730

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

GRAND ISLE

✠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.

✠Postlude

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Paul Leddington Wright



Confirmation

What is Confirmation?

The word confirm, from the Latin *confirmare*, means “to strengthen.” At Confirmation, the Holy Spirit and the church’s prayers strengthen those who are being confirmed. This strengthening includes preparing individuals who were baptized in infancy to 1) profess their personal faith and the faith of the church and 2) declare their intent to take part actively and responsibly in the church’s worship and mission. For those not baptized as children, Confirmation includes both Baptism and a profession of faith.

Confirmation is an act of covenant renewal that includes 3 parties:

- 1) God confirms a youth’s baptismal identity as a child of God, whether baptism occurred in childhood or will happen at Confirmation worship
- 2) The youth confirms their faith in Jesus and the teachings of the church
- 3) The congregation confirms the youth’s spiritual gifts for ministry & active church membership

Our Mission Statement			Officers		
<p>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.</p>			<div>Reaching Out Curtis Watson <i>Witness (2024)</i></div> <div>Engaging Charles Ardis <i>Faith Formation (2025)</i> Pat Harper <i>Worship (2024)</i> Nichole Howell <i>Worship (2025)</i> Mary Catherine Whisnant <i>Faith Formation (2024)</i></div> <div>Belonging Doug Bolton <i>Welcome (2025)</i> Louly Hay Kapp <i>Marketing (2023)</i> Bob Tabb <i>Finance (2023)</i></div> <div>Connecting (Deacons) Tom Crews <i>Pastoral Care (2025)</i> Dana Hall <i>Faith & Fellowship (2025)</i> Eleanor Scarborough <i>Pastoral Care (2023)</i> Darcel Tabb <i>Faith & Fellowship (2024)</i></div> <div>More Billy Fortson <i>Personnel (2024)</i> Stan Hall <i>Facilities (2023)</i> John McCarthy <i>Clerk of Session</i> Ed Perkerson <i>Strategic Planning (2023)</i></div>		
First Presbyterian Church Staff					
Neeley Rentz Lane	Senior Pastor	Nursery Staff			
Erin Morgan	Associate Pastor				
Alice Walker	CAGO, AAGO Organist	Hattie Bellinger			
Catherine Laseter	Dir. of Communications & Operations	Sierra BlackShear			
Peni Kehoe	Finance Administrator	Jahnnyah Greene			
Krista Firkus	Interim Choir Director	Laina Lalane			



Serving Today

Tech Team | Dan Walden, Jonny Atkins, Brad Hawley

Usher Chair | Ed Perkerson

Acolytes | Kately Lane, Paisley Lane



Worship Practices

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.

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.

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. Know that you have been heard and you are loved!

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.

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

To the right we've listed the saints submitted by our congregation.

FPC Family

Julia Brubaker

Kathy Froling

Angela Gilmer

Murray McClure

Jean Carol Mundy

James Stillerman

Gene Wallace

Blair Weaver

❖ *Sermon Notes*

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)*

Remembering

Benita Alvarez
John "Artie" Bowan
Nathan Capps
Ellen Bishop Clary
Milo Crane
Grady Daugherty
Benson Dial
Chuck DiCorte
Fred Fraser
David Henson
Hazel Howard
Yvonne Johnson-Ellington

Loved one of

Angelic Bellinger
Angelic Bellinger
Joel & Faye Kitchens
Bill Clary
Barbara Martin
Donna & Chris Weesner
Dennis & Judy Hooten
Jay Lanners
Amy Fraser
Jay Lanners
Alice Walker
Cali Briggs & family

(cont.)

