



Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

GATHERING MUSIC

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is
In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

Robin Milford
John Ferguson

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision

Eleanor Whitsett

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *

Rise and Shine!
We come to this space.
We gather as a hybrid community.
We move closer to God.
We are met by God.
We are heard.
We are shown the way.
Let us worship holy God.

HYMN 25 (stanzas 1,2,3,5)

O Lord, O God, How Excellent

WINCHESTER OLD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *

God of Justice,
We are guilty of building tables.
We have built tables that oppression dines on.
God of Justice,
We are guilty of forgetting where we are,
Of turning faith into a negotiation tool
And the church into a place for insiders.
God of Justice,
We are guilty of ignoring the point;
For you taught that the temple was for worship

And your message was for all.
God of our hearts, be in our decision making.
Draw near to our choices.
Forgive our mistakes.
And as you do,
Flip every table, habit, belief, or point of view that needs adjusting.
With hope we pray for a better day. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *

RESPONSE Hymn 447 *We are Forgiven* WE ARE FORGIVEN
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

ANTHEM

Wondrous Love
Krista Firkus

arranged by Richard Walters

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 2:13-22

SERMON

What Just Happened ?

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SILENT MEDITATION

HYMN OF RESPONSE 414 *Be Still and Know That I am God*

PSALM 46

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *

We believe in a God who knows holy rage—
A God who stands with the underdog,
Who passionately protects the suffering,
And who overturns systems of corruption.
We believe in a God who leads by example—
Feeding the hungry,
Welcoming the children,
Offering water to the Samaritan,
Eating with the tax collector,
Healing the sick,
Preaching from the mountaintop,
And offering second chances.
We believe in a God who knew that we would lose our way,
And still said, "This is my body broken for you."
We believe in a God who knew our capacity for mistakes,
And still said, "I'm going to prepare a place for you."
And because of this love,
We believe that God shows us the way,
Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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

RESPONSE HYMN 70 *What Does the Lord's Require of You* MOON
What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require of you? To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy one, we pray the offering of ourselves and the gifts of our hearts share your love to all peoples. Overturn the tables of our lives so that our lives may point to your glory and not to our own. Use our homes, the tables in our lives, and our places of worship to speak of your love and justice. Restore us as we vulnerably place our gifts in your hands. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

HYMN 65 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* CWM RHONDDA

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Moderator, un poco lento* George Frederic Handel

* All adapted from A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Worship Bags for Children



We have re-introduced the Children's Worship bags. For our "known" children they have a name tag clipped to the 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". If our visitors plan to return they may request an individually labeled bag from one of our ushers. The bags are hanging on a rack on the right side of the narthex.



MARCH 14TH 4:30PM, LIVE ON FACEBOOK AND ZOOM



Organ & Piano Concert

PRESENTED BY ALICE WALKER & BECKY RAMSEY
First Presbyterian Church, Covington, GA

LENTEN/EASTER ORGAN AND PIANO CONCERT

Alice Walker and Becky Ramsey will present a virtual LENTEN/EASTER ORGAN and PIANO CONCERT on March 14 at 4:30 PM and remaining on the church web site.

The Concert will be preceded by a ZOOM call for the purpose of chatting with the performers and greeting friends and church members. Instructions for accessing the ZOOM call will be available at fpccov.org.

Lent is a very special season when we meditate and repent for our sins, as well as look forward to the glorious news of Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The music presented in this Concert will serve both purposes. Alice and Becky have selected well-known and beloved hymns of the church. They offer this Concert to the Glory of God and for your personal worship experience as you journey toward the celebration of Easter.



RSVP Required for In-person Worship: You may RSVP by using the link in our **Mid-Week First Press** (Enews) or by contacting the church office by NOON on THURSDAY of each week. Please only register for one Sunday at a time. You DO NOT have to print tickets.

Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fpc-sunday-worship-at-1100am-tickets-142586777891>

Facility Use On February 22, the Session approved the return to in-person worship on March 7. Beginning March 7, all **church-sponsored** groups are allowed to use the church building (Sunday school, PW, Session teams, etc). We do ask all groups to discern HYBRID models of gathering to allow for in-person and virtual participation.

In order to safely open our doors we will ask all in-person gatherings to follow strict COVID-19 Protocol to ensure minimal risk of exposure.

