



The Eighth Sunday after

Pentecost

July 18, 2021

Order of Worship

✦ Stand as able



Gathering As God's Beloved People

GATHERING MUSIC

Aria

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
Abide with Me*

Flor Peeters

Paul Manz

Clay Christiansen

PRELUDE

The Gift of Love

Sue Mitchell-Wallace

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Christine Longhurst

We gather together in the name of Jesus Christ—
members of God's family,
and brothers and sisters to one another.

There are no outsiders here among us,
no one has any special standing or bragging rights.

For we have been brought together by the redeeming love of Jesus.
Let's join together in worship!

✦ HYMN 306, verses 1-4

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

DENNIS

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Thom Shuman

**Steadfast God, we confess that we are so busy
putting up walls between ourselves and others,
we cannot see the home you are building for all
of us. We spend so much time noting the differences
between us and others, while you are embracing
everyone as your child. We run to welcome those
who look, talk, and act like us, and you throw open
your doors to the stranger, the alien, in our midst.**

**By your grace, help us to see the household you are building for all people:
there are no plastic protectors on the furniture; there
are no rooms that are off-limits; and even the smallest
child is welcome to sit at the big peoples' Table and
be fed by your grace. We pray this in the name of
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

✦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✦ GLORIA PATRI

Hymn 581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. 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

Let All Things Now Living
Sanctuary Choir

arr. Katherine K. Davis

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the creator triumphantly raise, who fashion'd and made us, protected and stay'd us, who guideth us on to the end of our days. His banners are o'er us, His light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night. Till shadows have vanish'd and darkness is banish'd, as forward we travel from light into light! His law He enforces, the stars in their courses, the sun in his orbit obediently shine. The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of the ocean proclaim Him divine. We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise, till all things now living unite in thanksgiving to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 2:11-22

SERMON

Open Floor Plan

Courtney Pittman

Responding to the Word

✦ HYMN 684

Faith Begins by Letting Go

LUX PRIMA

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers— all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. 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

Rev. Naomi King

**Beloved, teach us to open our shuttered hearts
and our portioned and boarded up spirits
with bold generosity and with courageous hospitality.
Estranged and alienated so often and from so much,
sustain us in making circles of welcome out of gatherings of strangers.
Around the table of wonder, meet us in abundance,
drawing out our stories
and showing us how to weave together community with steadfast love.
The wells of life are our responsibilities;
teach us to care for them together,
with forbearance, forgiveness, gratitude, and rejoicing.
When we are cast out and wandering,
may we find welcome and compassion
that calls us back into accountable relationship,
into the ways of healing, into the ways of peace. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Communion

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Church, you are invited to partake with bread and cup upon hearing the words "The Gifts of God for the People of God." We recognize Christ is present with us as the Body of Christ in our sanctuary and in our homes this day. May the Holy Spirit dwell with you as we participate in the sacrament of communion together. One bread, One Body! (instructions for in-person communion are provided for you with your individual communion elements.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Being the Church in the World

✠HYMN 313

Lord, Make Us More Holy

LORD, MAKE US MORE HOLY

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Con Moto Maestoso" from *Third Sonata*

Felix Mendelssohn

Worship Notes

Worship Art:

The Paper Dolls draped on the communion table are from last week's worship service. Participants answered the question: What do you bring as a sign of your promise to be a vital part of our church family?

Friendship Register

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:

Tech Team: Dan Walden & Brad Phillips

Usher Chair: Pam Stillerman

Music printed in our bulletins and streamed on-line are covered by licenses authorizing their use. Licenses are from: CCLI #11379886 and One License # A-728738.

Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

Sunday, July 18 Pentecost 8

10:00 Intergenerational Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service

Monday, July 19

7:30pm Ambassador Choir sings at Smyrna
Camp Meeting

Tuesday, July 20

5:45 Sanctuary Choir
7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, July 21

10:00 Coffee and Conversation
Noon Pastoral Care Training Session
6:00 Called Session Meeting

Thursday, July 22

2:30 Ambassador Choir

Sunday, July 25, Pentecost 9

10:00 Intergenerational Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
4:00-6:00 Ice Cream Social & Cornhole Tournament

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.

Summer 2021 Faith Formation

MR. ROGERS' INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL: We will gather in the Fellowship Hall - All ages - for a time for exploring what it means to be neighbors! Sundays at 10:00am. This week we will hear about the Newton County Community Food Pantry. Next week we will hear about Family Promise.

Choir Rehearsals

Come make a joyful noise to the Lord! Sanctuary Choir rehearses Tuesdays, from 5:45-6:45. Handbell Choir rehearses from 7-8 on Tuesdays as well. We would love to have you join us for either or both ensembles!

Pastoral Care Training Session

Did you know we have a team of congregation members who gather once a month to pray for you, care for you, discern ways to walk alongside you? Our Pastoral Care team came into being at the onset of the pandemic. This faithful group makes phone calls, delivers meals, and prays for our church family and community.

Join us on **July 21 at noon** for a Pastoral Care Team training. We will learn and practice best practices for how we care for one another as the Body of Christ. All are welcome to participate in this training. We will meet in the fellowship hall.

Ice Cream Social & Cornhole Tournament

Sunday, July 25TH 4:00-6:00PM



Join us for our annual Ice Cream Social and bring your favorite flavor to share with church members and friends of FPC on July 25th. Our Ice Cream Sundae Bar will be set up in the Fellowship Hall. Need to work off that ice cream... we'll sponsor our Cornhole Tournament near the playground with music and fun for everyone. **See you on July 25th!!**

Help Stuff Backpacks for Fairview Elementary School

You are invited to bring one or more of the following items and place them in the bins in the entrance to the sanctuary by **July 25**: Bottle Hand Sanitizer, Glue Sticks, Disinfectant wipes, Box of Facial Tissue, Pack of Crayons, Blunt Tip Scissors, Dry Erase Marker, Box of #2 Pencils, Pocket Folders, Spiral Bound Notebook, Large Pink Eraser, Pencil Case, Crayola Washable Markers, Highlighters, Pencil Box, Colored Pencils, Handheld Pencil Sharpener, Reusable Water Bottle, 12in Ruler, Set of Index Cards, Loose-Leaf Wide Ruled Paper, 3 Ring Binder.



Adult Bicycle Needed

A local gentleman called to say he needed a bicycle to get back and forth to work and he only has \$20 to spend. Do you have a bike in working condition that you would sell for the \$20 or give to him? Call the church office to let us know.

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>

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

- ✦ Lynn Lanier-amyloidosis (friend of Chris Martin)
- ✦ Danny Vining-knee replacement July 6
- ✦ Dan Walden-Cardiac Amyloidosis
- ✦ Tommy Bassett-terminal liver cancer (friend of Beth & Danny Vining)
- ✦ Teresa Shaffer-ill (Kayla Dobbs' mother)
- ✦ Doug Bolton-burn injury treatment
- ✦ Angela Gregory-cancer treatment in Scotland (aunt of Sarah Gregory)
- ✦ 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
- ✦ 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
- ✦ 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)

- 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



Condolences

We extend our prayers for the family of Betty Lunsford who died on July 11, 2021.

Praises!

What a joy to worship with the participants of the Salem Camp Meeting. Thank you to our Ambassador Choir and Sanctuary Choir for leading in worship!

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. Please specify if you want the request in the bulletin or for pastors only, or only the confidential prayer circle.

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;



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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

MEMBERS OF SESSION

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

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 (Please do put your device on silent!)

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