

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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Facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchStaunton

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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.



26th Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2024

11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE #376

“When All Is Ended”

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

INTROIT #351

“All Who Love and Serve Your City”

WORDS OF PRAISE

Psalm 28:6-9

Dick Cox

Blessed be the Lord,
for God has heard the sound of our pleading.
The Lord is our strength and our shield;
in God our hearts trust;
so we are helped, and our hearts exult,
and with our songs we give thanks to the Lord.

The Lord is the strength of his people;
God is the saving refuge of his anointed.
O save your people and bless your heritage;
be our shepherd and carry us forever.

***OPENING HYMN #353** “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

***OPENING PRAYER**

Searcher of hearts, you have known us from the beginning. You see in us more good and beauty than we have dared to believe. Forever you call us by name. And yet, we turn from you time and time again. We do not listen for the voices on the margins. We turn a blind eye to the injustice of our neighbors. Lord, forgive us of our brokenness in this broken world. Fill us with your grace. Reveal to us your love and mercy through this, our act of worship, once more.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

Hear the Good News! God does have mercy upon us, and Jesus is our inspiration for such mercy. In the name of Christ Jesus, 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 #70** "What Does the Lord Require of You?"

SCRIPTURE READING

Amos 5 selected verses

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM #625

"How Great Thou Art"

Eddie Homes, soloist

SERMON

"Encountering the Lion"

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #459**

"O Word of God Incarnate"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Confession of Belhar (1986)

We believe...

- **that the church must stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;**
- **that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged;**
- **that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal P. 35

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Cindy Cooke

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY #839

"Blessed Assurance"

Eddie Homes, soloist

***DOXOLOGY #649**

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

***CLOSING HYMN #339**

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

***BLESSING & SENDING**

Go forth into the world to tell the good news of Jesus Christ in all you do. May the power of the Holy Spirit give you wisdom and courage to do the work and service that is on your hearts. May the Word of Christ give you the words to speak on his behalf. And may the love of God bless you now and forever more.

Alleluia! Amen.

***POSTLUDE #400**

"I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say"

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY DECORATING NIGHT ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26! Volunteers are needed to assist with decorating the sanctuary for Advent on Tuesday, November 26. Pizza will be served at 6:00pm, and decorating will begin afterward. Please contact Mary Meade if you have questions. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS LUNCH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 Our annual Christmas Lunch will take place on Sunday, December 8, immediately following worship. **Please RSVP to the office** at stauntonfirst@gmail.com or 540-886-0704 if you plan to come. Please join us!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS It's that time of year again! If you would like to remember or honor a loved one at Christmas, we will have the poinsettias again during the advent season. Please see the insert in the bulletin by which you can give the name or names of the person(s) you wish to remember. Then put your check in the collection plate and mark it "Christmas flowers." The deadline for donating, and to be published in our bulletin insert, is **Monday, November 25**. Thank you for helping our sanctuary look beautiful during this special season!

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE AND MEAL SUN., NOV. 24 @ 3PM All are invited to Third Presbyterian Church (1313 Barterbrook Rd.) for an opportunity to give thanks and share in a fellowship meal with our Presbyterian partners in ministry! All food will be provided by the church. RSVP to either church by Nov. 22nd.

Prayer List

Please send out prayers for: Helen Wood; Family of Sidney Supple; Eleanor Supple; Celia Goble; Jim Cooke; Collin Parrish; Danny Anson

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.