

## 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!*

### COVENANT CHURCH DIRECTORY

PASTOR.....John C. Peterson  
 ASSOCIATE PASTOR.....Rachel Watson  
 MINISTER OF MUSIC.....Jeffrey Ryman  
 ORGANIST.....Christopher Wszalek  
 HANDBELL DIRECTOR.....Lou Dolive  
 DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MUSIC.....Kat McLean  
 DEVELOPMENTAL PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR.....Mitzi White  
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT.....Martha Pierce  
 TREASURER.....Paul Sorrell  
 COVENANT NURSE.....Kathy Henderson  
 CUSTODIAN.....Cleo Holly

### SESSION MEMBERS

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Eileen Cooper	Cindy Bowman	Tom Bellamy
Chris Earhart	Brandon Cline-Taskey	Tom Brooks
Kristen Lambert	Mandy Drumheller	Melissa Druff
Sue Morley	Linda Foster	Jacki Dull
Roderic Owen	Joan Sayers	Donna Hamric
Sarah Splaun	Randy Smith	Sam Hostetter
Dan Summers- Minette	Seth Ward	David Stahl



# Covenant Presbyterian Church

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

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FEBRUARY 11, 2024  
 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

10:30 AM

*As we prepare our hearts and minds for worship, please silence any mobile devices.  
 This service is live streamed on Facebook.*

### STRIVING TO BE FAITHFUL DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

PRELUDE.....Rorem  
*No Darkness at All*

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT.....KINGSFOLD  
*The Mighty God with Power Speaks*

### WORSHIPING WITH JOY

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Do you see it? In fire and cloud our God appears:

**People: The glory of the Lord settles over us.**

Leader: Do you hear it? A voice thunders from heaven:

**People: "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him."**

Leader: Open your eyes. Unstop your ears.

We are gathered on holy ground.

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

\*HYMN No. 666.....PUER NOBIS NASCITUR  
*O Splendor of God's Glory Bright*



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 STAUNTON, VIRGINIA • 885-2138

\*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory and light, we confess that we fail to live with the wonder of who you are and who you call us to be. We make ourselves busy with many things and neglect to hear your voice. We see the worst in the world around us and look past your signs of hope. We are tempted to keep our experience of you safe in a building and fail to share your love and grace with our neighbors. Forgive us when we are complacent and comfortable. Open our eyes and hearts that we might be transformed by your light. Give us courage to hear your call and go out to share the wonder of your love and hope with all. Lord, hear our prayer . . . (silent confession) . . . Amen.

\*DECLARATION OF PARDON

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE — Hymn No. 2143

O Lord, your tenderness, melting all my bitterness;  
O Lord, I receive your love.  
O Lord, your loveliness, changing my unworthiness;  
O Lord, I receive your love.  
O Lord, I receive your love; O Lord, I receive your love.

ANTHEM.....Alpha Choir

*Praise Him, Hallelujah!*

Arranged by Anna Laura Page & Jean Anne Shafferman

**GROWING IN FAITH**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE — All children are welcome to come forward. Those parents who prefer their child(ren) not be on camera are welcome to have their child(ren) continue sitting with them during this time. *(Following the Children’s Message, children ages 3-1st grade are invited to exit the sanctuary for Covenant Kids.)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING.....Pg. 639 of the Old Testament, *Pew Bible Psalm 50:1-6*

SECOND READING.....Pg. 54 of the New Testament, *Pew Bible Mark 9:2-9*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON.....RACHEL WATSON

**“HOLY GROUND”**

MUSICAL REFLECTION

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — *Adapted from the Confession of 1967*

God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of human minds. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals God’s love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people. The power of God’s love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God’s love. To that One who by the power at work within us is able to do far more than all we ask or think, to the Lord our God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations. Amen.

\*HYMN No. 189.....DEO GRACIAS

*O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair*

**SERVING IN LOVE**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THE LORD’S PRAYER (...“sins”)

MOMENT FOR MISSION - Blanket Sunday

DEDICATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM.....Rutter

*Be Thou My Vision*

PRAYER

\*HYMN No. 377.....HOUSTON

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*CHORAL RESPONSE.....Harling

*Amen*

POSTLUDE.....Edstrom

*I Saw the Light*

*(Please be seated for the Postlude or exit the sanctuary quietly while the Postlude is being played.)*

\*Those who are able, please stand.

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*Children are always welcome in the Sanctuary during worship. Children’s worship notebooks are available in the Narthex. Should you find that your child grows restless, there is childcare available in the nursery for ages 3 and under.*

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*(Hymns and streaming used by permission One License A-715880)*

HYMN No. 666

*O Splendor of God's Glory Bright*

***O splendor of God's glory bright,  
from light eternal bringing light;  
O Light of Light, light's living spring,  
true Day, all days illumining:***

***Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love,  
rain down your radiance from above,  
and to our inward hearts convey  
the Holy Spirit's cloudless ray.***

***O joyful be the passing day  
with thoughts as clear as morning's ray,  
with faith like noontide shining bright,  
our souls unshadowed by the night.***

***O Lord, with each returning morn,  
your image to our heart is born;  
O may we ever clearly view  
our Savior and our God in you.***

HYMN No. 189

*O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair*

***O wondrous sight, O vision fair  
of glory that the church shall share,  
which Christ upon the mountain shows,  
where brighter than the sun he glows!***

***From age to age the tale declare,  
how with the three disciples there,  
where Moses and Elijah meet,  
the Lord holds converse high and sweet.***

***The law and prophets there have place,  
two chosen witnesses of grace;  
the Father's voice from out the cloud  
proclaims his only Son aloud.***

***With shining face and bright array  
Christ deigns to manifest today  
what glory shall be theirs above  
who joy in God with perfect love.***

***And faithful hearts are raised on high  
by this great vision's mystery,  
for which in joyful strains we raise  
the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.***

HYMN No. 377

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

***I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.***

***Refrain:  
In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

***I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. (Refrain)***

***I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. (Refrain)***