



# *First Presbyterian Church*

## *The Sunday after Ascension Day*

*May 16, 2021*

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

#### GATHERING MUSIC

*Prelude in D  
All Praise to God Who Reigns Above  
Festal Flourish: Jesus Is Lord*

J. S. Bach  
LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
Matthew H. Corl

#### PRELUDE

*Our God Reigns*

David Blackwell

#### CHIMES

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 47

One: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**All: For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.**

One: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

**All: Sing Praises to God, sing praises; sing praise to our King, sing praises.**

One: God is king over all the nations!

**All: For God is the king of all the earth! Let us worship Holy God!**

#### HYMN 267

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

MADRID

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Resource: *Ministry Matters*

O Lord,

**we have not lived our lives  
as kingdom people.**

**We place our crowns  
on hopelessness, fear,  
and selfishness.**

**We are ruled by our schedules  
and our need for control.**

**We make kings of the things we acquire  
and queens of our immediate desires.**

**We forget that your kingdom  
draws near to us on earth,  
as it is in heaven.**

**Forgive us, we pray.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

#### 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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:44-53

SERMON

*A Divine Blessing*

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

## *Responding to the Word*

HYMN 510

*We Gather Here in Jesus' Name*

COME, SHARE THE LORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 18, Q&A 46, 47

What do you mean by saying,  
"He ascended to heaven"?

**That Christ,  
while his disciples watched,  
was lifted up from the earth to heaven  
and will be there for our good  
until he comes again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

But isn't Christ with us  
until the end of the world  
as he promised us?

**Christ is truly human and truly God.  
In his human nature Christ is not now on earth;  
but in his divinity, majesty grace, and Spirit  
he is not absent from us for a moment.**

A LITANY FOR ASCENSION DAY

written by Christine Sine

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,  
a new world has broken into ours—  
**a world in which justice does come for the poor,  
freedom comes for the prisoners,  
and healing for the sick.**

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,  
a new community has been formed—  
**a community that loves and cares for all members,  
a family that welcomes all who are abandoned and rejected,  
a place where all find a place of belonging.**

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,  
a new creation has begun—  
**all that was distorted is being restored,  
all that is corrupted is being renewed,  
all that was broken is being made whole.**

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,  
**God's new world has begun.**

OFFERTORY

RESPONSE 501

*Feed Us Lord*

FEED US

*Feed us, Lord. Feed, us Lord. In the broken bread, be revealed again. Come and feed our hearts, O Lord. Fill us Lord, Fill us, Lord, with the bread and wine of the risen Christ. Come and fill our hearts, O Lord. Lead us Lord, Lead us, Lord, nourished here by Christ, given strength for life. Come and lead our hearts, O Lord.*

## *The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 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.**

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 263 (stanzas 1, 2, 4)

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

CORONATION

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

Christopher Tambling

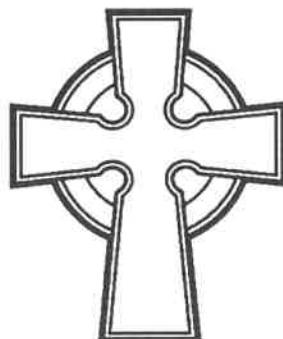


### **Nursery for Children**

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.



## Activities in the Life of the Church



Our Faith and Fellowship Team invites you to join us on Pentecost Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> for our Pentecost Party in the Playground area! Pentecost is a time to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> day following Easter with a feast. Following worship services on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, all church members and guests are invited to join us for a BBQ lunch with individual lunch baskets and drinks. Wear RED and celebrate Pentecost with us.

### The Art of Reading Scripture Called Lectio Divina

**Tuesdays at 12:00 noon in 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.

### Coffee and Conversation!



Faith and Fellowship Team would like to invite you for coffee and conversation on Wednesday mornings in May. We enjoyed our conversations in April so much we'll also be meeting for the month of May! We're getting together in the Fellowship Hall (socially distanced of course) from 10:00-11:00 am to catch up with friends and fellowship together for the first time in a year! Love-a-Latte if you'd join us on Wednesday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>st</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>!

### Seeking Office Volunteers!

We are searching for volunteers to help with office tasks. We are hoping that volunteers would serve a minimum of 4 hours a month, but more frequently would be preferred. We have a full "Job Description" available. We can email it to you or you can pick one up at the church from the round table in the narthex. Speak with Peni Kehoe for more information. 770-786-7321 or email [admin@fpccov.org](mailto:admin@fpccov.org).



