

Elders

Class of 2026

Cindy Cooke, Administration
Sherry Cox, Worship
Martha Tillen, Clerk

Class of 2027

Eddie Homes, Congregational Life
Sharon Wilson, Mission & Outreach
Mark Shore, Administration

Class of 2028

Donna Goble, Mission & Outreach
Robin Knott, Congregational Life
Mary Meade, Worship

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



1st Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026 @ 11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE #619 "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" *Dr. Renee Huff*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

INTROIT #614 "Great Are You, Lord"

WORDS OF PRAISE *Book of Common Worship* *Donna Goble*

For forty days and nights the rain fell, and the waters covered the face of the earth.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

For forty years the people wandered, seeking the land of God's promise.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Moses spent forty days on the mountain, learning the commandments of God.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness to hear the voice of God in the silence.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh: Repent, or in forty days you will perish.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days and was tested by the devil.

Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

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

OPENING PRAYER Psalm 32:1-5

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.

While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

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.

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Psalm 32:6,11

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

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

By God's grace we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE #604 "Lamb of God"

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 4:1-11

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM "I Wouldn't Take Nothing for My Journey Now" Chancel Choir
by Rusty Goodman and Jimmie Davis, © 1964 Jimmie Davis Music

SERMON "Wilderness" Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #824 "There Is a Place of Quiet Rest"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Matthew 5 Unison

We are the salt of the earth. We are the light of the world. We are entrusted with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ. As the church, we are witnesses by both word and deed.

As the church, we proclaim that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered sin and death.

We declare ourselves ready to venture out on the road of obedience and reconciliation – servants of the God who wishes to bring about justice and true peace for the world.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER Hymnal pg. 35

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Yield Not to Temptation"
by Horatio R. Palmer, 1868

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

*PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

*CLOSING HYMN #840 "When Peace Like a River"

*BLESSING & SENDING

May the Spirit of the triune God strengthen and sustain you,

all throughout these forty days and into the life that is to come.

Go in peace, proclaiming the message of reconciliation God has entrusted to us.

Amen.

POSTLUDE "Bring Them In"

by Alexcenah Thomas, 1885 & William Ogden, 1885

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MANY THANKS FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE A most sincere thank you to all who donated to our special collection for WARM. \$730 was collected!

Prayer List

Please send out prayers for: Brian, Jennifer, and Forrest Knott; Robin Knott; Ron Lowman; Fay Knicley; Molly Cox; Mona Tate; Martha Manning; Cindy & Randy Powers; Ruby Dowdy; Jill & Gerry Long; 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.