

Elders

Class of 2026

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

Class of 2027

Eddie Homes, Congregational Life
Sharon Wilson, Mission & Outreach

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 E. Frederick Street, Staunton, VA 24401

540-886-0704; stauntonfirst@gmail.com

www.1stpres-staunton.org

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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.



August 16, 2026 @ 11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE

Arcangelo Corelli, Prelude in E minor
Kathy Halvorson, oboe; Aleksandra Velgosha, piano

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder

INTROIT

"I Call You to Praise"

Dr. Renee Huff

by John G Elliott, © 1989 BMG Songs Inc. & Pamela Kay Music

WORDS OF PRAISE

Psalm 133:1-3

Cindy Cooke

How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.
It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the LORD ordained his blessing,
life forevermore.

***OPENING HYMN #401**

"Here In This Place"

***OPENING PRAYER**

Gracious God, we have feared and doubted, even after having seen your mighty works in us and around us. We have feared the unknown outcomes of our lives, and we have doubted your promise never to leave us or forsake us within such uncertainty. We have ruminated anxiously on things that worry us, rather than trusting your promise to work all things for good.

By your Spirit, grant us faith, that we may demonstrate our trust in you by being at peace, even when the world is in turmoil. May our fears and doubts be transformed once again in your presence to hope and faith.

***ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE**
Friends, the good news is that because of God’s unending grace, and because of Christ’s unfailing love, we are forgiven time and time again.
Thanks be to God!

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

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #593** “Holy, Holy” *vv. 1 & 4*

SCRIPTURE READING Job 19
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM J. S. Bach, "Vergnügte Ruh, beliebte Seelenlust" from Cantata 170
Angela Young Smucker, mezzo-soprano; Aleksandra Velgosha, piano

SERMON “Lament and Hope” *Rev. Dr. Jeff Binder*

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #435** “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (1983) *Unison*
In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.
With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Derek Bell, "Nocturne on an Icelandic Melody"
Kathy Halvorson, oboe; Aleksandra Velgosha, piano

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

***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

***CLOSING HYMN #838** “Standing on the Promises” *vv. 1, 2, 4,& 5*

***BLESSING & SENDING** Joshua 1:9
Be strong and courageous!
May we not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord our God is with us wherever we go.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia! Amen.

POSTLUDE Sergei Rachmaninoff, Prelude in D-flat major, Op. 32 No. 12
Aleksandra Velgosha, piano
+++

ANNOUNCEMENTS
WELCOME STAUNTON MUSIC FESTIVAL! We are so glad to have Staunton Music Festival playing in worship today.
THE STAUNTON MUSIC FESTIVAL WILL PERFORM FREE CONCERTS IN OUR SANCTUARY at noon on August 18-22. All are welcome! We hope you can join us.
POWER UP OUR COMMUNITY: JOIN THE AUGUST FOOD PROTEIN DRIVE You can help! A Food Protein Drive in support of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank is taking place all of this month. Protein is an essential, but often expensive, part of a healthy diet. Collection bins for shelf-stable items (peanut butter, canned meats/fish, beans, stews) are in the sanctuary narthex and in the lobby of the Fraser building. Thank you for your support and generosity! (NO GLASS CONTAINERS, PLEASE)
- The Mission & Outreach Committee

THE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER is tomorrow, Monday, August 17.
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR SANCTUARY DOORS Session has approved a Capital Campaign concluding Labor Day weekend. We ask that you prayerfully consider a contribution toward restoring the sanctuary doors. Gifts can be made by check to First Presbyterian Church, with “Sanctuary Door Campaign” written in the memo section. Thank you!
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!

Prayer List
Please send out prayers for: Family of Fay Knicley; Molly Cox; Mona Tate; Kim Young; Timmy Plummer; Mary-Faye Sproul Browning; Ben Rice; Frank Villafana; Betty Patton
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.