

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 today are given by Jim and Susan McClary in memory of Nancy McClary Riedemann and in honor of her birthday, March 16.

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



Covenant Presbyterian Church

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

MARCH 16, 2025
 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

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.....Schwoebel

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

INTROIT.....The Covenant Ringers

Ah Holy Jesus - Johann Crüger, arr. Arnold Sherman

WORSHIPING WITH JOY

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 27)

Leader: The Lord is our light and our salvation!

People: The Lord is our refuge and strength!

Leader: Be strong! Let your hearts take courage!

People: Wait for the Lord! Sing with joy to the Lord our God!

*HYMN No. 35.....LOBE DEN HERREN

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty



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*INVITATION TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess that we are not the people you created us to be, nor the disciples you call us to be. At times we are so heavenly minded that we are no earthly good; at other times we are so earthly minded that we are no heavenly good. We are self-centered and self-righteous. We satisfy our own wants and desires while ignoring the needs of our neighbors. We give in to temptations and sin, rather than standing firm in our faith. In your mercy, forgive us. Stir in us faith and inspire us to be more faithful – day by day by day. Lord, hear our prayer. . . (silent confession) . . .

*KYRIE – Hymn No. 2275

***Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.
Christe, Christe eleison. Christe, Christe eleison.
Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison, eleison.***

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – Hymn No. 215 (stanza 1 alt.)

***What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the heavy cross for my soul.***

ANTHEM.....The Covenant Ringers
O Sacred Head, Now Wounded - arr. M.L. Thompson

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.)*

HOLY BAPTISM OF ELEANOR HOPE STOUFFER

HYMN No. 482 – *Baptized in Water* (Stanza 3)
***Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our King;
born of the Spirit, we are God’s children;
joyfully now God’s praises we sing.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING.....Pg. 620 of the Old Testament, *Pew Bible*
Psalm 27:11-14

SECOND READING.....Pg. 242 of the New Testament, *Pew Bible*
Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON.....JOHN PETERSON

“WHO IS YOUR ROLE MODEL?”

MUSICAL REFLECTION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — *Question 21 of the Heidelberg Catechism*

Q. What is true faith?

A. True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in me 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. 731.....REPTON

Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm

SERVING IN LOVE

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

DEDICATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY.....Sorenson

Rest

PRAYER

*HYMN No. 838.....PROMISES

Standing on the Promises

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE.....African-American Spiritual

Were You There?

POSTLUDE.....Raney

Standing on the Promises

(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 celebrate the holy baptism of
Eleanor Hope Stouffer, daughter of Suzanne and Chuck Stouffer
and granddaughter of Karen Edwards.*

*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. 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

*Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!*

*Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things
so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea,
so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
granted in what he ordaineth?*

*Praise ye the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
gladly for aye we adore him.*

HYMN No. 731

Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm

*Give thanks for those whose faith is firm
when all around seems bleak:
on God's good promise they rely,
so while they live and when they die
how forcefully they speak:
the strong, who once were weak!*

*Give thanks for those whose hope is clear,
beyond mere mortal sight:
who seek the city God has planned,
the true, eternal promised land,
and steer on toward that light,
a beacon ever bright.*

*Give thanks for those whose love is pure,
a sparkling precious stone:
they show by what they say and do
an inward beauty, warm and true,
for God's concerns they own:
God's love through them is known.*

*Give thanks for saints of ages past
and saints alive today:
though often by this world despised,
their hearts by God are richly prized.
Give thanks that we may say
we share their pilgrim way.*

HYMN No. 838

Standing on the Promises

*Standing on the promises of Christ my king,
through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.*

*Refrain:
Standing, standing,
standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.*

*Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God. (Refrain)*

*Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
standing on the promises of God. (Refrain)*

*Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God. (Refrain)*