

STAUNTON CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
*Worshipping Christ with Joy, Living Together in Peace,
and Serving the World with Love.*

11:00 A.M. March 5, 2023

WHEN THERE'S SAFETY IN THE DARKNESS....

Gathering Music

Welcome and Life of the Church

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

One: All are welcome here -----

All: The young and old, those who have visions and those who dream dreams.

One: All are welcome here-----

All: The sinner and saint, those who seek forgiveness and those who long for peace.

One: All are welcome here-----

All: The hurt and doubting, those who know the wilderness and those who feel lost.

One: All are welcome here; for you are loved by God, and this is God's house.

All: Let us worship God. Amen.

***Singing** Here in this place HWB 6
(Verses 1, 2, & 4)

Children's Story Sue Simmons

Choir Anthem When Jesus Wept arr. Philip Kern

Poem The Wilderness is a place of Mystery and Unknown
Sarah Are
Read by Harry Jarrett

***Singing** Longing for light Insert
(Verses 1, 2, & 5)

Scripture Reading John 3:1-17

Sermon When there's safety in the darkness

Unison Prayer of Confession

God, we give you our hearts. They are brimming with doubt and we are saturated with fear, but we give them to you anyway, for you promise to love us as we are. You promise to walk with us to the ends of the earth, so in this moment, we promise to tell the truth.

God, you ask us to be brave and bold, but we cower in fear.

You ask us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we hold tight to privilege and the status quo.

And you ask us to risk it all to follow you, but we are content with the injustices at hand.

Forgive us for our sin and lift our eyes to you. Lift our eyes to the hills. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

***Singing** Holy God Insert
Led by Contemporary Chorus

Sharing and Prayer

Offertory

***Singing** Be thou my vision HWB 545
(verses 1, 2, 4, & 5)

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

**CONTINUING THE WORK OF JESUS PEACEFULLY,
SIMPLY, TOGETHER**

Ministers: All God's People

Gathering Music: Debbie Landes and Mabel Lou Weiss

Worship Leader: Sue Simmons

Director of Music: David MacMillan **Organist:** Crystal Brubaker

Ushers: Paul & Julie Sanger, Catherine Sanger, Isaac Sanger, Chris & Carrie Washington

Nursery Workers: Frank Allman & Nancy Ralston

Caregiving Team Members: Bruce Bowman, Bryan and Ferral Quick, Gail Gregory, Marilyn Garber, Pat Phillips, Ernie and Debbie Landes, and John Wampler

Please Keep In Your Prayers

Pray for Melba Cline, Judy Zdinak, Cleo Simmons, Sue Whisman, Phyllis Lunsford, Charlotte Kennedy, Kenneth Weaver (Sally Shomo's brother), Carrie and Jamie Smith, Norma Shoemaker, Barry and Phyllis Simmons, Judy Cook, Cindi Spitzer, Fred Wilkerson, Jr., George Sullivan, Gaylon Hevener, Nellie Armstrong, Stanley Shackelford, Bill Cline, Rosalie McLear (Shenandoah Nursing), A.J. Sandridge, Jr., Nancy Gehr, and Mattie Marsh Montgomery.

Continue praying for the people of Ukraine and all impacted by the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

*Please contact the church office or the Pastor if you would like to add someone to the prayer list or to remove a name.

STAFF

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Church Website: www.stauntonbrethren.org

The Church Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-2:00 p.m.

Attendances and Offerings, February 26, 2023

Sunday School – 55 Worship – 110

Needed Each Week: \$7,007.25

Offering: 4,331.51 Capital Expenditures Fund: \$100.00
Memorial Fund: \$150.00 Sampson Estate: \$1,089.11
Bittersweet Sponsorship: \$300.00