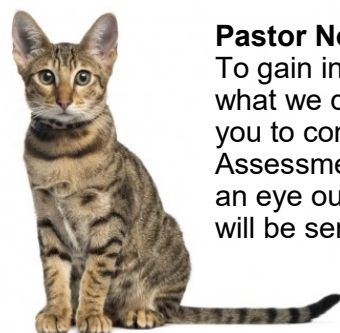


Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

Sunday, March 24 Third Sunday in Lent 9:00 Handbell Rehearsal 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Service	Thursday, March 28 10:30 Ambassador Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, March 26 4:00 Exercise class	Saturday, March 30 11:00 Memorial Service for Jeanette Davis at FPC
Wednesday, March 27 6:45 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	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

Dan Walden: djwalden@mac.com

Church Office/Peni Kehoe: penihaug@gmail.com

Website: 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) 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

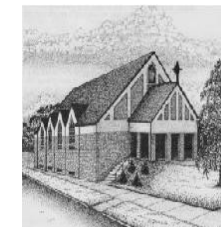
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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



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. Used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press.

Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *Andante Maestoso* EBENEZER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT Hal H. Hopson

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.

✦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 BABILONE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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 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.

✦ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM Eric H. Thiman
Wondrous Love
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 Benedetto Marcello
Psalm XIX - The Heavens Declare

✦ 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.
- ✦ 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 Shelnut)
- ✦ 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)

- ✦ Robin McKeown-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)
- ✦ Mitchell Jessup-cancer (father of Nick Jessup)

Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:
✦ Julia Brubaker-Benton House

Merryvale:

- ✦ Guy McGiboney
- ✦ Betty Robinson
- ✦ Louise White
- ✦ Alice Gadilhe
- ✦ Roger Wallace

Home:

- ✦ Sophia Hawley-cystic fibrosis
- ✦ Debi (Dee) Selin
- ✦ Agnes Campbell

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.



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: penihaug@gmail.com
or call the church office, 770-786-7321