

Elders

Class of 2025

Hugh Sproul, Property
Barbara Richardson, Congregational Life

Class of 2026

Susie Lendermon, Mission & Outreach
Martha Tillen, Worship
Cindy Cooke, Administration

Class of 2027

Lisa Caywood, Congregational Life
Eddie Homes, Discipleship
Sharon Wilson, Mission & Outreach

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

Sound & Video

Sam Clem

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.



Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025 @ 11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

"Smile"

Music by Charles Chaplin, © 1954 Bourne Inc.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

INTROIT #416

"O Come unto the Lord"

WORDS OF PRAISE

Psalm 32 selected verses

Cindy Cooke

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Let us worship our God!

***OPENING HYMN #166** "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

***OPENING PRAYER**

Our gracious heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against heaven and against you. In our stubbornness, we have gone our own ways, and failed to stay near you. We confess our transgressions, O Lord. Set us free from all self-deceit. Forgive the guilt of our sin, that we may be a joyous people, and praise you with loud cries of deliverance.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE** 2 Corinthians 5:17

From now on, brothers and sisters, we regard no one from a human point of view. If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation: Everything old has passed away. See, everything has become new! All of this is from God, who is reconciled to us through Christ.

Believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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 #555** "O Lamb of God"

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 15:11-32

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM #418 "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling"

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

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #649** "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *A Brief Statement of Faith* *Unison*

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 & THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY #834 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

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

***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

***CLOSING HYMN #157** "I Danced in the Morning"

***BLESSING & SENDING** Ephesians 2:8

For by grace...

For by grace we have been saved through faith...

...and this is not our own doing;

...not our own doing; it is the gift of God...

...the gift of God.

Amen.

***POSTLUDE #661** "His Eye Is on the Sparrow"

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY TODAY are in loving memory of Nancy Carey.

MEMORIAL EASTER FLOWERS If you would like to donate flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one this Easter season and beautify our sanctuary, please fill out the insert provided in today week's bulletin (also available in the church office), and drop it in the offering plate or give it to Heidi in the office. You will be able to take home a pot of flowers after the service on Easter morning. Thank you!

SPECIAL OFFERING TO SUPPORT MASSANETTA SPRINGS CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER Over the next few Sundays (March 16-April 13), we will be collecting donations to support a new building facility at Massanetta Springs Camp & Conference Center. Their campaign, "Building a Place for All", will be supported by your Session by matching your gifts dollar for dollar to maximize your generosity. This new facility will impact every aspect of Massanetta's ministry in a positive way.

Checks can be made out to "First Presbyterian", with "Massanetta Springs Camp & Conference Center" in the memo line.

- Thank you, Mission & Outreach Committee

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION APRIL 13TH All are invited to celebrate Palm Sunday with a parade! Members of local churches will all gather at the front lawn of Trinity Episcopal Church (214 W. Beverley St.) at 9:45am on April 13th. From there we will parade with palms toward St. Francis Catholic Church, where the members of First Presbyterian will split off as we head to our own worship service.

Interested in joining the fun? RSVP with Pastor Jeff to walk over together.

MARY BALDWIN UNIVERSITY CHOIR CONCERT The MBU Choir will perform in our sanctuary on Wednesday, April 2 at 7:00pm. We hope you can be there!

Prayer List

Please send out prayers for: Family of Nancy Carey; Family of Stephany Morgan; Mona Tate; Paul Goble; Jim Cooke; Molly Cox; Collin Parrish; Danny Anson; Hani Baramki; Simon Marsh; family of Robert Olivera

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.