

## Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

### This Week at FPC

**Sunday, March 24**  
Third Sunday in Lent  
9:00 Handbell Rehearsal  
10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service

**Tuesday, March 26**  
4:00 Exercise class

**Wednesday, March 27**  
6:45 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, March 28**  
10:30 Ambassador Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday, March 30**  
11:00 Memorial Service for Jeanette Davis at FPC

**Sunday, March 31**  
Fourth Sunday in Lent  
9:00 Handbell Choir  
10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service



#### Pastor Nominating Committee Update:

To gain insight about who we are as a church and what we desire for our future, we would like to ask you to complete a survey called the Congregation Assessment Tool - also known as the "CAT"! Keep an eye out in your inbox for the survey link--which will be sent on Wednesday, March 27!

#### Women's Day Choir Rehearsals

Sunday, April 7, a service in Recognition of the Women of First Presbyterian Church. All women of First Presbyterian Church are invited to sing in a Women's Choir under the direction of Janet Carmichael. **Rehearsals will be Sunday, March 24 and on Sunday, March 31**, immediately following worship in the Choir Room. Also the Women's Choir will rehearse at 10:40am sharp in the Choir Room on the day of service (April 7).

#### Lenten Sermon Series

The Rev. Steven Barnes is preparing a Lenten Sermon Series called "What Led to the Cross?" and it will explore the following characters of the Holy Week drama.

Judas — March 10

Caiaphas — March 17

Pontius Pilate — March 24

the Trial & Crucifixion of Christ — March 31

Jesus of Nazareth — April 14, Palm Sunday

#### Lenten Sunday School Study

**Sundays during Lent at 10:00am**

Join us for a special Lenten study entitled Seven Days to Glory led by our pastor the Rev. Steven Barnes. "The last week of Jesus' life encompassed some of Christianity's most significant events. Based on the Gospel of Mark, this study looks at each of these days to describe the importance of Jesus' actions at the time, and what they mean for Christian living today."

## WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COVINGTON

If you would like information about membership or the programs, mission, and fellowship of the church, speak to the pastor as you leave or call the church office at 770-786-7321.

#### E-mail:

The Rev. Steven Barnes: [revbarnesy@me.com](mailto:revbarnesy@me.com)

Dan Walden: [djwalden@mac.com](mailto:djwalden@mac.com)

Church Office/Peni Kehoe: [penihaug@gmail.com](mailto:penihaug@gmail.com)

Website: [www.fpccov.org](http://www.fpccov.org)

Mailing Address: 1169 Clark Street, SW

Covington, Georgia 30014

You may listen to recent sermons by visiting our website ([www.fpccov.org](http://www.fpccov.org)) and clicking on "Media."



The Food Pantry is now open on **Wednesdays** and **Fridays** from 9:00 - 12:00. Donations of any non-perishable food items are welcome.

Suggested donations:

**March:** canned vegetables



**Baby Love** is our program to collect diapers and wipes, or donations toward them, to give to local organizations which distribute them to parents in need. Place diapers in the cradle in the narthex. Donations should be designated to "Baby Love".

## THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

**March**  
Doug Bolton

**Sound Engineer:**  
Ken Walker

## MEMBERS OF SESSION

**Class of 2019**  
Carter Gibson  
Jay Lanners  
John McCarthy  
Cheryl Meichsner  
Miriam Wheeler  
Allie Hay

**Class of 2020**  
Doug Bolton  
Stan Hall  
Cindy Moon  
Bob Tabb  
Michael Thompson

**Class of 2021**  
Warren Liem  
Pam Stillerman  
Donna Weesner  
Cy Wolverton

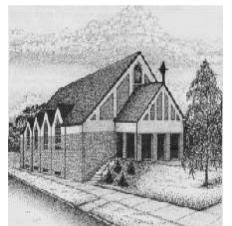
## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Steven Barnes	Interim Pastor	Alice Walker	CAGO, AAGO
Dan Walden	Director of Youth and Children's Ministry	Jenny Giles and Pauleen Green	Organist/Ambassador Choir
Peni Kehoe	Secretary-Treasurer	Darlene Alley	Nursery
Krista Firkus	Interim Music Director		Director of the Early Learning Center



## Third Sunday in Lent

March 24, 2019



"Lent is a time to take the time to let the power of our faith story take hold of us, a time to let the events get up and walk around in us, a time to intensify our living unto Christ, a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts, a time to place our feet in the streets of Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and listen to his word, a time to touch his robe and feel the healing surge through us, a time to ponder and a time to wonder ... Lent is a time to allow a fresh new taste of God!"

Lent, From Kneeling in Jerusalem. ©1992 Ann Barr Weems.  
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## Order of Worship

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

**PRELUDE** *Andante Maestoso*

**EBENEZER**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTROIT**

*A Lenten Walk: Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*  
Jesus walked this lonesome valley, he had to walk it by himself;  
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him, he had to walk it by himself.  
We must walk this lonesome valley, we have to walk it by ourselves;  
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us, we have to walk it by ourselves.