Remembering

Joe Milner
Homer Sharp
Bryan Shaw
Joel Dean Smith
Marshall Smith
Buddy Young

Loved one of

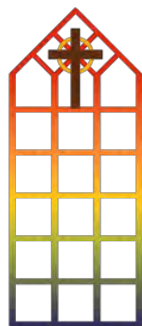
Day Kennon
Alice Walker
Jay Lanners
Carolyn & Curtis Watson
Jay Lanners
Roger & Tootles Tingle





Worship Notes & Doodles

We invite you to fill the space below with the thoughts, reminders, and doodles that you may be blessed with during and after worship.



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
COVINGTON, GA

1169 Clark Street SW, Covington, GA 30014

fpccov.org | 770.786.7321

SOUL FEAST CHILI COOK-OFF

NOVEMBER 8TH



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

Email Erin to enter
your chili to win!
erin@fpccov.org

RSVP by Monday,
November 6th to
770-786-7321 or
catherine@fpccov.org



CHRISMONS WORKSHOP

Join us before or after Soul
Feast on the far end of the
Fellowship Hall as we make
new Chrismons for our tree!
Check the e-news for more!

Community
FRIENDSGIVING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH | 6PM

ALL are invited to join us for
a Community Friendsgiving
at the Church of the Good Shepherd Episcopal!
Partnership between FPC, FUMC, & CGSE

Sunday, November 5

All Saints' Sunday

- 9:45am Sunday School
- 11:00am Worship—Confirmation
- 12:00pm CASA Service project
- 7:00pm Jammies & Jesus

Monday, November 6

- RSVP for Soul Feast
- RSVP for OASIS Movie Field Trip

5:30pm Officer Training

Tuesday, November 7

- 10:00am PW Elizabeth Ann Circle
- 10:30am PW Martha Circle
- 12:00pm Lectio Divina
- 3:30pm Staff Meeting

Wednesday, November 8

- 10:00am Coffee Club
- 4:30pm Joyful Noise
- 4:30pm Chrismons Workshop
- 5:00pm Hallelujah Kids!
- 5:15pm Soul Feast Chili Cook-off
- 5:45pm Chrismons Workshop
- 6:00pm Youth Hang
- 6:00pm Carillon Handbell Choir
- 7:00pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, November 9

- 3:34pm OASIS Movie Field Trip

Sunday, November 12

Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost

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

OASIS Movie Field Trip!

Nov. 9 at 3:45pm

A Journey to Bethlehem
Showtime 4pm Cost \$9 for
ticket

Meet us at the AMC in Conyers!
RSVP to Neeley by Nov. 6



*Presbyterian Women
Circles*

PW Circles meet on the first
Tuesday of each month

All women of the church are welcome to join!

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

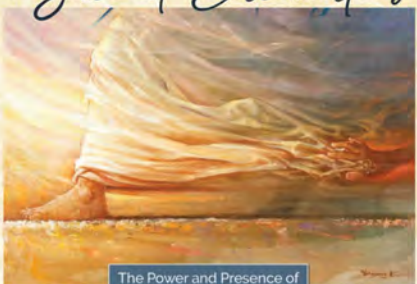
*Elizabeth Ann
Circle*

10:00am on Zoom
and in the
Fellowship Hall

Martha Circle

10:30am hosted
by rotating
members

Sacred Encounters



The Power and Presence of
Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts

*Order Adults Sharing in Service
at FPC*
O.A.S.I.S.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Illness

