

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Who is in a position to condemn?

**Only Christ.**

And Christ lived for us, Christ died for us,  
Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us,  
Christ prays for us.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who  
are in Christ Jesus, for anyone who is in Christ is  
becoming part of God's New Creation.

**The old is finished, gone!**

**Behold! New life has begun.**

Friends, believe the gospel:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

### \* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE SOLID ROCK

(Hymn 379, stanza 1 )

**My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood  
and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest  
frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground  
is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.**

### \* THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

As Christ has extended the peace of God to us, let us  
extend God's peace to all.

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *PROCLAIMING THE WORD*

ANTHEM *Ringing Victoriously* Mazzazen  
Handbell 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 I Thessalonians 2:1-12

SERMON William B. Wade, Jr.  
*Furnishings of the Faith: The Pews*

### *RESPONDING TO THE WORD*

### \* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Declaration of Faith*

**Christ calls us to be disciples. In forming his people  
and sending them into the world Jesus called  
individuals to be disciples. They were to share the**

**joy of his companionship, to understand and obey  
his teachings, and to follow him in life and death.**

**We confess that Christians today are called to  
discipleship. Life shared with Christ and shaped by  
Christ is God's undeserved gift to each of us. It is  
also God's demand upon every one of us, never  
perfectly fulfilled by any of us. Forgiven by God and  
supported by brothers and sisters, we strive to  
become more faithful and effective in our daily  
practice of the Christian life.**

## A SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING FOR THE TUSCALOOSA MISSION TEAM

### \* HYMN 525 SCHUTTE

*Here I Am, Lord*

## CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*THE LORD'S PRAYER* p. 16 in front of hymnal

### THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

OFFERTORY William H. Doane

*I Love Jesus/More Love to Thee*

Lucy Kim, piano Soo Young Kim, violin

Min Ah Kim, cello

### \* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 372 African-American Spiritual  
*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

### \* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God, we pray that you will deepen our relationship  
with you and that our relationships with each other  
in the church will be built up. We pray that we  
would be so transformed by your love, grace and  
forgiveness that others would see the "fruit of the  
Spirit" expressed in our lives. We ask that you will  
use this prayerful time to help our church reach out  
to our community with the Good News of Jesus  
Christ so that others may commit their hearts and  
lives to Christ; that you will help us as a church to  
look at the tangible needs of the community in  
which we live. Break our hearts over the needs of  
real people that you want us to serve and be in rela-  
tionship with, and the ability to perceive, through  
your Holy Spirit, the people in our lives with whom  
you are at work already. Give us the strength,  
wisdom and humility to share our faith with our  
friends, neighbors, family, and all those that we  
meet; for we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## *BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD*

### \* HYMN 411 FESTAL SONG

*Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

### \* CHARGE Acts 1:8

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on  
you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in  
all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

### \* BENEDICTION

### \* CHORAL RESPONSE ORA LABORA

*Come, Labor On*

### \* POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune Charles Callahan

\* Please stand if you are able.

## WORSHIP NOTES

- \* Today we welcome three students from Oxford College as guest musicians: Min Ah Kim, Lucy Kim and Soo Young Kim. We thank them for offering their musical gifts for our worship.
- \* Some of our liturgy today comes from material for Evangelism Sunday offered by the Presbyterian Church (USA).
- \* 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

†Emory Bowen—ICU at Newton  
Medical (brother-in-law of Debbie  
Gossage)

† Marvin Paige—cancer ((Perri  
Walden's uncle)

†Lee Ellen Digby—home (mother of  
Terri Digby-McCarthy)

†Guy McGiboney—home

†William Lawson—home

†JoEllyn Kimball-complications  
of lung transplant

†Linda Boyd-home

†Sam Hay, Jr.—Newton Medical

†Jack Yoder—Newton Medical

†Corky Krupp—cancer (Warren  
Liem's cousin)

†Troy Turner—non-Hodgkins  
lymphoma (Jean Oldham's son)

†Anita Huff—lung cancer, (step-  
daughter of Jean Oldham)

†Courtney LeCroix Hoover—  
waiting for double lung trans-  
plant, Florida

†Shirley Smith, needs kidney trans-  
plant (Clarence Price's sister)

### **Covington Square**

†Rita Harrell

†Joy Knight

### **Assisted Living/Nursing Homes:**

†Sarah Chesnut--Covington Manor

†Mary Cline -Azalea Gardens,  
Conyers

†Margie Rutherford -Rockdale  
Health Care Center

† Russ Cole—Azalea Gardens

†Gretchen Buendia - Parkwood  
Rehabilitation Center, Snellville

### **Benton House**

†Helen and George Stamps

†Mary Crudup

### **Military:**

†Savannah Cannon

†Mike Laib

†John Rossi

†Renee Boston

**Hospital Visitor:**  
*Jean Wolverton*

## Activities in the Life of the Church

**Oxford Student Lunch** Today we are hosting Oxford College students for lunch in the fellowship hall after the worship service. Please be sure to welcome them to FPC.

**Adventure Club** for children Pre-K through 5th grade meets on Wednesdays, at 4:00.

**MID-WEEK FEAST:** Join us for the Mid-Week Feast on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. The menu this week is: meat loaf, English peas and carrots, creamed potatoes, corn and fried chicken; bring a dessert to share. Please fill out one of the reservation forms in the pew pocket and put it in the offering plate, or call the church office by noon on Tuesday, or make your reservations online at [www.fpccov.org](http://www.fpccov.org).

