



*Seventh Sunday
after Epiphany
February 20, 2022*



Order of Worship

✦ Stand as able

Gathering As God's Beloved People

GATHERING MUSIC

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love
May the Mind of Christ, My Savior
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*

Robert J. Powell
Jack Schrader
John A. Behnke

PRELUDE

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Jamaican Folk Tune

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

created from Psalm 37

One: Trust in the Lord! Take delight in the Lord!

All: This is the day the Lord has made!

One: Commit your way to the Lord! Be still before the Lord!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

One: Let us worship, Holy God!

✦ HYMN 314 (verses 1, 2, 5)

Christ, Be Our Light

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

written by Susan Mark Landis

Lord, the hardest thing you asked
Was that we love our enemies.

We know how we'd like to love them:

We'd love our enemies to be far away.

We'd love them not to compromise our security.

We'd love them not to scare us or change the way we live.

We'd love them to be lovable.

You know, God,

We'd love it to be popular to love enemies.

We'd love our neighbors to respect us for this good deed.

We'd love the people on the news to provide examples of how to love.

But then, if loving enemies were easy,
Jesus wouldn't have told us about the tax collectors and gentiles,
Who love only their friends.

If loving enemies were easy, we know

We wouldn't need God's strong arms to bear us up in difficult times.

We wouldn't need the blood of Christ to save us from human sin.

We wouldn't need the Spirit flowing among us, wiping our tears.

We wouldn't need the Bible to tell us what the world does not.

God of all mercy,
Who loved us when we were your sinful enemies,
Who saved us through your immeasurable grace,

Who gave us a gift we did not deserve,
Let us imitate you by loving those who are yet our enemies.
**Teach us to know how to love enemies,
To wish them the best of the life you intend each human to have,
And then pray and act so those wishes come true.
Teach us hope,
so we know that with your blessing, impossible dreams become reality.
Teach us faith,
so we know that only the strength to stop hating
will halt the cycles of violence and revenge.
Teach us forgiveness,
which we know is suffering love through piercing tears.
Teach us, O Lord, your ways.**

When our community looks at our congregation,
Hears our words and sees our deeds,
Help them to know that you, the God of love, live among us
And that they can come to us to learn about Christian love of enemies. **Amen**

✦ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

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

✦ RESPONSE HYMN 693

Though I May Speak

GIFT OF LOVE

***Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not love,
my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain. Come, Spirit, come our hearts
control; our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; by this we
worship and are freed.***

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with You.

Proclaiming the Word

WONDERING WITH GOD'S CHILDREN

DUET

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
"Prayer of St. Francis"
Krista Firkus and Alicia Taylor

Words and music by Sebastian Temple
Setting by Jane Holstein

PRAYER FOR GOD'S WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 6:27-38

SERMON

Alisa Castilla

Responding to the Word

✦ HYMN 795

Healer of Our Every Ill
Choir: verse 1; **All: verses 2-4**

HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *The Message*

When the Pharisees heard how he had bested the Sadducees, they gathered their forces for an assault. One of their religion scholars spoke for them, posing a question they hoped would show him up: "Teacher, which command in God's Law is the most important?" Church, what do we believe?

**Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence.'
This is the most important, the first on any list. But there is a second to set alongside it:**

‘Love others as well as you love yourself.’ These two commands are pegs; everything in God’s Law and the Prophets hangs from them.”

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

Pianosong

Paul Halley

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

Being the Church in the World

✠SENDING HYMN 756

O God of Every Nation

LLANGLOFFAN

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

To God Be the Glory

Michael Burkhardt

Worship Notes

Friendship Registers

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!

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.

Serving Today:

Tech Team: Brad Phillips, Dan Walden, Jonny Atkins; **Acolyte:** Kately Lane;

Usher Chair: Stan Hall

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 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

- ✦ Audrey Harper Arwood-spine surgery 2/23 (daughter of Pat Harper)
- ✦ Tom Boutelle-pancreatic cancer (friend of Jeff Mackenzie)
- ✦ Gladys Phillips-eye surgery (mother of Brad Phillips)
- ✦ William Stark-mother was murdered (friend of Brad Phillips)
- ✦ Virginia Martin-intestinal problems (granddaughter of Chris & Barbara Martin)
- ✦ Bernice Bailey-recent fall
- ✦ Kim Bailey-tests (family of Bernice & Betty Bailey)
- ✦ Melissa-cancer (friend of the congregation)
- ✦ Denny Dobbs-recovering from surgery
- ✦ Fred Calalay (friend of Angela Gilmer)
- ✦ Saba Tanner-cancer treatment (friend of Warren & Jeanie Liem)
- ✦ Jennifer Magnan-stillborn child (niece of Barbara Martin)
- ✦ Jean Wolverton-See updates at Caring Bridge.
- ✦ Cathy Martin-breast cancer-chemotherapy (sister-in-law of Chris Martin)
- ✦ Anne Cranford-treatment for breast cancer
- ✦ Lynn Lanier-amyloidosis (friend of Chris Martin)
- ✦ Doug Bolton-burn injury treatment
- ✦ Blair Weaver-health issues
- ✦ 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
- ✦ Karen Lein Kaasa-home health care (sister-in-law of Julie MacKenzie)
- ✦ 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)