### Elder Nominations

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for the next class of Elders to serve on Session for a three year term 2022-2024. If you have a person you'd like to nominate you will find forms on the ushers table at the church or online at: [www.fpccov.org/nominations](http://www.fpccov.org/nominations).

## Elder Nominations

There is a form printed in today's bulletin.

# Activities in the Life of the Church

## This Week at FPC

### Sunday, May 16, Sunday after Ascension

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

### Tuesday, May 18

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

### Wednesday, May 19

10:00 Coffee & Conversation

### Thursday, May 20

2:30 Ambassador Choir on Zoom  
 6:30 Prayer Shawl Ministry

### Sunday, May 23, Pentecost

10:00 Adult Sunday School—link below  
 10:00 Youth Sunday School  
 10:00 Children's Sunday School  
 11:00 Worship Service with Baptism  
 (Livestream link provided in the Weekly enews)  
 12:00 Box Lunch on the grounds  
 7:00 Jammies and Jesus

## 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 downstairs in the "orange" room and on Zoom at 10:00am. Please enter through the Sanctuary doors to then proceed to the downstairs classrooms.

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>

### Grief Small Group

The date to meet has been changed to Tuesday, May 25, at 6pm. Details will be printed next week.

## The Pastor's Patio

We do not have any spots available at this time! We are working on some additional dates! If you would like to be put on the list for a Pastor's Patio in the future please email [info@fpccov.org](mailto:info@fpccov.org).



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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

## 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**  
 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*

- ✦ Tommy Bassett-terminal liver cancer (friend of Beth & Danny Vining)
- ✦ Guy McGiboney-back at Merryvale
- ✦ Teresa Shaffer-ill (Lane Dobbs' mother-in-law)
- ✦ Doug Bolton-burn injury treatment
- ✦ Linda Boyd-recovering from back surgery (she is a former FPC member)
- ✦ Angela Gregory-cancer, hospital 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
- ✦ Betty Lunsford-recovering at home
- ✦ 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)

#### **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



**PRAYERS**  
*of The People*

#### **Praises**

Thank you to our children and youth for flowers on Mother's Day!

Thank you to Dan and Perri Walden for leading our children in song and movement in worship!

#### **Prayer Requests**

All prayer requests should be sent to: [admin@fpccov.org](mailto: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.

#### *Worship Notes*

- ✦ Recordings of Sunday sermons can be accessed on the church website: [www.fpccov.org](http://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  
Usher chair: Bob Tabb

## Elder Nomination Form 2021 For Class of 2024

About Elders—Ruling Elders for the Presbyterian Church (USA)

- ◆ This is an ordained office which is nominated and elected by the congregation
- ◆ Elders exercise spiritual leadership and discipline
- ◆ Elders serve as members of the Session, our governing body
- ◆ Elders are representative of the congregation. They shall express rich diversity of the congregational membership (\*G-2.0401)

Being an elder involves making promises before God and God's people. It is not about status or earning the position by longevity or tenure. Elders serve three (3) year terms with responsibility for different areas of church life. We prayerfully seek to be good stewards of our gifts to match the needs of our church.

Qualifications and expectations for ordination as Elder\* (G-2.0301)

- ◆ Active member of the congregation
- ◆ Person of wisdom and maturity of faith
- ◆ Manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both when within the church and within the world
- ◆ Compassionate in spirit
- ◆ Leadership skills
- ◆ Attend monthly session meetings
- ◆ Participate in Elder training
- ◆ Enthusiastically committed to the work of Jesus Christ at Covington First Presbyterian Church, in conformance with the requirements of our Presbyterian Constitution (Book of Order and Confessions)
- ◆ We ask all elders to support the church through pledge/tithing
- ◆ LEAD God's people in word and deed by proclaiming the Good News, taking an active part in worship and church life, praying and studying scripture.
- ◆ Commit time, talents and gifts

\*Book of Order for Presbyterian Church (USA)

After prayerful consideration, I humbly recommend \_\_\_\_\_  
for the office of Elder.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Email or contact information of nominating party \_\_\_\_\_

Email or contact information of the nominee \_\_\_\_\_

I understand nominations will be considered by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is committed to match the gifts of our members to the needs of our church "for such a time as this."  
Nomination does not guarantee elder position. A reminder: the nominating committee has been voted on and approved by the congregation.

All nominations are due by May 17, 2021. Nominations may be placed in the offering plate or turned in to the church office. You may also email them to Trista Hooten Wilson at: [tristahooten@yahoo.com](mailto:tristahooten@yahoo.com)

