

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
 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		Jane Wimmer



Covenant Presbyterian Church

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

OCTOBER 19, 2025

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..... Young
I Love to Tell the Story

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT..... The Covenant Ringers
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name – DIADEM
 by James Ellor – Arr. by Howard Starks

WORSHIPING WITH JOY

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 119)

Leader: Happy are those who seek the Lord with their whole hearts!

People: Happy are those who walk in God's ways!

Leader: The earth is full of God's steadfast love!

People: With joyful hearts, let us praise the Lord!

*HYMN No. 314 (Stanzas 1-2, 5)..... Farrell
Christ, Be Our Light



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*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and glory, we confess that we struggle with faith and faithfulness from time to time. We are distracted by unholy things. We are impatient. We make poor decisions that reflect selfish priorities instead of your faithful path. We ask for divine guidance, but fail to listen for your response, or reject it if it asks too much of us. Merciful God, forgive us. Grant us wisdom and strength to persevere when the way is unclear. Help us to discern your Way, and inspire in us faith, that we may be more faithful day by day. Lord, hear our prayer . . . (silent confession) . . . Amen

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – Hymn No. 439, Stanza 1

***O my soul, bless your Redeemer;
all within me bless God's name;
bless the Savior, and forget not
all God's mercies to proclaim.***

ANTHEM.....The Covenant Ringers
And Can It Be / Love Divine – arr. by Cynthia Dobrinski

GROWING IN FAITH

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING.....Pg. 37 of the Old Testament, *Pew Bible*
Genesis 32:22-31

SECOND READING.....Pg. 260 of the New Testament, *Pew Bible*
2 Timothy 3:14-17

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMONMarney Gibbs, Karen Hanna, Thom Jennings
"WRESTLING WITH GOD"

MUSICAL REFLECTION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*see back of insert*)

*HYMN No. 22.....ROEDER
God of the Sparrow

SERVING IN LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

MOMENT FOR MISSION

DEDICATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY.....Nygard
The Earth Is the Lord's

PRAYER

*HYMN No. 839.....ASSURANCE
Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE.....Rankin/Tomer
God Be with You Till We Meet Again

POSTLUDE.....J.S. Bach
Prelude and Fugue in G Major

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

**Those who are able, please stand.*

LITURGIST: Roderic Owen

*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. 314 (Stanzas 1-2, 5)
Christ, Be Our Light

*Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.*

REFRAIN:
*Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

*Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.
(Refrain)*

*Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.
(Refrain)*

HYMN No. 22
God of the Sparrow

*God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise*

*God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save*

*God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks*

*God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life*

*God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace*

*God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home*

HYMN No. 839
Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

*Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in His blood.*

REFRAIN:
*This is my story; this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

*Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
(Refrain)*

*Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in His love.
(Refrain)*