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Ken Fullerton, father of Scott Fullerton - in hospital with pneumonia ✦ Emmy Roth - quick healing from fall ✦ Patsy Freeman, sister of Judy Davis ✦ Grant Moss & Chris Mattice, family of Louly Fowler Hay - cancer and care ✦ Joyce, sister of Faye Kitchens ✦ Shelvie Belser, grandmother of Neeley Rentz Lane ✦ Carolyn Watson - undergoing cancer treatment ✦ Bernice Bailey - cancer treatment ✦ Angie, friend of John Leavitt - mother hit by car in the crosswalk ✦ Sam and Melissa Jo Feuer, friends of the Scarboroughs & Fullertons - mourning the passing of Sam's mother ✦ Bob and Beverly Beasley, friends of Jean Elder - health concerns and care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ 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 ✦ Karla Ensminger, sister of Perri Walden ✦ 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 ✦ Marcia McGowan-Thurman, mother of Alicia Taylor - inoperable brain tumor ✦ Rosalia Meadors, friend of Tom Crews - three year old with bone marrow failure ✦ Meredith Nash, friend of Barbara Martin - four year old with stage IV kidney cancer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Donald Vining, brother of Danny Vining - vision loss ✦ Joyce Williams, sister of Danny Vining - Alzheimer's <p>Military Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ Billy Scarborough - Marines ✦ Koen Ardis - Navy ✦ Clint Williams - Army ✦ Daryl Williams - Army <p>Independent and Assisted Living</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✦ 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, Conyers ✦ Louise White - Merryvale |
|--|---|---|

All **prayer requests** should be sent to: catherine@fpccov.org

Requests may be removed after three weeks if not updated.

Sunday, November 5th at CASA's office

All are invited to pull out your tools & help us plant flowers!
We'll eat lunch in the Fellowship Hall following
worship then head to CASA.

8134 Geiger Street, Suite 15, Covington, GA 30014



Grief Group

Join Neeley, Erin, and some of your FPC family in the Parlor for a grief support group.

One Monday a month at 6:00pm

Next meeting: Nov. 13

Enter through the office door



You are invited to
"Text to Give"
your offering! Find more details in the worship guide under "Offering Our Gifts: An Invitation to Generosity."

Sunday School

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

FPC is hosting a blood drive with the **American Red Cross** on **Friday, November 17th**

from 12:00pm-5:00pm in the Fellowship Hall!

To make an appointment visit redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code *firstprescov* or call 1-800-RED-CROSS

If you need help, contact Curtis Watson and he'll help you!



American Red Cross

Where Our Treasure Is

Even though Commitment Sunday has passed you still have time to have your pledge included in the 2024 budget!

Be sure to fill out your Pledge Card and Time & Talent so it can help us fund ministries for the coming year!

For more, visit

fpccov.org/stewardship

Pathways to Prayer



Join us in celebrating



Thornwell
BUILDING TOMORROW'S FAMILIES

EMPHASIS MONTH

With a legacy of hope and healing that began in the heart of a young pastor in 1875, Thornwell serves to prevent child abuse and neglect, build up and reunite families, and support healthy communities in the name of Jesus Christ. They offer a Christ-centered continuum of care featuring programs for teen moms, infants, toddlers, preschool children, young kids, teenagers, young adults, and families.

When the ministry started, the first funds came from a young boy. Thornwell Emphasis Month honors this legacy by inviting each of us to contribute what we can, whether this contribution is a donation through Tom the Turkey or a post on social media that raises awareness. We know that we are serving Jesus when we serve others!

Check out the suggestions below for some ideas on how your family can be involved! We can't build tomorrow's families without you.

Check out the suggestions below for some ideas on how your family can be involved! We can't build tomorrow's families without you.

WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR FAMILY

- Read the bible and pray with each other.
- Share your appreciation and gratitude for each other.
- Create quality family time that's "phone-free."

WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

- Help your neighbors. Cut a neighbor's grass, bring them dinner, or offer to pick up an extra item at the grocery store!
- Clean up your community. Look for opportunities you and your neighbors can improve your neighborhood by picking up trash, beautifying public spaces, and more!
- Answer the call to be part of a foster family's support system. It's a tough job made easier by people like you who show up and offer support!

WAYS TO SUPPORT THORNWELL

- Prayerfully consider a financial gift to Thornwell.
- Encourage your children to return a full Tom the Turkey this November.
- Raise awareness about Thornwell's programs and services on social media and in your conversations.
- Contact our Community Engagement Coordinator to discover how your gifts can make a difference for children and families:
Jenny Turner: jturner@thornwell.org | 864.923.5127