

Elders

Class of 2024

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

Class of 2025

Stephany Morgan, Administration, Missions & Outreach  
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.



**22nd Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 20, 2024**

**11:00am**

**A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**PRELUDE**

“Open the Doors!”  
“I Love to Tell the Story”

*Ray Hoaster  
arr. by W. Fischer*

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

**INTROIT**

“Open the Doors!”

*Ray Hoaster*

**WORDS OF PRAISE**

Psalm 104 selected verses

*Dick Cox*

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

**O Lord my God, you are very great.**

You are clothed with honor and majesty,

**wrapped in light as with a garment.**

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;

**may the Lord rejoice in his works –**

who looks on the earth and it trembles,

**who touches the mountains and they smoke.**

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

**I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

May my meditation be pleasing to my God,

**for I rejoice in the Lord.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

**Praise the Lord!**

**\*OPENING HYMN #1**

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

*Book of Common Worship*

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.  
I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved eternally.  
**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 #70** "What Does the Lord Require of You?"

**SCRIPTURE READING**           Jonah 1-4 selected verses  
This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**ANTHEM #625**                "O Lord My God (How Great Thou Art)"     *arr. by Fred Bock*

**SERMON**                        "Reluctant Prophets"                        *Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #839**     "Blessed Assurance"

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

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.  
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our  
daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new  
heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

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

**MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP**    *Martha Tillen*

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**                        "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"     *arr. by C. Converse*

**\*DOXOLOGY #649**     "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

**\*PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #300**    "They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love"

**\*BLESSING & SENDING**                        Romans 8:39

May you go from this place in peace, knowing we are all new creations in Christ.  
**May we go from this place in joy, knowing we are free to serve the kingdom of  
God and not the conformities of the world.**  
And may you go from this place in love, reminded that nothing you have done, or  
will ever do, will ever separate you from the love of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

"Finlandia"

*Sibelius*

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THANKS TO GARY HAVENS!** Thanks to Gary Havens for playing for us today.

**CHURCH LUNCHEON & TOWN HALL NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27** There will be a church luncheon & town hall next Sunday, October 27, immediately following worship.  
**Please RSVP to the office** at [stauntonfirst@gmail.com](mailto:stauntonfirst@gmail.com) or 540-886-0704 if you plan to come. Please join us!

**BIBLE STUDY EVERY TUESDAY AT 10AM!** Please join us for Bible Study every Tuesday at 10:00am in the library. Discussions are lively and refreshments are provided. All are welcome. We hope you can join us!

**TRINITY LUNCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** First Presbyterian needs folks to volunteer with Trinity Lunch every two months on the 2nd Thursday of the month. Please contact Heidi at [stauntonfirst@gmail.com](mailto:stauntonfirst@gmail.com) or 540-886-0704 if you can help. Thank you!

**SACRA ANNUAL MEETING** You're invited to the Annual Meeting of the Staunton Augusta Church Relief Association. **When:** Wednesday, October 30, 3:30pm  
**Where:** Covenant Presbyterian Church **Why:** To hear reports on work done over the past year; to express appreciation to our volunteers; to elect a new class of members to the Board of Stewards; to elect officers; to approve a budget; to ask questions about the work of SACRA; and to share in fellowship with other area churches with whom you share this ministry. All are welcome!

**Prayer List**

Please send out prayers for: Family of Julie Furr; Sidney & Eleanor Supple; family of Craig Peterson; Shelia and Jim Fox; Martha Manning; Celia Goble; Jim Cooke; Collin Parrish

*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.*