



Fourth Sunday of Easter

APRIL 25, 2021 - 11:00am
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Order of Worship *Gathering As God's Beloved People*

GATHERING MUSIC

At the Name of Jesus
Alice Walker, piano
Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart
Alice Walker, organ
All Things Bright and Beautiful

Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

Arthur H. Messiter

English Melody

PRELUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Paul Leddington Wright

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather

Eager to experience the Living God.

We gather

Recognizing we are standing on Holy Ground

We gather

Holding on to hopes and dreams.

We gather

Carrying questions and worry.

We gather

Welcoming the Holy Spirit to fill our cups.

We gather

Proclaiming the name of Jesus.

We gather

Glorifying the Risen Christ.

We gather

Celebrating Easter Joy!

Let us Worship Holy God!

HYMN 394

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Like Peter, you give us words to speak. We remain silent. When we are confronted with controversy we quickly seek easy answers, turn to gossip or sweep it under the rug. We remain silent. Fill us with the Holy Spirit. Deliver us from all that causes us to reject you. Save us from ourselves. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE HYMN 391 (Stanzas 2 and 3) *This Is the Day*

ESTE ES EL DÍA

REFRAIN: *This is the day; this is the day; this is the day that God has made!*

2. *I will sing praises because you have heard me, offering salvation with grace upon grace, turning the stone that the builders rejected into the cornerstone, rock of our faith.*

3. *It is the Lord who has done all these wonders. I have seen marvelous things. This is the day that the Lord has created. Join the rejoicing as every heart sings.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Proclaiming the Word

WONDERING WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM

In Christ Alone
Krista Firkus

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 4:1-12

SERMON *The Church: Now and Then* "Power in the Name"

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

Responding to the Word

HYMN 280

Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us

EBENEZER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Psalms 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—

they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

my whole life long.

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

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Thank you, God of spring and sunsets.

Thank you, God of climbing trees and coffee conversations.

Thank you, God of wonder and mystery.

Thank you, God for your act in and through Jesus Christ. Use our offerings today to say his name to all the ends of the earth- Jesus, our rock and salvation! We pray trusting in the power of Almighty God. Amen.

Being the Church in the World

HYMN 353

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

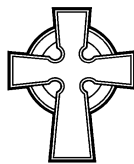
SOLID ROCK

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Frederick Steffen



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

We have re-introduced the Children's Worship bags. Children's name tags are 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". If our visitors plan to return they may request an individually labeled bag from one of our ushers. The bags are hanging on a rack on the right side of the narthex.

Activities in the Life of the Church

RSVP Required for In-person Worship: You may RSVP by using the link in our **Mid-Week First Press** (Enews) or by contacting the church office by NOON on THURSDAY of each week. Please only register for one Sunday at a time. You DO NOT have to print tickets.

Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fpc-sunday-worship-at-1100am-tickets-142586777891>

The Art of Reading Scripture Called Lectio Divina

Tuesdays at 12:00 noon in April & May you are invited to join Neeley in prayerfully considering the upcoming week's worship scripture reading. We will participate in an art of reading scripture called Lectio Divina. You are welcome to gather in the Church Parlor or on Zoom.

RING Doorbell Installed

We have installed a "Ring" doorbell at the office door for the ease and safety of church staff during this time when the church is closed to the general public. It is on the right side of the office entrance. If you visit during the week just stand on the right and ring the bell. It will take us a few seconds to activate the camera, so please have patience. Your "ring" will be answered as soon as possible! Thanks for your understanding.

The **Newton Co. Community Food Pantry** has reopened! They are now taking donations of non-perishable food and things like soap and tissue paper. You may take items to 7125 Turner Lake Circle on Wednesdays or Fridays between 9:00-11:30 or bring them to the church. They are also taking financial donations which you may give to the church or directly to the Food Pantry. Put Food Pantry in the memo space of your check or choose Food Pantry for the fund if you give through REALM or TEXT.

Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

Sunday, April 25, Easter 4

10:00 Adult Sunday School—link below
 10:00 Youth Sunday School
 10:00 Children's Sunday School
 11:00 Worship Service
 (Livestream link provided the in Weekly Enews)
 12:30 Child Protection Policy Review
 7:00 Jammies and Jesus (link below)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82191056781>

Meeting ID: 821 9105 6781

Monday, April 26

6:15 Session Meeting

Tuesday, April 27

12:00 Lectio Divina Scripture Study (parlor)
 7:00 Bible Study on The Book of Acts on zoom
 7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 28

10:00 Coffee & Conversation (bring your own)

Friday and Saturday, May 1

Strategic Planning Retreat

Sunday, May 2, Easter 5

10:00 Adult Sunday School—link below
 10:00 Youth Sunday School
 10:00 Children's Sunday School
 11:00 Worship Service
 (Livestream link provided the in Weekly enews)
 7:00 Jammies and Jesus (link below)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82191056781>

Meeting ID: 821 9105 6781

Christian Education

Adult Sunday School is a casual time of conversation and fellowship. Each week is a stand-alone lesson, so if you miss a week, come back the next! Adult Sunday School meets in the Fellowship Hall and on Zoom at 10:00am. Please enter through the Sanctuary doors to then proceed to the fellowship hall.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83852010376> Meeting ID: 838 5201 0376

Youth Sunday School is led by Pam and Jim Stillerman and offers a time of connection and of studying scripture. Youth Sunday will meet *in person in the Youth Room*. Please enter through Sanctuary doors to then proceed to your class.

Children's Sunday School is offered each week by Dan and Perri Walden. Sunday school is in-person at 10:00am in the Green Room! Please enter through the Sanctuary doors.

