

**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!*

**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:  
 Worshiping with Joy, Growing in Faith, Serving in Love

OCTOBER 13, 2024

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.....Scheidt  
*Aus tiefer Not*

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT.....SANDON  
*God of Our Life*

**WORSHIPING WITH JOY**

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 139)

Leader: We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

**People: We need not look far to find God.  
 We need only look around. God is always at hand.**

Leader: With us in the heavens or in the depths, when we are close to home or far away, God is always at hand.

**People: We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.**

\*HYMN No. 411.....DIOS ESTÁ AQUÍ  
*God Is Here Today*



2001 NORTH COALTER STREET  
 STAUNTON, VIRGINIA • 885-2138

\*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, we confess that we are impatient disciples. We are too quick to demand answers to our prayers and too slow to answer the prayers of our neighbors. We are too quick to see unfairness against us and too slow to see our unfairness toward others. We are too quick to secure our own comfort and too slow to share our abundance with those in need. Forgive our frivolous attitude toward life, our callousness toward suffering, and our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure. Help us to change our way of life, so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you call us to do. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer . . . (silent confession) . . . Amen.**

\*DECLARATION OF PARDON

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE — Hymn No. 2176

***Make me a servant, humble and meek,  
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.  
And may the prayer of my heart always be:  
Make me a servant, make me a servant,  
Make me a servant today.***

**GROWING IN FAITH**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING..... Pg. 615 of the Old Testament, *Pew Bible*  
*Psalm 22:1-15*

SECOND READING.....Pg. 580 of the Old Testament, *Pew Bible*  
*Job 23:1-13, 16-17*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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

**“WHERE IS GOD NOW?”**

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. 786.....MORNING SONG  
*Why Stand So Far Away, My God?*

**SERVING IN LOVE**

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

MOMENT FOR MISSION

DEDICATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY.....Temple  
*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

PRAYER

\*HYMN No. 765.....ARGENTINA  
*May the God of Hope Go With Us*

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*CHORAL RESPONSE.....SAN ANSELMO  
*Together We Serve*

POSTLUDE.....Larson  
*God Is Here*

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

*\*Those who are able, please stand.*

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*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.*

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*(Hymns and streaming used by permission One License A-715880)*

HYMN No. 411

*God Is Here Today*

***God is here today;  
as certain as the air I breathe,  
as certain as the morning sun that rises,  
as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.***

***God is here today;  
as certain as the air I breathe,  
as certain as the morning sun that rises,  
as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.***

HYMN No. 786

*Why Stand So Far Away, My God?*

***Why stand so far away, my God?  
Why hide in times of need?  
The proud, unbridled, chase the poor,  
and curse you in their greed.***

***Why do you hide when, full of lies,  
they murder and betray?  
They wait to pounce upon the weak  
as lions stalk their prey.***

***The weak are crushed and fall to earth;  
the wicked strut and preen.  
Why in these cruel, chaotic times  
cannot your face be seen?***

***In ages past you heard the voice  
of those the proud oppress.  
Remember those who suffer now,  
who cry in deep distress.***

***Arise, O God, and lift your hand;  
bring justice to the poor.  
Come, help us stop the flow of blood!  
Let terror reign no more!***

HYMN No. 765

*May the God of Hope Go With Us*

***May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.  
Praying, let us work for peace;  
singing, share our joy with all;  
working for a world that's new,  
faithful when we hear Christ's call.***