

## 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!

The flowers are given today by Ron Ramsey  
in honor of his mother, Helen Ramsey and her 99th birthday,  
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  
DEVELOPMENTAL PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR..... Mitzi White  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT..... Martha Pierce  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY..... Debby Bibens  
TREASURER..... Paul Sorrell  
COVENANT NURSE..... Kathy Henderson  
CUSTODIAN..... Cleo Holly

### SESSION MEMBERS

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Cindy Bowman	Tom Bellamy	Sally Griffith
Brandon Cline-Taskey	Tom Brooks	Clay Robinson
Mandy Drumheller	Melissa Druff	Bob Stripling
Linda Foster	Jacki Dull	Janet Surratt
Joan Sayers	Donna Hamric	Linda Tenney
Randy Smith	Sam Hostetter	Dori Walk
Seth Ward	David Stahl	Jane Wimmer

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# Covenant Presbyterian Church

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

APRIL 27, 2025

10:30 AM

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
PRESCHOOL SUNDAY

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

### STRIVING TO BE FAITHFUL DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

PRELUDE..... Hayes

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT

### WORSHIPING WITH JOY

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 150)

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise God in this house of worship!

**People: Give praise throughout the universe!**

Leader: Praise God for the saving deeds of Christ!

**People: Give praise for such exceptional love!**

Leader: Let everything that draws breath praise God!

**People: Praise the Lord!**

\*HYMN No. 267..... MADRID

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*



2001 NORTH COALTER STREET  
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA • 885-2138

\*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, we come with praises on our lips to celebrate and claim our place beside you. We confess that we are slow to recognize what it means to be your disciples. We dream of power, but you call us to service. We dream of prestige, but you call us to humble ourselves. We dream of wealth, but you call us to share all that we have. Too often we fail to act justly, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you. Forgive us. Renew our lives and spirits. Transform us so that we may be faithful disciples, serving your people with grace and mercy. Lord, hear our prayer . . . (silent confession) . . . Amen.**

\*DECLARATION OF PARDON

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – Hymn No. 245 (stanza 3)

***Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!  
Where O death is now your sting? Alleluia!  
Jesus died our souls to save; Alleluia!  
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!***

**GROWING IN FAITH**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** — Those 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. 189 of the New Testament, *Pew Bible Romans 6:1-4*

**SECOND READING**.....Pg. 55 of the New Testament, *Pew Bible Mark 9:33-37*

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

**SERMON** .....**RACHEL WATSON**  
**“THAT’S GOOD NEWS”**

**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. 320.....WAREHAM  
*The Church of Christ in Every Age*

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER**

**HOLY BAPTISM OF HALEY TENNEY**

HYMN No. 2226.....*Bind Us Together*  
***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.  
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.***

**SERVING IN LOVE**

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

**FOUR CENTS PER MEAL**

**DEDICATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES**

**OFFERTORY**.....McKibben  
*Through the Love of God, Our Savior*

**PRAYER**

\*HYMN No. 188.....Bradberry  
*Jesus Loves Me*

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – Hymn No. 547, stanza 2  
***“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son’s story;  
here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”***

**POSTLUDE**.....Hayes  
*Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It*  
*(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 Haley Tenney by Profession of Faith.*  
\*\*\*\*\*  
*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.*

HYMN No. 267

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

*Come, Christians, join to sing:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
Loud praise to Christ our King:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice,  
before his throne rejoice;  
praise is his gracious choice:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*Come, lift your hearts on high:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
He is our guide and friend;  
to us he'll condescend;  
his love shall never end:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

*Praise yet our Christ again:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain:  
Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore  
his goodness we'll adore,  
singing forevermore:  
Alleluia! Amen!*

HYMN No. 320

*The Church of Christ in Every Age*

*The church of Christ in every age,  
beset by change but Spirit-led,  
must claim and test its heritage  
and keep on rising from the dead.*

*Across the world, across the street,  
the victims of injustice cry  
for shelter and for bread to eat,  
and never live before they die.*

*Then let the servant church arise,  
a caring church that longs to be  
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,  
and clothed in Christ's humanity.*

*For Christ alone, whose blood was shed,  
can cure the fever in our blood,  
and teach us how to share our bread  
and feed the starving multitude.*

*We have no mission but to serve  
in full obedience to our Lord:  
to care for all, without reserve,  
and spread Christ's liberating word.*

HYMN No. 188

*Jesus Loves Me*

*Jesus loves me! This I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong.  
They are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.*

*Jesus loves me! This I know,  
as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee,  
saying, "Let them come to me."  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.*