

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, we confess our hands are not clean, our hearts are not pure. Forgive our unreliable discipleship and keep our faith constant, O Lord. Lead us always to a deeper experience of your love. Enliven us by the familiar story of shame and triumph, suffering and hope, that this week reveals. Mold us to the ways of the servant whose life we honor this morning. In the name of Christ, our Lord, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

from Isaiah 50:4-9

Listen to these words from the Prophet Isaiah:
“The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious. The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; I know that I shall not be put to shame:

It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?”

Though we have sinned, God declares us to be innocent. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE TRURO
Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide. Let me Thy inner presence feel; Thy grace and love in me reveal.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE
Hail the Prince of Peace!
The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM Childs
My Song is Love Unknown (words on insert)
Sanctuary Choir

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 21:1-11

SERMON Carrie Bowers
Who is This?

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* HYMN 91 ST. DROSTANE
Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from Matthew 16
Who do people say that Jesus is?
Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.
But who do you say that he is?
He is the Christ, the Son of the living God.
Blessed are you, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but the Father who is in heaven.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER p. 16 in front of hymnal

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY Herbert Colvin
The Greatest Gift

* DOXOLOGY Hymn 592

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION
O Lord, we give thanks that you have entered our lives. Hear our shouts of praise, accept our tributes, and remember us in our weakness, for Christ’s dear sake. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

* HYMN 92 ST. CHRISTOPHER
Beneath the Cross of Jesus

* CHARGE
“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you,” Jesus said, “how often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! ...I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

* BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE Bell
Sing, My Soul
Laurie Bunn, solo

* POSTLUDE Robert Powell
Ride On! Ride On!

WORSHIP NOTES

- * Dan Walden, Director of Youth & Children’s Ministry and Carrie Bowers, Student Pastor, are assisting with worship today.
- * Please stand if you are able.
- * Please enter the sanctuary in a spirit of reverence as we prepare to worship God. Remember to **turn off cell phones** during the service.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

- †Miriam Wheeler—surgery (mother of Elizabeth Gregory)
- †Travis Moss—hand surgery
- †Anita Huss—lung cancer (stepdaughter of Jean Oldham)
- †Dennis Sauls—very ill (Patti Lanford’s brother-in-law)
- †Joyce Ashworth—Newton Medical
- †Doug Bolton— home
- †Ed Crudup—home
- †Eric Malcolm - friend of Martha Fernicola; brain tumor
- †Lori Pullan, Doug Arnold’s sister - chemotherapy
- †Charles Ardis, Sr.-cancer, father of Charles Ardis
- †Richard Londry—cancer, cousin of Susan Crowell
- †Courteney LeCroix Hoover—waiting for double lung transplant, Florida
- †Bill Fitzgerald—stage 4 cancer (his daughter, Morgan, is the niece of Donna Weesner)
- †Shirley Smith, needs kidney transplant (Clarence Price’s sister)

Covington Square

- † Rita Harrell
- † Joy Knight

Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:

- †Sarah Chesnut - Covington Manor
- †Mary Cline -Azalea Gardens, Conyers
- †Russ Cole—Azalea Gardens
- † Margie Rutherford -Rockdale Health Care Center
- † Gretchen Buendia - Parkwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Snellville
- † Helen and George Stamps—Benton House

Military:

- † Savannah Cannon
- † Mike Laib
- † John Rossi
- † Renee Boston
- † Charles Bailey
- †Martha Fernicola’s nephew, Japan

We extend our sympathy and prayers for Helen Lewis in the death of her father, John McGuire, who died on March 30.

Hospital Visitor this week is:
Linda Boyd



A lunch for our neighbors residing at the Covington Square Apartments will be held in the Martin Fellowship Hall on Thursday, **April 28, at 12:00 noon.** Anyone who would like to participate in the preparations or assist that day, please call Jean Elder at 770-787-7951.

Activities in the Life of the Church

An Exercise Class is held on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. All adults are invited to participate.

The DVD Study Group continues a study of the world's great religions, with lectures on Judaism by Professor Isaiah M. Gafni of Hebrew University. The group meets in the Youth Lounge at 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday evenings after the Mid-Week Feast. Participants enjoy the lectures and the lively discussions afterward. This week's lecture title is "The Calendar—A Communal Life Cycle."

One Great Hour of Sharing—please read the bulletin insert for this special Easter Offering. You may use the special envelope for your offering this Sunday or on Easter.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES—MONDAY—FRIDAY AT NOON

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd will be hosting the annual Community Holy Week Worship Services and lunches **Monday, April 18 - Friday, April 22**. Preachers from local churches will be preaching each day at noon. Preachers: Monday, The Rev. Hezekiah Benton, Bethlehem Baptist; Tuesday, The Rev. Doug Gilreath, First United Methodist; Wednesday, The Rev. Matt Murphy, Grace United Methodist; Thursday, The Rev. Jason Dees, First Baptist; and Friday, The Rev. William B. Wade, Jr., FPC. There will be special music provided by each church. A lunch will follow in the parish hall at 12:30 p.m.