**The DVD Lecture Series** continues on Wednesdays, after the Mid-Week Feast. The group meets in the Youth Lounge. We will be viewing and discussing the series, "The Old Testament," with lectures by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine of the Vanderbilt University Divinity School. The lesson this week is "Abraham, Sarah and Hagar". Call Carol and Ellis Dunbar at (770) 787-2657 for further information.

**Community Food Pantry Needs for September:** shampoo, toothpaste and toothbrushes. You may bring your donations to the church and put them in the Food Pantry collection tubs or drop them at the Food Pantry Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 9:00-11:00 a.m.

### THIS WEEK AT FPC

<p><b>Sunday, September 25</b>            9:00 Handbell Rehearsal            9:30 Children's Choir            9:45 Sunday School            11:00 Worship Service            12:00 Oxford Student Lunch            5:00 Youth Connection</p>	<p><b>Wednesday</b> continued..            6:45 Choir Rehearsal            6:45 DVD Study</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, September 27</b>            4:00 Exercise Class</p>	<p><b>Thursday, September 29</b>            10:30 Ambassador Choir</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, September 28</b>            4:00 Adventure Club            6:00 Mid-Week Feast</p>	<p><b>Sunday, October 2</b>            9:00 Handbell Rehearsal            9:30 Children's Choir            9:45 Sunday School            11:00 Worship Service—World Communion Sunday            5:00 Youth Connection            Mission trip begins</p>

**Next Sunday, October 2,** is World Communion Sunday. We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper that day along with Christians Churches around the world.

**Prayer Group Offers Times of Prayer for Upcoming Mission Trip**  
 The FPC Prayer Group invites all members of the FPC congregation to drop by the sanctuary on Tuesday, October 4, from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. and on Wednesday, October 5, from 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m., for times of prayer to support the Mission Trip to Tuscaloosa. Several FPC members will be participating in the Mission Trip during the week of October 2 - October 9. The mission team will be ministering to persons living in storm-ravaged areas. Please plan to come and pray on October 4 or 5 for all the mission team members who are following the example of Jesus in bringing relief to those in dire need. For questions, please contact Alice Walker at 770-787-6915 or Grace Ottley at 678-712-9405.

### 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.

or e-mail  
[wbwade@bellsouth.net](mailto:wbwade@bellsouth.net)  
[djwalden@mac.com](mailto:djwalden@mac.com)  
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Website: [www.fpccov.org](http://www.fpccov.org)  
 Mailing Address: 1169 Clark Street,  
 Covington, Georgia 30014



**Prayer Requests** may be made by filling out the yellow cards in the pew racks and placing them in the offering plate or in the box on the table in

First Presbyterian Church is affiliated with the **Care and Counseling Center of Rockdale and Newton**, a resource to help with counseling needs. Call 404-636-1457 ext. 436, for an appointment, or ask the church staff for more information.

### THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

#### Caring for Our Youngest Members in the Nursery:

Shawn Loftin  
 Moss Family  
**Next week:**  
 Luton Family  
 Bates Family

**Host:**  
 Jonathan & Lynn Miller

**Ushers:**  
 Leon Hughes  
 Bill & Diane Loebler

**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  
 Day Kennon  
 Mac Cranford  
 Judy Hooten

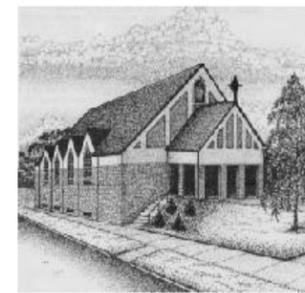
**Class of 2013**  
 Patrick Carmichael  
 Judy Davis  
 Denny Dobbs  
 Aubrey Evans  
 Dave Gregory

### CHURCH STAFF

William B. Wade, Jr. *Pastor*  
 Louly Fowler Hay

Dan Walden *Parish Associate  
 Director of Youth  
 and Children's Ministry*  
 Peni Haug *Secretary-Treasurer*  
 Alan Bunn *Music Director*

Alice Walker *CAGO, AAGO  
 Organist/Ambassador Choir*  
 Pauleen Green & Maria Serrato *Nursery*  
 Krissy Jones *Director of the  
 Early Learning Center*



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Covington, Georgia

September 25, 2011  
 Evangelism Sunday

### Order of Worship

#### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *Prelude in C Minor* J. S. Bach  
*Andante Maestoso* Gustav Holst

INTROIT Handbell Choir

- \* CALL TO WORSHIP  
 "Come," says the Lord, "come be my people, and I will be your God."  
 "Come," says the Lord, "I am the compassion you seek."  
**We are your people. You are our God.**  
 Come, let us walk in the Way of the Lord!  
 Let us worship God!

- \* HYMN 487 LAUDES DOMINI  
*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

We are a pilgrim people on a journey, on a journey to know the sovereign God at work in the world, offering ourselves to be used by the Spirit to bring Christ's redemption, healing, blessing to all.

**But we stumble. We fall.**

Still God calls us to arise! Taking all that weighs us down and hinders us from following him, Jesus says, "Come unto me, all you who are heavy laden and I will give you rest for your soul." You will run and not be weary, walk and not faint.

**Trusting in the mercies of the Lord, let us confess our shortcomings before God and one another.**

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of compassion, you created the world through your communion of love, but we prefer to be gods, living for ourselves. Our sin has misshapen the world. We damage creation. We hurt one another. We ignore others' pain. We despair at our own undoing, while sin holds us tight in its teeth. But you, O Lord, unhinged the jaws of death, that we might know your eternal life now. So we beg you: free us from sin's grip with your prevailing love, that we might be who you created us to be—full of your compassion for the earth, its peoples, and each person we meet. This we pray through Jesus Christ, our only hope.**

(silence for personal prayer and reflection)