

The 3rd Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE #465 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" *Dr. Renee Huff*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

INTROIT #242 "Day of Delight"

WORDS OF PRAISE Psalm 149 selected verses *Stephany Morgan*

Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song, God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise God's name with dancing, making melody with tambourine and lyre.

For the Lord takes pleasure in his people;

God adorns the humble with victory.

Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

Praise the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN #260 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death.

Yet we confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death.

We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy.

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Hear the Good News! In Christ Jesus, we are called to repent as we are forgiven our broken ways, we are nourished with living water, and we are sent out to share the good news with the world: there is new life in the risen Jesus!

Alleluia!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.)

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #582** "Glory to God"

SCRIPTURE READING **Matthew 28:16-20**

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

"Alleluia"

Choir

By Will James, © 1952 H.T. FitzSimmons Co.

SERMON

"Commissioning"

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #298** "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *Hymnal P. 35*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"If I Can Help Somebody" by A. Bazel Androzzo
© 1957 Boosey & Hawkes Ltd.

***DOXOLOGY #606** "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

***CLOSING HYMN #363** "Rejoice, The Lord is King"

***BLESSING & SENDING Ephesians 3:20-21**

Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine,

to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

Alleluia! Amen.

***POSTLUDE #146 "Lead Me Guide Me"**

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOME GOODS COMMUNITY PANTRY – DONATIONS NEEDED Our Home Goods Community Pantry will be open on Wednesday, April 17. Financial and product donations are always welcomed.

Our pantry is undoubtedly fulfilling a need in our community, and demand is high. Due to this demand, donations are needed more than ever.

If you wish to donate items, there is a donation basket outside of the sanctuary for your convenience. Items needed are listed in the April newsletter and on our website. Thank you!

BIBLE STUDY EVERY TUESDAY! Please come to our weekly Bible discussion class on Tuesday, April 16 at 10:00am in the library. Pastor Jeff will lead with the Book of Matthew.

PW EVENING CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, April 16 at 6:00pm in the library. All are welcome! We hope you can attend.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE The deadline for submissions for the May 2024 issue of First Impressions is Thursday, April 18. Please submit any info you would like to include by then. Thank you!

CHURCH COVERED DISH LUNCH & TOWN HALL GATHERING SUNDAY, APRIL 28 Please join us for a covered dish lunch & Town Hall gathering on Sunday, April 28 at 12:15pm in the Fellowship Hall. Roxbury stew and drinks will be provided. The congregation are asked to bring side dishes, salads, and/or desserts. Please RSVP to the church office at stauntonfirst@gmail.com or 540-886-0704.

Prayer List

Please send out prayers for: Judy; Bret Ritchie; Mona Tate; Sherry Cox's sister Tommie Sue Schindler; Paul Goble; Jim Cooke; Charlie Obaugh; Sherry von Oeyen; Justin Tate; David Klein (brother-in law of Scott & Sharon Wilson)

Please contact Heidi in the church office or Pastor Jeff to have names added or removed from the prayer list.

Names will be removed after 6 weeks unless otherwise requested.

Elders

Class of 2024

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

Class of 2025

Stephany Morgan, Administration, Missions & Outreach
Bret Ritchie, Administration
Hugh Sproul, Property

Class of 2026

Susie Lendermon, Missions & Outreach
Martha Tillen, Worship

Clerk

Martha Tillen

Staff

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder, Interim Pastor
Dr. Renee Huff, Minister of Music
Heidi Marsh, Office Manager

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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