



First Presbyterian Church



Pentecost Sunday

May 23, 2021

Order of Worship

Gathering As God's Beloved People

GATHERING MUSIC

O God, Beneath Thy Guiding Hand
Minuet Alternat from Symphony VI for Bassoon
Bill Cobham, trombone Alice Walker, piano
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

DUKE STREET
Johann Ernst Guilmant

Edward L. Goode

PRELUDE

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

David Cherwien

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

And suddenly from heaven there came a sound:

Power! Wind! Fire! Water! Breath!

All were filled with the Holy Spirit;

Amazing, Astonishing, Awe-inspiring!

Pour out your Spirit on us:

Power! Wind! Fire! Water! Breath!

Fill us with your promise.

By your Spirit, we live and move and have our being!

Let us Worship Holy God!

HYMN 280 (stanzas 1 and 3) *Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us*

EBENEZER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

written by Rev. Scott Cervas

Spirit of God,

you move around us and we wave you away

as if you are a fly getting too close to our heads.

You move among us, but we all have different ideas...

different ways of doing things...

and so your perfectly chilling harmonics

are drowned out by our chaotic dissonance.

You move within us,

but sometimes we just aren't willing to risk our own reputations

to embrace your radical vision.

But, deep down, we know that we need to move beyond ourselves...

we know that the church needs to move beyond itself.

So keep moving...keep moving around us, among us, and within us...

keep moving us so that we can be creators of movement in the world...Amen.

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

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Lorene Rose Atkins

HYMN 188

Jesus Loves Me!

JESUS LOVES ME

*Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Arts Association Dancers

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:1-21

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

No Going Back

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

Responding to the Word

HYMN 291 (Stanzas 1,3,4)

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

SPIRIT

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Brief Statement of Faith

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

OFFERTORY

RESPONSE 288

Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

from *Guerillas of Grace* by Ted Loder

Lord, send the gift of your Spirit to fill this place and myself and the world. Touch me with truth that burns like fire, with beauty that moves me like the wind; and set me free, Lord, free to try new ways of living; free to forgive myself and others; free to love and laugh and sing; free to lay aside my burden of security; free to join the battle of justice and peace; free to see and listen and wonder again at the gracious mystery of things and persons; free to be, to give, to receive, to rejoice as a child of your Spirit. And, Lord teach me to dance that I may praise and enjoy your forever.

Being the Church in the World

HYMN 700

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

I'M GONNA LIVE

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata from Symphony V

Charles Marie Widor



Reading of the Scripture in Various Languages

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Jay Lanners | Portuguese |
| Bill Clary | German |
| Krista Firkus | French |
| Courtney Pittman | Spanish |

Arts Association Dancers

We give thanks for these talented young people and their leaders for dancing in our worship today: Blythe Edgar, Alyssa Smith and Rebekah Wall dancing *Waves* from *Where the Wild Things Are* ballet choreographed by Liz Stillerman Anderson and performed by the Arts Association's Covington Regional Ballet, May 2021, with music from *The American 4 Seasons*, Violin Concerto #2, performed by London Philharmonic Orchestra, composed by Philip Glass, and edited by Philip G. Anderson and Liz Stillerman Anderson.



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.

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!)

Activities in the Life of the Church



Our Faith and Fellowship Team invites you to join us today for our Pentecost Party in the Playground area! Pentecost is a time to celebrate the 50th day following Easter with a feast. All church members and guests are invited to join us for a BBQ lunch with individual lunch baskets and drinks. We will adjourn immediately after worship to go to the lower floor and exit onto the playground for your barbeque box lunch and outdoor fellowship.

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 26th!

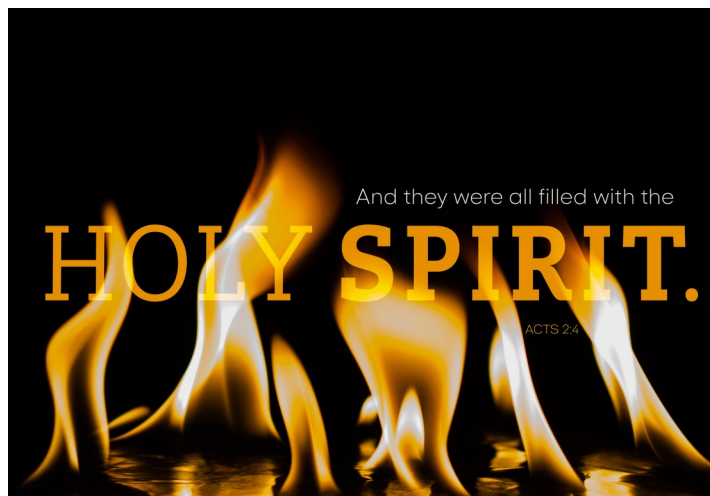
Seeking Office Volunteers!

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.

We will soon have a "class for volunteers" so please let us know soon if you are interested! Thanks!



Office Volunteers



Activities in the Life of the Church

This Week at FPC

Sunday, May 23, Day of Pentecost

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

Tuesday, May 25

12:00 Lectio Divina Scripture Study (parlor)
 6:00 Grief Small Group
 7:00 Bible Study on The Book of Acts on zoom
 7:00pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, May 26

10:00 Coffee & Conversation

Thursday, May 27

2:30 Ambassador Choir on Zoom
 6:00 Session Meeting

Saturday, May 29

Meals on Wheels

Sunday, May 30, Trinity Sunday

10:00 Adult Sunday School—link below
 10:00 Youth Sunday School
 10:00 Children's Sunday School
 11:00 Worship Service
 (Livestream link provided in the Weekly enews)
 7:00 Jammies and Jesus (last one for the summer)

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>

Summer 2021 Youth Calendar Coming Soon!

Youth Lounge workdays, Picnics at the Park, Scoops Outings, Movie Night!
 Contact Courtney at internfpcov@gmail.com



Please Recycle!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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

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)
- ✦ Teresa Shaffer-ill (Lane Dobbs' mother-in-law)
- ✦ Doug Bolton-burn injury treatment
- ✦ 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

Praises for our Graduates!

Brigham Arnold, son of Doug and Debra, is graduating from Heritage High School. He will attend Kenesaw State University in the Fall and majoring in Cybersecurity.

Jake McCarthy graduated with a BA in Law and Public Policy from Mercer University. He plans to start in the Mercer University School of Law in the fall of 2021. Jake is the son of John McCarthy and Terri Digby.

Luke Thomas Gregory is graduating from Eastside high school. He has plans to attend university of North Georgia. He is the son of Elizabeth Harwell and Dave Gregory and the grandson of Jack and Miriam Wheeler.

John Luranc, grandson of Louly Hay, graduated with honors from the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering of Auburn University on May 1.

Cailey Vining is graduating from Augusta University College of Nursing in May. She is the niece of Beth and Danny Vining.

Thank You!

We both want to say thank you to all for the prayers, concern, food and support extended since Doug was injured. He is healing well and the strength we still feel from prayers is wonderful. We are very grateful for our FPC family.

Doug & Sherri Bolton

Prayer Requests

All prayer requests should be sent to: admin@fpccov.org or by clicking the "Email Pen" 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.
- ✦ 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