

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

11:00 am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

Dr. Renee Huff

(Prepare for worship in silent prayer and reflection)

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Dr. Renee Huff

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

P: He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul.

L: He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

P: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil:

L: For you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me.

P: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

L: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

ALL: And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

*HYMN #39

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: The grace of God be with you.

P: And also with you

L: Trusting in God's tender mercy, let us confess our sins to God with one another.

P: Gracious God, we are people who still love darkness rather than light. We keep shameful deeds secret but flaunt our occasional acts of virtue. We see ourselves as blameless but pass judgment on others. We do not stand firmly enough with those who are vulnerable,

but step back, protecting ourselves. Forgive us, we pray. Bring us into your light that we may see ourselves rightly. Bring us into your light that we may know ourselves loved. Bring us into your light that we may live more fruitful lives. Keep raising us, we pray, from the deadness of sin, and shine upon us with your grace. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

- *Silent Confession* -

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: God's goodness and mercy will follow us, even pursue us, all the days of our life. As God's forgiven people, receive this goodness and mercy, and live a new life in the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Thanks be to God!

***THE GLORIA #581** "Glory to God, Whose Goodness..."

***RECONCILIATION WITH ONE ANOTHER**

L: Let us greet each other here and online with the words "May the peace of Christ be with you!"

P: And also with you!

THE FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

L: This is the Word of the Lord!

P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Lessons from a Giant"

Rev. Janet Onnie

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

L: The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it,

P: the world, and those who live in it.

L: Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

The Anthem

Dr. Renee Huff

The Doxology #606

Old Hundredth

The Dedication

WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

+ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD +

*HYMN #32 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

+++

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE WELCOME REV. JANET ONNIE to our pulpit today!

PW RESUMING REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS PW is resuming monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of every month, starting on **March 21 at 6:00pm** in the library. We will share a meal, participate in bible study, and plan our outreach to the community. Donna Goble will provide a ham for our March meeting, so please bring a side dish or dessert if you can. If not, come anyway! Please let Heidi know if you can make it. All are welcome. Please contact Susie Lendermon if you have questions. We hope to see you there!

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE Jason Stell, Executive Director of the Staunton Music Festival, contacted us about assistance for a refugee family of 6 from Afghanistan. The family moved to Staunton in November. They have 4 young children, 2 of whom are enrolled at McSwain Elementary. While there are several ways this family could use assistance, the most immediate need is financial. The husband/father is recently employed, and they receive SNAP (food stamps) and Medicaid. With rent over \$1200 monthly plus utilities, they have difficulty making ends meet. They could use our help.

If you would like to make a contribution to assist this family, please submit to First Presbyterian, designating it for 'Afghan family' in the memo line.

MANY THANKS TO BARBARA RICHARDSON AND THE CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE for cleaning the kitchen. It looks absolutely spotless. Thanks for all your hard work!!

Elders

Class of 2023

Amanda Avery, Worship
Ron Lowman, Jr., Property

Class of 2024

Sam Clem, Administration/Discipleship
Mary Meade, Worship
Barbara Richardson, Congregational Life

Class of 2025

Stephany Morgan, Missions & Outreach
Bret Ritchie, Administration
Hugh Sproul, Administration
Paige Kullman, Clerk

Staff

Dr. Renee Huff, Minister of Music
Heidi Marsh, Office Manager
Mona Tate, Nursery Attendant
Charlie Trumbo, Buildings and Grounds

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 E. Frederick Street, Staunton, VA 24401
540-886-0704; stauntonfirst@gmail.com
www.1stpres-staunton.org
Facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchStaunton

Please Donate! Scan QR Code

