

**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.



**Baptism of the Lord**

**January 12, 2025 @ 11:00am**

**A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**PRELUDE #480**

“Take Me to the Water”

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

**INTROIT #476**

“Crashing Waters at Creation”

**WORDS OF PRAISE**

Psalm 29 selected verses

*Dick Cox*

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God’s name,

**Worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;

**The God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.**

The voice of the Lord is powerful,

**The voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #482**

“Baptized in Water”

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**Holy God, you sent your Son to be baptized among sinners, to seek and save the lost. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from our sisters and brothers in Christ. May we, who have been baptized in his name, never turn away from the world, but reach out in love to rescue the wayward; by the mercy of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE**

The good news is this: while we continue to fall time and time again, Christ is there to lift us up. Today know that we are loved as children of God; we are forgiven in Christ Jesus.

**Thanks be to God!**

**\*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 #137**

“He Came Down”

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Matthew 3

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**ANTHEM #164**

“Down Galilee's Slow Roadways”

**SERMON**

“Baptismal Call”

*Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #408**

“There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

**INSTALLATION OF ELDERS**

*Lisa Caywood, Cindy Cooke, Eddie Homes, Barbara Richardson, & Sharon Wilson*

**PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS**

**PRAYER & DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY #279**

“Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove”

**\*DOXOLOGY #606**

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

**\*PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #688**

“Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

**\*BLESSING & SENDING**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us.

**Christ, be in our hearts.**

May the love of God surround us.

**God, be in our minds.**

May the Spirit move throughout our lives.

**Spirit, breathe on us new life today and forever more.**

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*POSTLUDE #409**

“God is Here!”

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS** will take place today, Sunday, January 12, during worship.

**THE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE WILL MEET** today, Sunday, January 12, at 12:15pm in the library.

**THE CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE WILL MEET** Monday, January 13, at 10:30am in the library.

**SESSION WILL MEET** Tuesday, January 14, at 5:15pm in the library.

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** The deadline for submissions for the February 2025 issue of First Impressions is Thursday, January 16. Thank you!

***Prayer List***

Please send out prayers for: Family of Eleanor Supple; Jim Cooke; Collin Parrish; Danny Anson; Junior and Sandra Rush

*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.*