

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, Pastor
Dr. Renee Huff, Minister of Music
Heidi Marsh, Office Manager

Buildings & Grounds

John & Teresa Sheaves

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.



23rd Sunday after Pentecost

November 16th, 2025 @ 11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

"He Leadeth Me" *Dr. Renee Huff*
words by William Bradbury; arr. by Roger Bennett © 1998 Pilot Point Music

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

INTROIT

"Ye Holy Angels Bright"
words by Richard Baxter (1615-1691) and Rev. John Hampden Gurney (1802-1862),
Music by John Darwell (1715-1789)

WORDS OF PRAISE

Iona Abbey Worship Book

Amanda Avery

The world belongs to God,
The earth and all its people.
How good it is, how wonderful,
To live together in unity.
Love and faith come together,
Justice and peace join hands.
If Christ's disciples keep silent
These stones would shout aloud.
Open our lips, O God,
And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

***OPENING HYMN #839** *"Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!"*

***OPENING PRAYER**

Unison

We seek your presence, O God, not because we have managed to see clearly or been true in all things this day, not because we have succeeded in loving or in reverencing those around us, but because we want to see with clarity, because we long to be true, because we desire to love as we have been loved. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE** *Isaiah 12:1-2*
You will say in that day: I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, and you comforted me.
Surely God is our salvation; we will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is our strength and our might; God has become our salvation.
Thanks be to God!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #583** “Glory to God”

SCRIPTURE READINGS Genesis 32 selected verses
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM “O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”
words by George Matheson, 1882; music by Albert Lister Peace, 1884 © 2000 Hal Leonard Corp.

SERMON “Wrestling with God” *Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #81** “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Iona Abbey Worship Book* *Unison*
With the whole church...
We affirm that we are made in God’s image, befriended by Christ, empowered by the Spirit.
With people everywhere...
We affirm God’s goodness at the heart of humanity, planted more deeply than all that is wrong.
With all creation...
We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life; the unfolding purposes of God, forever at work in ourselves and the world.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT *Martha Tillen*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

***DOXOLOGY #606** “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

***CLOSING HYMN #268** “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

***BLESSING & SENDING**
O great God, grant us your light.
O great God, grant us your grace.
O great God, grant us your joy this day,
And let us be made pure in the well of your health.
Go out into the world to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia! Amen.

***POSTLUDE** “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”
arr. by Dorothy Strohman & John W. Schaum © 1976 Straum Pub.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
SALVATION ARMY RED KETTLE CAMPAIGN First Presbyterian is asking for donations for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign. If you would like to donate, please make your check out to First Presbyterian Church with “Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign” in the memo line. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS If you would like to remember or honor a loved one at Christmas, we will have the poinsettias again during the advent season. An insert is in the bulletin (through November 23) by which you can give the name or names of the person(s) you wish to remember. Then put your check (made out to First Presbyterian Church) in the collection plate and mark it “Christmas flowers.” Deadline for donating, and to be published in our bulletin insert, is **Monday, 11/24.**

SANCTUARY DECORATING Everyone is encouraged to attend our decorating party on **Tuesday, November 25 at 6:00pm.** We will enjoy some pizza together and then get to work with the greenery and bows! This is always a jolly and enjoyable evening. If you need a ride call Martha at 540-290-9604. Remember; many hands make light work, especially at Christmas!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE TOMORROW The deadline for submissions for the December 2025 issue of First Impressions is **tomorrow, Monday, November 17.** Please submit any info you would like to include by then. Thank you!

Prayer List

Please send out prayers for: Cindy Sokol; family of Trish and Ari Causey & SCA; Ron Lowman; Fay Knicley; Mary Meade; Molly Cox; Mona Tate; Sandra; 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.