Independent and Assisted Living

- ✦ Travis Moss-Westbury, Conyers
- ✦ Penny Blakeney-home
- ✦ Julia Brubaker-Benton House
- ✦ Jean Elder-currently in Florida with her daughter
- ✦ Dot Fincher-Merryvale
- ✦ Guy McGiboney-Merryvale
- ✦ Betty Robinson-Merryvale
- ✦ Louise White-Merryvale

Military Service

- ✦ Koen Ardis-Navy
- ✦ Lee Scarborough-Army
3661 Airport Blvd
apt 299
Mobile, Alabama 36608
- ✦ Billy Scarborough-Marines



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. Requests will be removed after 3 weeks if not updated. Please specify if you want the request in the bulletin or for pastors only, or only the confidential prayer circle.

Keep the APNC in Your Prayers

Those serving on the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee: Jodi Walden Atkins; Dana Hall; Judy Hooten; Steve Kapp; Randy Layton; Pam Stillerman & Bob Tabb.

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;
 By phone: 770-786-7321, please leave a message with Peni Kehoe.

Do you have a mobile phone or a tablet?

If so, you can download the bulletin on your device to follow the service and save paper. If you pick up a paper bulletin please remember to recycle it here or at home! The environment will thank you! (Please do put your device on silent!)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Neeley Rentz Lane	<i>Senior Pastor</i>	Peni Kehoe	<i>Church Administrator</i>
Alisa Castilla	<i>Seminary Intern</i>		
Alicia Taylor	<i>Director of Music & Worship Arts</i>		<i>Caring for Our Children in the Nursery</i>
Alice Walker	CAGO, AAGO		Danielle Schubert
	<i>Organist/Ambassador Choir</i>		Beverley Beasley
			Amiah Williams
			Ian Rein

MEMBERS OF SESSION

DEACONS

Class of 2022 Aubrey Evans John McCarthy Stephanie Scarborough Trista Hooten Wilson	Class of 2023 Stan Hall Louly Hay Kapp Ed Perkerson Bob Tabb	Class of 2024 Billy Fortson Pat Harper Brad Phillips Curtis Watson	Day Kennon (2022) Eleanor Scarborough (2023) Darcel Tabb (2024) Alice Walker (2022)
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Activities In the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

Sunday, February 20 Epiphany 7

10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
7:00 Jammies & Jesus

Monday, February 21

4:30 Diaconate
5:45 Women on the Go

Tuesday, February 22

12:00 Lectio Divina Bible Study (parlor)

Wednesday, February 23

10:00 Coffee and Conversation
12:00 Lent Workshop (Parlor)
6:00 Lent Workshop on Zoom
6:00 Carillon Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, February 26

9:30 Meals on Wheels

Sunday, February 27 Epiphany 8

10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service with Communion
12:30 Session Meeting
7:00 Jammies & Jesus

Children's Sunday School

10:00am
Sunday School Room Downstairs
Teachers: Rotation Model
Interested in teaching?
email info@fpccov.org

Youth Sunday School

10:00am
Youth Room Downstairs
Teachers: Pam and Jim Stillerman

Adult Sunday School

10:00am
Foundations Class, downstairs

Women on the Go Monthly Book Study

Brene Brown's *Daring Greatly!*
Contact Neeley for book \$12
Feb 21st at 5:45pm
in the church parlor.
Read:
Feb.21 intro and chap 1
March 7 chap 2 and 3
Childcare provided



Chancel Choir Rehearsals take place on Wednesdays at 7:00pm. Childcare provided.



Carillon Bell Choir Rehearsals have resumed on Wednesdays at 6pm. Childcare is available.

Basket for Teacher Treats for Fairview Elementary

There will be a red basket for collecting treats for teachers in the narthex each week. Place your prepackaged treats in the basket by noon on Thursdays for delivery to the teachers on Fridays.



Newton Community Food Pantry

Our Community Food Pantry is open
Wednesdays & Fridays, 9:00 am - 11:30 am.

Donations are welcome.

Contact: Bernice Bailey 770-784-0037

7125 Turner Lake Cir SW, Covington, GA 30014


Food Needs
Spaghetti
Sauce & pasta
Oatmeal
Dried beans

Mission Statement

Covington First Presbyterian Church 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.



JAMMIES AND JESUS

Join Pastor Neeley on Zoom
for a 10-minute bedtime prayer.
Invite a friend!  SUNDAYS 7 PM

Book Study for Lent

Book: Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers, by Anne Lamott

When: Wednesday evenings during Lent beginning March 9

Where: On Zoom!

To order a book email info@fpccov.org! Cost \$12



Hospice and Palliative Care

101

Monday, February 28th

at 6:30

via Zoom

Guest speakers:

Kristi Kilgore, LPN and
Clinical Liason

and

Carla Pfirman, Palliative Care
Director

*Join us to learn what hospice and
palliative care are and how they
can benefit you and your loved
ones.*



*Our Mission is to surround patients and their families with
compassionate care that enables them to embrace the
end of life with dignity, courage and peace..*