

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 to learn more about our ministries and Covenant life together. We are happy to have you as part of our church family today!

The flowers are given today by Ron Ramsey in honor of his mother, Helen Ramsey and in memory of his father, Granville Ramsey.

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

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

APRIL 21, 2024

10:30 AM

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*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.....Mayo

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT.....THE COVENANT RINGERS

Fanfare and Intrada - Jason Krug

WORSHIPING WITH JOY

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 80)

Leader: O Divine Shepherd, give ear to our prayers!

People: In your great might, come and save us!

Leader: Restore us, O God!

Let your face shine that we may be saved!

People: Give us life, and we will call on your name!

*HYMN No. 263.....CORONATION

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



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*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our Savior, we confess that we are weak in faith, timid in spirit, and fickle in faithfulness. Your good news is strangely silent on our lips. Love for our neighbors is rarely evident in our lives. Joy in our living is muted by old grudges, new worries, and persistent pessimism. Forgive us. Touch us with your Spirit, and inspire us to share your good news with the world in bold words, loving actions, and joyful lives. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer . . . (silent confession) . . . Amen

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE — Hymn No. 234, Stanza 2
'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ has burst his prison, and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has risen. All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying from the light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

ANTHEM.....THE COVENANT RINGERS w/ Diane Harrington, Flute
Psalm - Kevin McChesney

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.)*

FIRST READING.....Pg. 292 of the New Testament, Pew Bible
I John 3:18-24

SECOND READING.....Pg. 147 of the New Testament, Pew Bible
Acts 4:1-22

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON.....JOHN PETERSON
"HOW CAN I KEEP FROM...?"

MUSICAL REFLECTION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — *The Apostles' Creed*
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again

from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

*HYMN No. 821.....Lowry
How Can I Keep from Singing?

SERVING IN LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER (... "sins")

DEDICATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM.....Tschesnokoff
Salvation Is Created
(This anthem comes from the Orthodox tradition in Kiev, Ukraine)

PRAYER

*HYMN No. 462.....HANKEY
I Love to Tell the Story

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE.....TALLIS' CANON
Go With Us Lord

POSTLUDE.....Whitsett
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
(Please be seated for the Postlude or exit the sanctuary quietly while the Postlude is being played.)

**Those who are able, please stand.*

Children are always welcome in the Sanctuary during worship. Children's worship folders 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.

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

HYMN No. 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

*All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!*

*Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!*

*Let every kindred, every tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!*

*O that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all!*

HYMN No. 821

How Can I Keep from Singing?

*My life flows on in endless song,
above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.*

Refrain:

*No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?*

*Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? (Refrain)*

*What though my joys and comforts die?
I know my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth. (Refrain)*

*The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? (Refrain)*

HYMN No. 462

I Love to Tell the Story

*I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else could do.*

Refrain:

*I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.*

*I love to tell the story;
'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it,
more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard
the message of salvation
from God's own holy Word. (Refrain)*

*I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it, like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story
that I have loved so long. (Refrain)*