

7th Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2024

11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE #270 "Oh Lord, You Are My God and King"

Dr. Renee Huff

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

INTROIT "We Have Come Into His House"

WORDS OF PRAISE Psalm 1:1-3 *Martha Tillen*

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
**but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law
they meditate day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield
their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

*OPENING HYMN #265 "Jesus Shall Reign"

*OPENING PRAYER

**Most High God, we are witnesses to the life of Jesus Christ
our Lord: written in Scripture, promised by the prophets,
sung by the psalmists; given in love for the world, risen
from the dust of death, lifted up in heavenly glory.**

**Let our lives proclaim Christ's life. Draw us into your
presence that we may worship you always, continually
blessing your name.**

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

We are witnesses:

The Lord is risen!

Hear this good news: in Jesus Christ we are eternally loved,
and we are called to share God's love with the world!

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 "7-Fold Amen" *Choir*

SCRIPTURE READING Romans 6:1-14
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM "I Believe/Ave Maria" *Gary Havens & Dr. Renee Huff*

SERMON "Ascension" *Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #275 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Westminster Larger Catechism (1647)*
How was Christ exalted in his ascension?
Christ was exalted in his ascension, in that having, after his resurrection, often appeared unto, and conversed with his apostles, speaking to them of the things pertaining to the Kingdom of God, and giving them commission to preach the gospel to all nations, forty days after his resurrection, he, in our nature, and as our head, triumphing over enemies, visibly went up into the highest heavens, there to receive gifts for [humanity], to raise up our affections thither, and to prepare a place for us, where himself is, and shall continue till his second coming at the end of the world.

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

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY #258 "A Hymn of Glory"

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

*PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

*CLOSING HYMN #765 "May the God of Hope"
(1st time English, 2nd Spanish)

*BLESSING & SENDING John 15:9-11
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
may we go out into the world striving to serve Christ in our daily tasks, daring to live holy and joyful lives.
Go now, out into the world, to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia! Amen.

*POSTLUDE "Irish Blessing" *Choir*

+++

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL FEEDBACK NEEDED Our church luncheon and Town Hall were held on Sunday, April 28. For those who aren't aware, a presentation was made regarding the future direction of our church. An email was sent regarding your feelings on how we move into the next chapter of First Presbyterian.

We ask everyone to please share with anyone else in the congregation and to please share your comments with **members of the Session** prior to our upcoming meeting on **Tuesday, May 14**. Your feedback is crucial and most appreciated.

This is the point where this church is ready to move forward into its next chapter, and your feedback is important. We look forward to hearing from you!

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY to all of our mothers! We hope you have a wonderful day today.

HOME GOODS COMMUNITY PANTRY – DONATIONS NEEDED Our Home Goods Community Pantry will be open on Wednesday, May 15. 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. Thank you!

THERE WILL BE A SESSION MEETING Tuesday, May 14, at 5:15pm in the library.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE The deadline for submissions for the June 2024 issue of First Impressions is Thursday, May 16. Due to Heidi's upcoming vacation, info must be received by that date. Thanks!

BIBLE STUDY EVERY TUESDAY! Please come to our weekly Bible discussion class on Tuesday, April 9 at 10:00am in the library. Pastor Jeff will lead with the book of Acts.

Prayer List

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

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
Please Donate! Scan QR Code



First Presbyterian Church, Staunton, VA

Our Mission:

The primary mission of First Presbyterian Church is to foster a dedicated and loving commitment to Jesus Christ on the part of all our members. From this commitment, we work toward the following goals:

1. Increase our dedication and support to both the community and world missions as we engage the entire congregation in spreading the Gospel.
2. Develop our building assets as a resource for community ministries.
3. Continue and improve our strong educational and music programs.
4. Nurture our members in times of need and joy