Therefore, if your group would like to meet at the church you are asked to submit a **Building Usage Form** to reserve your space. You may download a form from the enews or call the church to obtain a copy.

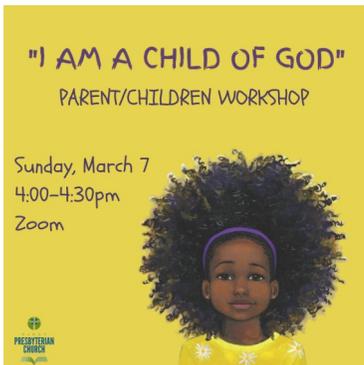
All Things Lent

* Morning Prayer Join Neeley on Monday mornings throughout Lent for a time of prayer at 8:00am. We will participate in centering prayer, guided meditations, the gift of silence, and corporate prayer. You may join for Monday or all Mondays during the season of Lent starting February 22nd through March 29th. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88476245670>

For more "All Things Lent" See our Website at www.fpccov.org



Parent/Children Workshop: "I am a Child of God" Sunday, March 7 at 4pm



During our time together participants will:

Learn the PCUSA Children's Catechism

Learn about Baptism

Hear a read-aloud of Grace Byer's Book: I Am Enough

Create self-portraits "Imago Dei"

Supplies needed: crayons, markers, paper.

If you would like to purchase the book please let Neeley know! *This Faith Formation offering will be no more than 30 minutes on zoom. Invite a friend!*

40 Days, 40 Miles

Walking through Lent FEBRUARY 17TH – APRIL 3RD, 2021

Join our Faith and Fellowship Team in walking a mile every day for the 40 days of Lent! Lent is a time to explore walking as a spiritual practice that takes us closer to the heart of God. During this Lenten season take a walk each day for reflection and prayer. We will be emailing you daily reflections and inspiration for your walk. Put your walking shoes on and join us for our 40 mile challenge! If you enjoy a morning walk or an evening stroll, this is an offering for you! We invite you to set a goal of walking 40 miles during the 40 days of Lent. This is a spiritual discipline that engages our full body. Take the 40 Days, 40 Miles Walking Pledge today



Outdoor Lent Prayer Stations

You will notice a new opportunity on our church grounds. We will be offering outdoor prayer stations this Lent. You will be able to follow a self-guided map around our church. At each station you will be given a prompt, a prayer, or an activity.



Website Update

We have updated our church website!
Check out our FPC virtual Front Door:
www.fpccov.org



Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

Sunday, March 7, Lent 3

9:45 Adult Sunday School—link below
 10:00 Youth Sunday School
 11:00 Worship Service
 (Livestream link provided the in Weekly Enews)
 4:00 I Am A Child of God Workshop—zoom
 7:00 Jammies and Jesus (link below)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82191056781>
 Meeting ID: 821 9105 6781

Mondays in Lent

8:00am Morning Prayers on Zoom (below)

Sunday, March 14, Lent 4

9:45 Adult Sunday School—link below
 10:00 Youth Sunday School
 11:00 Worship Service
 (Livestream link provided the in Weekly enews)
 7:00 Jammies and Jesus (link below)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82191056781> Meeting ID: 821 9105 6781

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 in the Adult Sunday School Room and on Zoom at 9:45am. Please enter through the Sanctuary doors to then proceed to your class. <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* beginning March 7th. 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 lessons are posted on Facebook and an online link will be available on Sunday mornings each week. Sunday school will also be provided in-person at 10:00am in the Green Room! Please enter through the Sanctuary doors.

Covington YMCA and the City of Covington present: ADULT KICKBALL!

Co-Ed Thursday Nights starting March 18

If you are interested in playing on our FPC team let us know by March 8th!

Email: info@fpccov.org

Grief Small Group: "Tear Soup—A Recipe for Healing"

Save the Dates

March 16 at 6pm (Zoom); April 20 at 6pm (Location TBD); May 18 at 6pm

No matter the source of your grief join us in our "Recipe for Healing."

Details are in our Mid-Week First Press.

Church Directory

If you are in need of a current church directory you can pick one up from the narthex "ushers" sideboard or you can email Peni and she will send you a copy via email. admin@fpccov.org

Volunteers Urgently Needed for the First United Methodist Food Pantry

Please see the weekly e-news for specific instructions about who can volunteer and the link to sign up.

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!)