Mid-Week Feast takes place on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Reservations are needed—use form in pew or call the church by 2:00 on Tuesdays. Menu this week: baked chicken, turkey, dressing, turnip greens, 1/2 baked sweet potato, corn and rolls.

Maundy Thursday, April 21, is the night we remember Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples and his commandment (or "mandate") that we love one another as He loved them. We celebrate this night by gathering around tables in the Fellowship Hall, in candlelight, and sharing communion. The **service begins at 7:00 p.m.**

Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday April 23—information on the Anthem/Announcement insert and on our website:

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, April 17, Palm Sunday
 9:00 Handbell Choir
 9:30 Children's Choir
 10:00 Sunday School
 11:00 Worship Service
 12:00 Session Meeting
 5:00 Youth Connection

Wednesday, April 20
 4:00 Adventure Club
 6:00 Mid-Week Feast
 6:45 DVD Series
 6:45 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 21
 10:30 Ambassador Choir
 11:30 Prayer Group
 7:00 Maundy Thursday Communion

Monday—Friday
 12:00 Worship at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
 12:30 Lunch at Good Shepherd

Sunday, April 24, Easter
 9:00 Handbell Choir
 9:30 Children's Choir
 10:00 Sunday School
 11:00 Worship Service

Tuesday, April 19
 4:00 Exercise Class

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 one of the pastors as you leave or call the church office at 770-786-7321.

E-mail addresses:

wbwade@bellsouth.net djwalden@mac.com
 carriannbowers@gmail.com penihaug@bellsouth.net

Website: www.fpccov.org

Mailing Address: 1169 Clark Street
 Covington, Georgia 30014

CHANGE THE WORLD, IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY DAY

May 7th - 9:00AM to 2:00 PM

Hosted by Covington First United Methodist Church

First Presbyterian Church is excited to be participating in this event. We will have a booth set up on their church grounds featuring our community outreach programs and the ways we serve and help the people of Newton County. We encourage all in our church to be there and see what is going on, not just in our church, but other churches in our community as well. Come. Wear a Presbyterian t-shirt if you have one, volunteer to help staff our booth, visit all the displays and events of that day, and enjoy this community of "just people of Christ". For more information, call Jean Blair (678) 342-4377.

Save the Date! An **Auction with Dessert Fundraiser** will be held on May 20, at 7 p.m. to raise funds for Shirley Smith's kidney transplant expenses. Shirley is Clarence Price's sister. Items are needed for the auction also. Speak with Judy Hooten if you can help. More details were in the April "First Press."

THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

Caring for Our Youngest Members in the Nursery:

Luton Family
 Bates Family

Next week:
 Hawley Family
 Loebble Family

Host:

Agnes Campbell

Ushers:

Patrick Carmichael
 Stephanie and Eleanor Scarborough

Sound System:

Ken Walker

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Class of 2011
 Jean Blair
 Carol Dunbar
 Rick Gunter
 Jay Lanners
 Donna Weesner

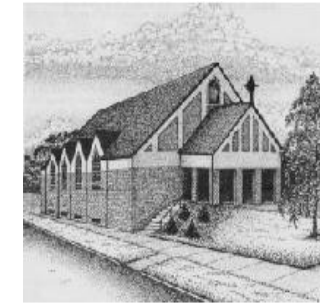
Class of 2012
 Bernice Bailey
 Rebecca Bates
 Mac Cranford
 Judy Hooten

Class of 2013
 Patrick Carmichael
 Judy Davis
 Denny Dobbs
 Aubrey Evans
 Dave Gregory

CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr. *Pastor*
 Louly Fowler Hay *Parish Associate*
 Dan Walden *Director of Youth and Children's Ministry*
 Carrie Bowers *Student Pastor*
 Peni Haug *Secretary-Treasurer*

Alan Bunn *Choir Director*
 Alice Walker BA, CAGO, AAGO *Organist/Senior Choir*
 Pauleen Green & Maria Serrato *Nursery*
 Deana Graham *Director of the Early Learning Center*



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Covington, Georgia

April 17, 2011
 Palm/Passion Sunday

Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

"Hosanna" from *Bible Poems for Organ* Jaromir Weinberger
Sing Hosannas David Lowe
All Glory, Laud and Honor Rebecca K. Owens

* CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 118:19-24

Open to us the gates of righteousness, that we may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

We thank you that you have answered us and have become our salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

* PROFESSIONAL HYMN 88 VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

All Glory, Laud and Honor

* PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Palm Sunday Processional
 Handbell Choir

arr. Helman

ANTHEM *He Comes!* (words on insert) Bedford
 Children's Choir

CALL TO CONFESSION

Like the people who greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem and then later pronounced "Crucify him," we are fickle people who often deny Christ in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

Remembering the events of Jesus' last week helps us see ourselves for what we are: sinners in need of a Savior, a Savior we have in Christ. In honesty and hope, we confess now our sins to God.