

*CHORAL RESPONSE.....CANONBURY
Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak
 POSTLUDE.....Held
The Strife Is O'er
(Please be seated for the Postlude or exit the sanctuary quietly
while the Postlude is being played.)

*Those who are able, please stand.

Bringing forward the communion elements this morning are
Elliott & Greg Bohannon.

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 are given today by the Presbyterian Women's fellowship to glorify God and to honor all the women of the church.

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



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 STAUNTON, VIRGINIA • 885-2138



Covenant Presbyterian Church

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

MAY 4, 2025
 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:30 AM

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.....Held
Come Ye Faithful Raise the Strain

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT.....HYMN TO JOY
Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

WORSHIPING WITH JOY

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 30)

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord, O you faithful ones!

People: Give thanks to God's holy name!

Leader: Weeping may linger for the night,
 but joy comes with the morning!

People: The Lord turns our mourning into dancing!
Praise the Lord!

*HYMN No. 246.....TRURO
Christ Is Alive!

*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, nothing is impossible for you, not even resurrection! Yet we confess we are slow to believe that good news. We harbor nagging doubts and fears. We continue to sin: loving wrongly, living selfishly, and judging self-righteously. Your good news is strangely silent on our lips and in our lives. Forgive us, Lord. Kindle in us faith and faithfulness, that we may live with great hope and joy, proclaiming to the world your good news in the risen Christ. Lord, hear our prayer . . . (silent confession) . . . Amen.

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – Hymn No. 649, stanza 1

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.*

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING.....Pg. 154 of the New Testament, *Pew Bible Acts 9:1-22*

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

SERMONJOHN PETERSON
“NAME-CALLING”

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. 240.....ALLELUIA NO. 1
Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

SERVING IN LOVE

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

MOMENT FOR MISSION

DEDICATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY.....Red
In Remembrance of Me - Diane Harrington, flute

PRAYER

HYMN No. 526 (stanzas 1 & 2)Linstead
Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

*Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy;
bread is broken; the wine is poured;
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.*

*Refrain: Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound! (2x)*

*Christ is able to make us one;
at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express.
Refrain*

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(The Sanctus is Hymn No. 559)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

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

PRAYER

*HYMN No. 157.....LORD OF THE DANCE
I Danced in the Morning

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

(Order of Worship continued on back)

HYMN No. 246
Christ Is Alive!

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.*

*In every insult, rift, and war
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.*

*Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.*

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

HYMN No. 240
Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

*Refrain:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Give praise to his name*

*Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation. (Refrain)*

*Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and has risen. (Refrain)*

*We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live forever. (Refrain)*

*Come let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Savior. (Refrain)*

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)*