

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)

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 today are given in honor of Bridget Elizabeth Kane's graduation from Staunton High School and her birthday on May 28th from Granny (Martha Ware).

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

MAY 19, 2024
 PENTECOST

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.....Raney
Reflections on the Spirit
 JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION
 INTROIT.....The Covenant Ringers
Festivamente - Malcolm C. Wilson

WORSHIPING WITH JOY

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 104)
 Leader: Many are your works, Creator God!
 In your wisdom, you made them all!
People: All creatures look to you and you sustain them with good things!
 Leader: With your Spirit, they are created and the earth renewed!
People: We will sing praise to God all our life!

*HYMN No. 611.....HYMN TO JOY
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee



2001 NORTH COALTER STREET
 STAUNTON, VIRGINIA • 885-2138

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Renewing God, we confess that we are quick to limit you to what we can understand and control. We leave no room in our lives for your Spirit to transform us. We speak and behave as if being a part of your family means assimilating others to our way of living, confusing unity with uniformity and diversity with divisiveness. Forgive us, Lord. Set your Spirit loose among us. Challenge us, surprise us, and open us to your transformative power, that we might know you more deeply, follow you more faithfully, and love more fully. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer . . . (silent confession) . . . Amen.

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE — Hymn No. 288

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

ANTHEM.....The Covenant Ringers

Wade in the Water - arr. Benjamin Tucker

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. 62 of the Old Testament, *Pew Bible Exodus 3:1-12*

SECOND READING.....Pg. 144 of the New Testament, *Pew Bible Acts 2:1-21*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON.....**RACHEL WATSON**

“ON FIRE”

MUSICAL REFLECTION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us

through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls all people to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!” Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN No. 726.....KELVINGROVE

The Summons

SERVING IN LOVE

RECOGNITION OF CONFIRMANDS

HYMN No. 2226 — *Bind Us Together*

**REFRAIN: Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken.**

**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord,
Bind us together in love.**

There is only one God, there is only one King;

There is only one body, that is why we sing. REFRAIN

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

PENTECOST OFFERING

DEDICATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM.....Halloran

Witness

PRAYER

*HYMN No. 539.....Donaldson

We Will Go Out with Joy

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE.....Danish

Amen

POSTLUDE.....Raney

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

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

**Those who are able, please stand.*

Today we welcome into membership the following confirmands:

*Noah Cheek, Reagan Gwaltney, Garrett Kane,
Mason Lawson, and Chase Martin.*

HYMN No. 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.*

*All thy works with joy surround thee;
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.*

*Mortals, join the happy chorus
which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.*

HYMN No. 726

The Summons

*“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”*

*“Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”*

*Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

HYMN No. 539

We Will Go Out with Joy

*We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.
We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.*

*Refrain:
Alleluia! We will go out with joy.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Now anyone who's born of the Spirit,
sing a new song of joy.
Now anyone who's born of the Spirit,
sing a new song of joy. (Refrain)*

*We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.
We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God. (Refrain)*