

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

Treasurers

Scott Wilson
Amanda Avery

Staff

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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First Presbyterian Church, Staunton, VA

Mission & Vision Statement

Adopted on September 10, 2024

We open our hearts and our doors to worshipping Christ in downtown Staunton as a visible witness to the Gospel.

We are called to be a congregation that...

1. Invites all people to faith in Christ.
2. Worships God in a vibrant community through discipleship, music, and fellowship.
3. Uses our resources, time, and talents in the service of the least of these.
4. Nurtures and strengthens those within and outside of our community.
5. Makes the best use of our historic downtown property to benefit others.



18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 22, 2024

11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" (sing-along)
(Sun & moon, you & me brother, litty bitty baby, everybody here)

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

INTROIT "This Little Light of Mine"
(I'm going to let it shine, hide it under a bush, don't let Satan blow it out)

WORDS OF PRAISE Psalm 95:1-6 Mary Meade

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!
For the Lord is a great God
and a great King above all gods.
In God's hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are God's also.
The sea is God's, for he made it,
and the dry land, which God's hands have formed.
O come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

***OPENING HYMN #664** "Morning Has Broken"

***OPENING PRAYER** inspired by Mother Teresa of Calcutta
Dearest Lord, may we see you today and every day in the other, and while serving them, minister unto you. Though you hide yourself at times, may we still recognize you in the least of these. And while we seek to serve you in others, may we open ourselves to accept that same loving care and grace. Lord, increase our faith, bless our efforts, and open our hearts to your Spirit, now and forever more.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE** Matthew 5:6-7

Jesus said: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Jesus said: Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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 #604** "Lamb of God"

SCRIPTURE READING Galatians 4 selected verses

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM "Because He Lives"

(All on Refrain... I can face tomorrow...All fear is gone...Because I know he holds the future and life is worth the living just because he lives)

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

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #630** "Fairest Lord Jesus"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *A Brief Statement of Faith (1983)*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community.

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

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

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY #853 "We Are Marching" *Choir*

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

***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

***CLOSING HYMN #465** "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

***BLESSING & SENDING** Romans 12:9-13

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;

May we love one another with mutual affection; outdoing one another in showing honor.

Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

May we rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Alleluia! Amen.

***POSTLUDE #649** "Amazing Grace" *(sing-along)*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUTDOOR WORSHIP & BBQ TODAY, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22! Please join us for outdoor worship on the lawn, followed by a BBQ and covered dish lunch today, Sunday, September 22. All are invited! We hope you can join us.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 Session has called for a congregational meeting to be held following worship on Sunday, September 29, for the purpose of electing officers to serve on Session. **Class of 2025:** Barbara Richardson **Class of 2026:** Cindy Cooke **Class of 2027:** Lisa Caywood and Sharon Wilson

WSO CONCERT SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 The Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra will perform in our sanctuary Saturday, September 28 at 5:00pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome. We hope you can join us!

QUEEN CITY MISCHIEF & MAGIC FESTIVAL QCMM will take place downtown on Saturday, September 28, 10am-10pm, and Sunday, September 29, 9am-5pm. All are invited to come to worship on Sunday. Parking will be available in front of the church until after worship, and as always, the lots on Market Street and behind the church are available. Of course, there's always the option to attend online. Thank you!

Prayer List

Please send out prayers for: Family of Craig Peterson; Shelia and Jim Fox; Martha Manning; Julie Furr; Paul Goble; Jim Cooke; Martha; family of Judy Lendermon

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.