Zoom Bible Study

A study of the Book of Acts will continue on Tuesdays, at 7:00pm. They will use the study book "Life Lessons from Acts" by Max Lucado which you may obtain from Amazon. The link for the study is in our mid-week *First Press* on-line newsletter. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86337019579>

Do-nut Worry, Be Happy!

The Faith and Fellowship Team would like to invite YOU for "Coffee and Conversation" on Wednesday mornings in April. We'll be getting together in the Fellowship Hall (socially distanced and masked) from **10am-11am** to catch up with friends! Love-a-Latte if you'd join us on Wednesday 28! For more information contact Cindy Moon.

Church Directory

If you are in need of a current church directory you can pick one up from the narthex "ushers" sideboard or you can email Peni and she will send you a copy via email. admin@fpccov.org



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Neeley Rentz Lane | <i>Senior Pastor</i> | Peni Kehoe | <i>Church Administrator</i> |
| Krista Firkus | <i>Music Director</i> | Danielle Schubert | <i>Nursery</i> |
| Alice Walker | CAGO, AAGO | Kennedy Lynn | <i>Nursery</i> |
| | <i>Organist/Ambassador Choir</i> | | |

MEMBERS OF SESSION

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Class of 2021 Jay Lanners Warren Liem Pam Stillerman Cy Wolverton | Class of 2022 Aubrey Evans John McCarthy Cindy Moon Stephanie Scarborough Trista Hooten Wilson | Class of 2023 Cheryl Gibson Stan Hall Louly Hay Kapp Ed Perkerson Bob Tabb |
|--|--|--|

We thank you for your continued support of First Presbyterian Church of Covington!

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

If you made a pledge for 2021, choose "2021 Pledge" as the fund. Then the system will walk you through entering your bank or credit card information. If you did not make a pledge you can choose another fund such as "Non-pledge"; or "Flowers" "Food Pantry", etc. There is a drop-down menu you can scroll through to choose a fund. You now have the option to help offset the cost of on-line giving. Just check the space and use the suggested donation or put in what you'd like to give. Use this link for on-line giving:
<https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyterianChurchCov/give/now>

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

- ✦ Bernice Bailey-Home
- ✦ Guy McGiboney-Piedmont Newton
- ✦ Betty Bailey-recent fall
- ✦ Teresa Shaffer-ill (Lane Dobbs' mother-in-law)
- ✦ Doug Bolton-burn injury
- ✦ Linda Boyd-recovering from back surgery (she is a former FPC member)
- ✦ Angela Gregory-cancer, hospital in Scotland (aunt of Sarah Gregory)
- ✦ Paisley Freeman (great-niece of Judy Davis)
- ✦ Steve Jones-cancer (friend of Alice Walker)
- ✦ Susan Fiedler-cancer (friend of Darcel Tabb)
- ✦ Hulda McDonald-health issues (friend of Judy Davis)
- ✦ Blair Weaver-health issues
- ✦ Jane Parker-recovering from fall
- ✦ Betty Lunsford-recovering at home
- ✦ Sarita Pope-breast cancer (mother-in-law of Elizabeth Martin Pope)
- ✦ Nancy Smith-recovering at home (daughter of Sandy & Betsy Morehouse)
- ✦ Beverly Beasley-caring for husband who has leukemia (friend of Jean Elder)
- ✦ Karen Moss-breast cancer
- ✦ Carter Mackenzie-neck injury (son of Julie & Jeff Mackenzie)
- ✦ Karen Lein Kaasa-home health care (sister-in-law of Julie Mackenzie)
- ✦ Tom Bass-cancer treatment & dialysis (friend of Beth & Danny Vining)
- ✦ 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)

Special Prayers

Piedmont Newton frontline workers as well as other medical staff. The hospital is very busy with helping sick patients, night and day. Please pray for their work and their safety.

Independent and Assisted Living

- ✦ Travis Moss-Pruitt Healthcare
- ✦ Penny Blakeney-home
- ✦ Julia Brubaker-Benton House
- ✦ Jean Elder-currently in Florida with her daughter (address available from church Office or on REALM)
- ✦ Dot Fincher-Merryvale
- ✦ Guy McGiboney-Merryvale
- ✦ Betty Robinson-Merryvale
- ✦ Louise White-Merryvale
- ✦ Jerry McGaffney-Merryvale

Military Service

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



Condolences

We extend our prayers for **Krissy Jones and family** in the death of her father, **Joe Schell**, who died last week.

Our prayers go to the family of **Roy Webb**, brother-in-law of **Rick Gunter**, who died April 8th. Pray also for Roy's wife, **Peg**, who is Rick's sister.

Praises!

Thank you to our children for creating cards for the Presbyterian Village in Athens!

Thank you to our Memorial Garden team for sprucing up our Garden! Come and enjoy!

Prayer Requests

All prayer requests should be sent to: admin@fpccov.org or by clicking the "Email Pen" button at the bottom of the Enews prayer list. Please specify if you want the request in the bulletin or for pastors only, or only the confidential prayer circle.

Worship Notes

- ✦ Recordings of Sunday sermons can be accessed on the church website: www.fpccov.org.
- ✦ Music printed (and streamed) in our bulletins are covered by licenses authorizing their use. Licenses are from: CCLI #11379886 and One License # A-728738.
- ✦ Liturgy written by Roger Gench and provided for free distribution by *Presbyterian Outlook*.

Thanks to those serving us today

Tech Team:
Dan Walden, Brad Phillips