

Bringing forward the communion elements this morning are
 Anna Drumheller and Tilghman Gaffney.

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!

COVENANT CHURCH DIRECTORY

PASTOR.....John C. Peterson
 ASSOCIATE PASTOR.....Rachel Watson
 MINISTER OF MUSIC.....Jeffrey Ryman
 ORGANIST.....Christopher Wszalek
 HANDBELL DIRECTOR.....Lou Dolive
 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:
 Worshipping with Joy, Growing in Faith, Serving in Love

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

10:00 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.....Hayes

Sing to the Lord

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

HYMN SING

WORSHIPING WITH JOY

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 96)

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song!

People: Sing to the Lord all the earth!

Leader: Sing to the Lord! Bless God's name!

People: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

*HYMN No. 2074.....ZSCHECH

Shout to the Lord



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 STAUNTON, VIRGINIA • 885-2138

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in life and in death we belong to you, for you have created us and claimed us as your own. Forgive us for resisting your claim upon our lives and rebelling against you. We ignore your commands, serve ourselves while ignoring the needs of our neighbors, tolerate injustice, and rationalize our indifference. We take for granted your salvation in Jesus, and allow his good news to lie silent on our lips and dormant in our hands. Merciful God, forgive us. Stir in us faith and inspire us to live more faithfully, joyfully, and lovingly as heralds of your good news. Lord, hear our prayer . . . (silent confession) . . . Amen

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

**Surely it is God who saves me;
I will trust and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And God will be my Savior.**

GROWING IN FAITH

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING..... Pg. 278 of the New Testament, *Pew Bible James 1:19-25*

SECOND READING.....Pg. 227 of the New Testament, *Pew Bible 2 Corinthians 13:11-14*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMONJOHN PETERSON

"I BELIEVE: A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH"

MUSICAL REFLECTION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — From The Heidelberg Catechism

Q: What is true faith?

A: True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which we hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in us by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ's merit. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen

*HYMN No. 157LORD OF THE DANCE

I Danced in the Morning

SERVING IN LOVE

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

DEDICATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

PRAYER

HYMN No. 526 (Stanzas 1 & 2).....*Let Us Break Bread Together*

**Let us break bread together on our knees;
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

**Let us drink wine together on our knees;
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(We will partake of the Communion elements together after all are served.)

PRAYER

*HYMN No. 700.....*African-American Spiritual*

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE — HYMN No. 582, Stanza 1

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen**

POSTLUDE.....*Hayes*

Lord of the Dance

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

**Those who are able, please stand.*

HYMN No. 2074

Shout to the Lord

***Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
at the sound of your name.***

***I sing for joy at the work of your hands,
forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.***

HYMN No. 157

I Danced in the Morning

***I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.
At Bethlehem I had my birth.***

Refrain:

***Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.***

***I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John.
They came with me and the dance went on. (Refrain)***

***I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame.
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
and left me there on a cross to die. (Refrain)***

***I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on. (Refrain)***

***They cut me down and I leapt up high.
I am the life that will never, never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. (Refrain)***

HYMN No. 700

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

***I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!***

***I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!***

***I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!***

***I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!***