

7th Sunday of Easter

May 21, 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

from Psalm 68

L: Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in
his holy habitation.

P: God gives the desolate a home to live in;

L: He leads out the prisoners to prosperity.

P: But the rebellious live in a parched land.

L: Ascribe power to God,

**P: whose majesty is over Israel; and whose power is
in the skies.**

L: Sing to God, sing praises to his name;

P: Lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds.

All: His name is the LORD—be exultant before him.

*HYMN #408 *“There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”*

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Grace, you call us to be different from the world. But the world is seductive, and so we come here to be strengthened. God of Vision, you hold before us an alternate way of life, different priorities, different loyalties, different values. But we know that the world is not only seductive but powerful, and so we are drawn in to following its priorities, accepting its values, showing loyalty to its gods. We pray that, wherever your image is disfigured by poverty, sickness, selfishness, war and greed, the new creation in Jesus Christ may appear in justice, love, and peace, to the glory of your name. Forgive us when we lose

sight of these qualities, when we misunderstand their role in the world. Merciful God, receive the confessions of our hearts in this time of silence.

- Silent Confession -

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rejoice and be glad! God is gracious and God offers blessings. God calls us to life in the world, and offers us the chance to explore how to live out God's vision. We are called, we are forgiven, we are blessed. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

***THE GLORIA #581** *"Glory to God"*

***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

Acts 1:6-14

THE SECOND READING

John 17:1-11

L: This is the Word of the Lord!

P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Seeing Ghosts"

Rev. Janet Onnie

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

It is a joy and a blessing to share our gifts with one another. As we offer these things for the work of your church, help us to be mindful of all that we can do together as the Body of Christ. Amen.

The Anthem

Dr. Renee Huff

The Doxology #606

Old Hundredth

The Dedication

You are the source of every good and perfect gift, O God. Use these tithes and offerings for your glory. Let your church be a spring whose waters never fail. We pray in Christ's name.

WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

+ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD +

*HYMN #318 "In Christ There is No East or West"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived of the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into Hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

+++

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE WELCOME REV. JANET ONNIE to our pulpit today!

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND LUNCH Our Annual Congregational Meeting and lunch will take place **Sunday, June 4**, immediately after worship. Please join us for lunch in the Fellowship Hall, immediately followed by the meeting.

Pizza and drinks will be provided. The congregation is asked to bring salads and desserts. Please let Heidi know if you plan to attend via email at stauntonfirst@gmail.com or call 540-886-0704.

HEIDI WILL BE ON VACATION Friday, May 26-Monday, June 5, returning Tuesday, June 6. Fay Knicley will be filling in during this time. Thank you!

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Monday, May 29 for Memorial Day. We hope everyone has a wonderful holiday!

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