Please
Recycle!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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

MEMBERS OF SESSION

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Jay Lanners	Aubrey Evans	Cheryl Gibson
Warren Liem	John McCarthy	Stan Hall
Pam Stillerman	Cindy Moon	Louly Hay Kapp
Donna Weesner	Stephanie Scarborough	Ed Perkerson
Cy Wolverton	Trista Hooten Wilson	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

- ◆ Tom Maletic-Piedmont Newton Hospital
- ◆ Charlie Williams, congestive heart failure & leukemia. (He is the husband of Joyce Williams, Danny Vining's sister)
- ◆ Delores V. Knox-cardiac issues (sister of Danny Vining)
- ◆ Prayers for all participating in the 40 miles, 40 days Lenten Walk!
- ◆ Patsy Freeman (sister of Judy Davis)
- ◆ Paisley Freeman (great-niece of Judy Davis)
- ◆ Kimmy & Will Briggs-as they begin their new ministry in Montana!
- ◆ Bill Cobham-recovering from surgery
- ◆ Guy McGiboney-Covid, several falls
- ◆ Steve Jones-cancer (friend of Alice Walker)
- ◆ Susan Fiedler-cancer (friend of Darcel Tabb)
- ◆ Hulda McDonald-health issues (friend of Judy Davis)
- ◆ Linda Shirley-knee fracture & other bone issues (teacher at Flint Elementary)
- ◆ Roger Tingler-Covid-19 with pneumonia
- ◆ Billy Fortson-Covid-19 at home
- ◆ Blair Weaver-health issues
- ◆ Jane Parker-recovering from fall
- ◆ Mitchell Wheeler-cancer (nephew of Jack & Miriam Wheeler)
- ◆ Betty Lunsford-recovering at home
- ◆ Sarita Pope-breast cancer (mother-in-law of Elizabeth Martin Pope)
- ◆ Nancy Smith-recovering at home (daughter of Sandy & Betsy Morehouse)
- ◆ Beverly Maddox-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)
- ◆ Peter Milner-cancer surgery (nephew of Day & Larry Kennon)
- ◆ Brandon Massey-blood cancer (grandson of Chuck and Sherry Brasher)
- ◆ Carol Baynes-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)
- ◆ Sophia Hawley-cystic fibrosis

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)
- ◆ Dot Fincher-Merryvale
- ◆ Guy McGiboney-Merryvale
- ◆ Betty Robinson-Merryvale
- ◆ Louise White-Merryvale
- ◆ Jerry McGaffney-Merryvale

Military Service

- ◆ Koen Ardis-Navy
- ◆ Lee Scarborough-Army



RSVP Link for Worship Services

Use this link for worship reservations. Choose a date from those listed to obtain your "ticket(s)" which you do not have to print out. You may also call or email the church office to make your reservation, by noon on Thursdays. Please, reserve for only 1 week at a time. Thank you!
 Copy and paste (or type in):
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fpc-sunday-worship-at-1100am-tickets-142586777891>

Alternately, you may use the "button" on the enews or on our website.

Praises!

Congratulations to **Jim & Lynda Patrick** on the birth of their newest grandchild, **Mattie Lou Patrick**, who was born on February 23rd, to **Steve and Sheena Patrick** in Clarksville, Ga. Mattie Lou has a big sister, Reagan.

We are grateful for the good work of our Staff, Health Team, and Worship Team who have prepared us for In-person worship this Sunday!

We celebrate our newest church team: The Memorial Garden Committee!

Procedure for 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.

Worship Notes

- ◆ Recordings of Sunday sermons can be accessed on the church website: 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.

Thanks to those serving us today

Dan Walden,
 Phil Anderson, Brad Phillips



Witness and Easter Lilies

As the church is closed, we suggest that you mail your check, give through our Realm portal use the "Flower" fund or drop your check in the mail box outside the church office entrance. You may send an email to Peni in the office with your "in memory" or "in honor" names to: admin@fpccov.org (especially if you give via Realm or Text)

If you would like to make a donation this Easter to honor or memorialize a loved one, fill out this form and attach a check made out to FPC and place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office no later March 28th. Please put "lilies" or Easter Witness" in the memo space on your check or envelope. A minimum donation of \$12 is suggested. This year whatever donations we collect for lilies over and above the cost of the flowers will be given to Thornwell Homes. Thank you!

Given by _____

Please use the first and last names for any person being remembered.

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

please circle one cash check