Hal H. Hopson

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Look to the Lord your God, and live.  
**Give thanks to the Holy One, our Savior.**  
For though we once were dead in sin,  
**Now, by the grace of God, we live.**  
Praise the Lord!  
**Together, let us worship God!**

**HYMN 435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy** IN BABELONE

**CALL TO CONFESSON**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSON**

God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. We grumble and complain when you have provided all we need. We continue to walk in darkness when you have given light to the world. Forgive us, God of grace. Help us to trust in you so that we may not perish but may have eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray ... (time for silent and personal reflection) ... Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen!**

### †GLORIA PATRI

*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.*

### †THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### ANTHEM

#### Wondrous Love

Eric H. Thiman

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul, what wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul. When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside His crown for my soul. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am, while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing.*

### THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

All the children are invited to come forward for the Word for Children. Afterward, children kindergarten and younger may go to children's activities downstairs.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 15:1-15 (p.53 NT)

### SERMON

The Rev. Steven Barnes

*What Led to the Cross?—Pontius Pilate*

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### †HYMN 215 *What Wondrous Love Is This* WONDROUS LOVE

### RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

Presentation

†Affirmation of Faith

from the PC (U.S.A.) Study Catechism, Q.45

**Why did Jesus have to suffer as he did? Because grace is more abundant—and sin more serious—than we suppose. However cruelly we may treat one another, all sin is primarily against God. God condemns sin, yet never judges apart from grace. In giving Jesus Christ to die for us, God took the burden of our sin**

into God's own self to remove it once and for all. The cross in all its severity reveals an abyss of sin swallowed up by the suffering of divine love. Amen.

### Prayer

### Welcome

## CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER p. 35 in front of hymnal

## THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY *With Peace and Joy*

J. S. Bach

### †RESPONSE *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* HAMBURG

Hymn 223, verse 4

***Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.***

### †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Merciful God, we thank you for your wonderful works among humankind. Accept this offering with the dedication of our lives and help us be for the world an emblem of your steadfast love, through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### †HYMN 738 *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* MARYTON

### †CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### †RESPONSE

TALLIS' CANON

Hymn 748

***Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.***

### †POSTLUDE

*Psalm XIX - The Heavens Declare*

Benedetto Marcello

†Please stand if able.



## Worship Notes

- ◆ Carter Gibson and Dan Walden are assisting with leading worship today.
- ◆ Please enter the sanctuary in a spirit of reverence as we prepare to worship God. Remember to **turn on your cell phones** when you leave.
- ◆ Recordings of Sunday sermons can be accessed on the church website: [www.fpccov.org](http://www.fpccov.org).
- ◆ Music and hymns printed in our bulletins are covered by licenses authorizing their use. Licenses are from: CCLI #11379886 and One License # A-728738

## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

- ◆ Doug Firkus-heart surgery (uncle of Krista Firkus)
- ◆ Marylynne Knuth-knee surgery, (grandmother of Krista Firkus)
- ◆ Robin Valdez-stroke (friend of Steven Barnes)
- ◆ Terry Elder-vision problems (daughter of Jean Elder)
- ◆ Joe Schell-heart surgery (father of Krissy Jones)
- ◆ Abby Sugg - surgery (daughter of Kara & Mike Sugg)
- ◆ Anna Dennis - tumor (sister of Chuck Brasher)
- ◆ Ashley Wheeler - surgery 3/18 (granddaughter of Jack & Miriam Wheeler)
- ◆ Dick Wilson-cancer (brother of Michael Wilson)
- ◆ Gene Mann-kidney failure/dialysis (father of Renee Shelnutt)
- ◆ Ellen Clary-cancer (ex-wife of Bill Clary)
- ◆ Steve Bozarth-cancer treatment (father of Debra Arnold)
- ◆ Angela Gregory-recovering from surgery, in Scotland (sister of Dave Gregory)
- ◆ Gene Wallace-rehab at Merryvale
- ◆ Ruth McDaniel-home, back problems
- ◆ Beverly Star Edmonds-cancer (Steve Kapp's mother)
- ◆ Anne Adams-multiple surgeries (sister-in-law of Gene Wallace)
- ◆ Robby Ashworth-treatment for brain tumor (son of Joyce Ashworth)
- ◆ Matt Cooper-CPD officer at home but still recovering
- ◆ Spencer Boyd-lung cancer
- ◆ Tom Holmes-cancer (friend of Dan Walden)
- ◆ Brandon Massey-blood cancer (grandson of Chuck and Sherry Brasher)
- ◆ Ethan Lassiter-brain tumor (grandson of E. G. and Marianne Lassiter)
- ◆ Carol Baynes-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)



## PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

"Whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

Hospital Visitors:  
Bob & Darcel Tabb

Please update your prayer requests this week!  
Names will be left on for one month unless updated.  
Email: [penhaug@gmail.com](mailto:penhaug@gmail.com) or call the church office, 770-786-7321

We extend our sympathy and prayers for **Maria Davis** and her family in the death of her mother, **Jeanette Davis**, who died March 18th. A Service in Witness to the Resurrection will be held on Saturday, March 30, at 11:00 a.m. at FPC.

◆ Pastor Nominating Committee—please keep this team in your prayers throughout the process of searching for our new pastor.