



*Fourth Sunday  
after Epiphany  
January 30, 2022*



## *Order of Worship*

✦ Stand as able

### *Gathering As God's Beloved People*

GATHERING MUSIC

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling  
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing  
Amazing Grace*

John Zundel  
Edward L. Good  
David Cherwien

PRELUDE

*Jesus Loves Me*

Raymond H. Haan

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

written by the congregation of FPC

Love is...

**taking time to listen**

Love is...

**Giving, sharing, caring, celebrating with a glad heart**

Love is...

**Weathering the storm with someone instead of just offering an umbrella**

Love is...

**An action verb**

Love is...

**Staying true to yourself, honoring others as they are**

Love is...

**To see the face of God in all people**

Love is...

**Connection, empathy, devotion**

Love is...

**A rainbow after the storm**

Love is...

**Looking out for others and caring for about their needs**

Love is...

**God.**

✦ HYMN 401 (stanza 1 and 4)

*Here in This Place*

GATHER US IN

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

✦ CONFESSION

by Sarah Bessey

**God of herons and heartbreak,  
teach us to love the world again.**

**Teach us to love extravagantly  
knowing it may**

**(it will) break our hearts**

**and teach us that it is worth it.**

**God of loneliness and longing,  
of bushfires and wilderness,**

of soup kitchens and border towns,  
of snowfall and children,  
teach us to love the world again. Amen.

✦RESPONSE HYMN 469      *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*      CHILDREN PRAYING  
***Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.***

✦ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

### *Proclaiming the Word*

WONDERING WITH GOD'S CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Readers' Theatre: The Way of Love  
1 Corinthians 13:1-13  
(based on *The Message* paraphrased)

SERMON

*Love Is...*

Rev. Neeley Rentz Lane

### *Responding to the Word*

✦HYMN 693

*Though I May Speak*

GIFT OF LOVE

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.**

OFFERTORY

HYMN 729

*Lord, I Want to be a Christian*

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

***Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart; Lord I want to be more loving in my heart. In my heart, Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart. Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart; Lord I want to be like Jesus in my heart. In my heart, Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.***

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

by Ted Loder

**I am so thankful to be alive - eyes in love with seeing, ears in love with hearing, heart in love with attending, mind in love with connecting; eager to miss no message of grace in the ballet of beauty or in the cramp of the struggle of this incredible gift of life attentive to all the clues of love, daringly and outlandishly scattered for me through Jesus's life, overturning habit and hate, attentive to the dreams he renews, the wounds he heals. I am thankful for those times when the rhythms of my life catch the cadences of your kingdom; where there is a lightening in me for a moment, when the creep of courage allows me to dare to serve the gifts you have put in me. I am thankful to be alive. Amen.**

# Being the Church in the World

✦SENDING HYMN 300 (stanza 1 & 2)

THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

*We are One in the Spirit*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Prelude in G Major*

J. S. Bach

## Worship Notes

### Welcome Guest Liturgist

**Alex Miller-Knaack** is originally from the Chicago suburbs and joined Oxford College as assistant chaplain in the fall of 2021. Among other things, she offers support to the campus community connecting with students and staff one-on-one, and through partnerships with Campus Life, Counseling and Career Services, International Student Programs, and the Center for Healthful Living. She is being certified as a Spiritual Director and hopes to bring new ways to practice spirituality and soul care to campus. Before coming to Oxford Alex worked as a chaplain at Trenton Psychiatric Hospital. In her final year of grad school she was awarded the Robert E. Speers Award for College Ministry and the Robert P. Goodlin Award for Clinical Training.



### 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:** Jon Pascal;

**Usher Chair:** Stephanie Scarborough

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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.

**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>

**In Our Thoughts and Prayers**

- ✦ 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)
- ✦ Audrey Harper Arwood-back pain (daughter of Pat Harper)
- ✦ 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)
- ✦ Jeff Terrell-recovering from medical procedure (friend of Steve & Louly Kapp)
- ✦ 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)
- ✦ Carol Baynes-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)

**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
- ✦ Billy Scarborough-Marines



**Condolences**

We extend our prayers and sympathy to Chuck and Sherry Brasher upon the death of their grandson, Brandon Massey, who died on January 17, after a long battle with cancer. We pray for his parents, Chris and Bonnie Massey.

**Celebration!**

Congratulations to Darcel & Bob Tabb on their 8th grandchild! **Silas Charles Hall** was born January 19th. His parents are Mackenzie & Justin Hall.

**Prayer Requests**

All prayer requests should be sent to: [admin@fpccov.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 *Senior Pastor*  
 Alisa Castilla *Seminary Intern*  
 Alice Walker *CAGO, AAGO*  
 Peni Kehoe *Organist/Ambassador Choir*  
 Church Administrator

*Caring for Our Children in the Nursery*  
 Danielle Schubert  
 Beverley Beasley  
 Amiah Williams  
 Ian Rein  
 Kennedy Lynn

**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**  
 Pat Harper  
 Brad Phillips  
 Curtis Watson

Day Kennon (2022)  
 Eleanor Scarborough (2023)  
 Darcel Tabb (2024)  
 Alice Walker (2022)

# Activities In the Life of the Church

## This Week at FPC

### Sunday, January 30 Epiphany 4

9:45 Confirmation Class  
10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service  
7:00 Jammies and Jesus

### Tuesday, February 1

10:30 Newton Trail Clean-up  
12:00 Lectio Divina Bible Study (parlor)  
6:00 The Art of Living Study on Zoom

### Wednesday, February 2

10:00 Coffee and Conversation  
6:00 Handbell Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, February 6 Epiphany 5 Souper Bowl of Caring

9:45 Confirmation Class  
10:00 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service  
Congregational Meeting  
7:00 Jammies and Jesus on zoom



### Children's Sunday School

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

### Youth Sunday School

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

### Adult Sunday School

10:00am  
Foundations Class, downstairs

### Newton Trails and FPC!

We are called to be stewards of creation! We have "Adopted-A-Spot" on Newton Trails! Trail clean-up will be the FIRST Tuesday of every month at 10:30am. For more information contact John McCarthy or email [info@fpccov.org](mailto:info@fpccov.org).

### The Art of Living Study Group

Tuesday evenings 6:00 pm on Zoom  
(see Enews for link)  
Resource: Henri Nouwen and the Art of Living  
Weekly Topics: Identity, God, Love, Suffering, Freedom  
Facilitators include: Judy Davis, Dan Walden, Alisa Castilla, Pat Harper, and Larry Kennon  
Books are \$14. Email [info@fpccov.org](mailto:info@fpccov.org) if you would like a book!



Handbell choir rehearsals have resumed on Wednesdays at 6pm. Childcare is available.



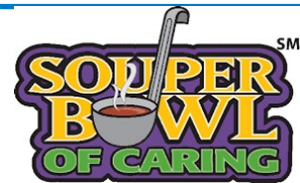
## JAMMIES AND JESUS

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

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

### 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

**Sunday, February 6th** we will be collecting canned and packaged foods for the Community Food Pantry. Please be generous towards your neighbor who is struggling with food insufficiency.