

## Welcome!

Whether you are a long-time member, occasional worshiper, or new visitor with us, we hope that in this service you will encounter the living Christ and be strengthened by God's promises for you. Please visit our website at [covenantpresstaunton.org](http://covenantpresstaunton.org) to learn more about our ministries and Covenant life together. We are happy to have you as part of our church family today! May God grant you comfort and peace through these challenging days. Stay safe and be well. Blessings!

The flowers today are given by Charlie and Mary Huppuch  
in memory of their parents.

### COVENANT CHURCH DIRECTORY

PASTOR.....John C. Peterson  
 ASSOCIATE PASTOR .....Sarah Wolf  
 DIRECTOR OF YOUTH.....Laura Lawson  
 MINISTER OF MUSIC.....Jeffrey Ryman  
 ORGANIST.....Christopher Wszalek  
 HANDBELL DIRECTOR.....Lou Dolive  
 DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MUSIC.....Joan Swift  
 DEVELOPMENTAL PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR.....Mitzi White  
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT.....Martha Pierce  
 TREASURER.....Paul Sorrell  
 COVENANT NURSE.....Kathy Henderson  
 CUSTODIAN.....Cleo Holly

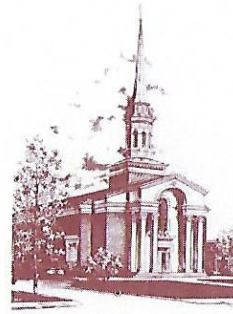
### SESSION MEMBERS

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Rebecca Allison	Sarah Brodie	Anne Bell
Janie Ballurio	Katie Campbell	Elissa McDonald
Richard Beard	Christy Davis	Michael Norris
Thom Jennings	Kent Diduch	Janice Rockwell
Kevin Luebke	Ron Ramsey	John Sayers
Kristin Siegel	Peggy Roberson	Louise Scott
Jane Wimmer	Brandan Sommerfield	Tad Shuey

**CHURCH OFFICE:** 8:15 am to 3:15 pm, Monday – Thursday  
8:15 am to 12:15 pm, Friday



2001 NORTH COALTER STREET  
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA • 885-2138



# Covenant Presbyterian Church

Striving to be Faithful Disciples of Christ:  
Worshipping with Joy, Growing in Faith, Serving in Love

OCTOBER 25, 2020  
REFORMATION SUNDAY

10:30 AM

### STRIVING TO BE FAITHFUL DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

PRELUDE

### WORSHIPING WITH JOY

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind.

**People: And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.**

Leader: Drawn by love, we come, to offer our whole selves  
in Christ's service.

**People: Let us worship the Lord!**

HYMN #275 – *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

***A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.***

***Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.***

***For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.***

***His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.***

***Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,  
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.***

***Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he.***

***Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,  
and he must win the battle.***

***And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.***

***The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him.***

***His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure.***

***One little word shall fell him.***

(continued)

***That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.  
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still.  
His kingdom is forever.***

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O God, we know your greatest commandment. And yet, we are so slow to act upon it. When we encounter neighbors in need, we are quick to pass judgment. When we see your children suffering, we are too busy, too weary to respond. When we see unjust systems that strip others of dignity, we believe we are powerless to effect change. Whenever we do not treat our neighbors as ourselves, we do not love you fully. Forgive us, Lord. Transform our hearts, restore our souls, and renew our minds, so that we might be faithful to your commandments. Lord, hear our prayer . . . (silent confession) . . . Amen.

**DECLARATION OF PARDON**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE—Hymn #437**

***You are the Lord, giver of mercy!  
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!  
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!***

**GROWING IN FAITH**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**PRAYER**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON.....Psalm 1**

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON.....Matthew 22:34-46**

**Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.**

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON.....SARAH WOLF**

***"GOD DON'T MAKE NO JUNK"***

**MUSICAL REFLECTION**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — From the Confession of Belhar**

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end. We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another. We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for

the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain. We believe that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity, and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted. To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory forever and ever.

**HYMN #203 (Stanzas 1-3) – Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love**

***REFRAIN: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love; show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.***

***Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
silently washes their feet,  
Master who acts as a slave to them. (REFRAIN)***

***Neighbors are wealthy and poor,  
varied in color and race;  
neighbors are near us and far away. (REFRAIN)***

***These are the ones we should serve;  
these are the ones we should love;  
all these are neighbors to us and you. (REFRAIN)***

**SERVING IN LOVE**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (...“sins”)**

**OFFERING**

**FOUR CENTS PER MEAL**

**OFFERTORY**

**PRAYER**

**HYMN #526 (Stanza 1) – Lord, Make Us More Holy**

***Lord, make us more holy; Lord, make us more holy;  
Lord, make us more holy, until we meet again:  
Holy, holy, holy, until we meet again.***

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

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