

“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.”

— Desmond Tutu

“Hope has two beautiful daughters: their names are Anger and Courage.

Anger at the way things are, and Courage to see that they do not remain as they are.”

— St. Augustine (attributed to)

“Fire of God, Wind of God, Spirit of God, purify us in the flame of your mercy, change us by the breath of your power, and take possession of us in the warmth of your love, so that we may rediscover your image in us.”

— Angela Ashwin

“I am going to put breath into you and make you live again.”

— Ezekiel 37:5

If you have a prayer request, please forward the request to the church office. We will include it on the prayer request list for a month, unless you request for us to leave it on longer.

Thanks to our Choir for leading worship singing this morning!



How to reach us:

7305 Hampton Boulevard,
Norfolk, VA 23505 (757) 423-2822
<https://spcnorfolk.org>
www.facebook.com/secondpresbyteriannorfolk

Office hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday:
10:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Sunday:
9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Staff

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Dr. Craig Wansink , <i>Senior Pastor</i> | 757-412-7467/cwansink@vwu.edu |
| Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe , <i>Covenant Associate Pastor</i> | 757-287-9897/revcat@spcnorfolk.org |
| Rev. Nancy Rowland , <i>Parish Associate</i> | 302-354-5880/rowlandnancy73@gmail.com |
| Robert Shoup , <i>Director of Music</i> | 757-739-9444/robertshoup@mac.com |
| Jo Kolb , <i>Director of Administration and Family Ministries</i> | 757-406-0879/jokolb@spcnorfolk.org |
| Tom Libbey , <i>Facility Manager</i> | |
| Joe Morgan , <i>Maintenance Specialist</i> | |
| Heather Libbey , <i>Hostess</i> | |

Mission Partners and Liaisons

Local: HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS

- ForKids**
Chuck Monroe
St. Columba
Alice Allen-Grimes
- LAUNCH Ministry**
Joe Morgan
- The Norfolk Street Choir Project**
Rich Voter

Local: OUTREACH & INCLUSION

- YOURS**
Larry Hull
- Tidewater Pastoral Counseling Services**
Catherine Hart Monroe

INTERNATIONAL

- Ben Seidl in Germany**
Craig Wansink
- The Jungs in Singapore**
Roz Klein and Larry Hull
- Our Partners in M.E.**
Jonathan Doyle

2025 Session and Ministry Teams

Larry Hull, *Clerk of Session*

DISCIPLESHIP

- Emily Byrd
- Lisa Dubey
- Peggy Haile McPhillips, *Chair*
- Linda Parks
- Sandy Simmermon

MISSION

- Jonathan Doyle
- Alice Allen-Grimes, *Chair*
- Wendy Horner

ADMINISTRATION

- Lori Crouch
- Chris Siemering
- Sam Stearns, *Chair*
- Rich Voter

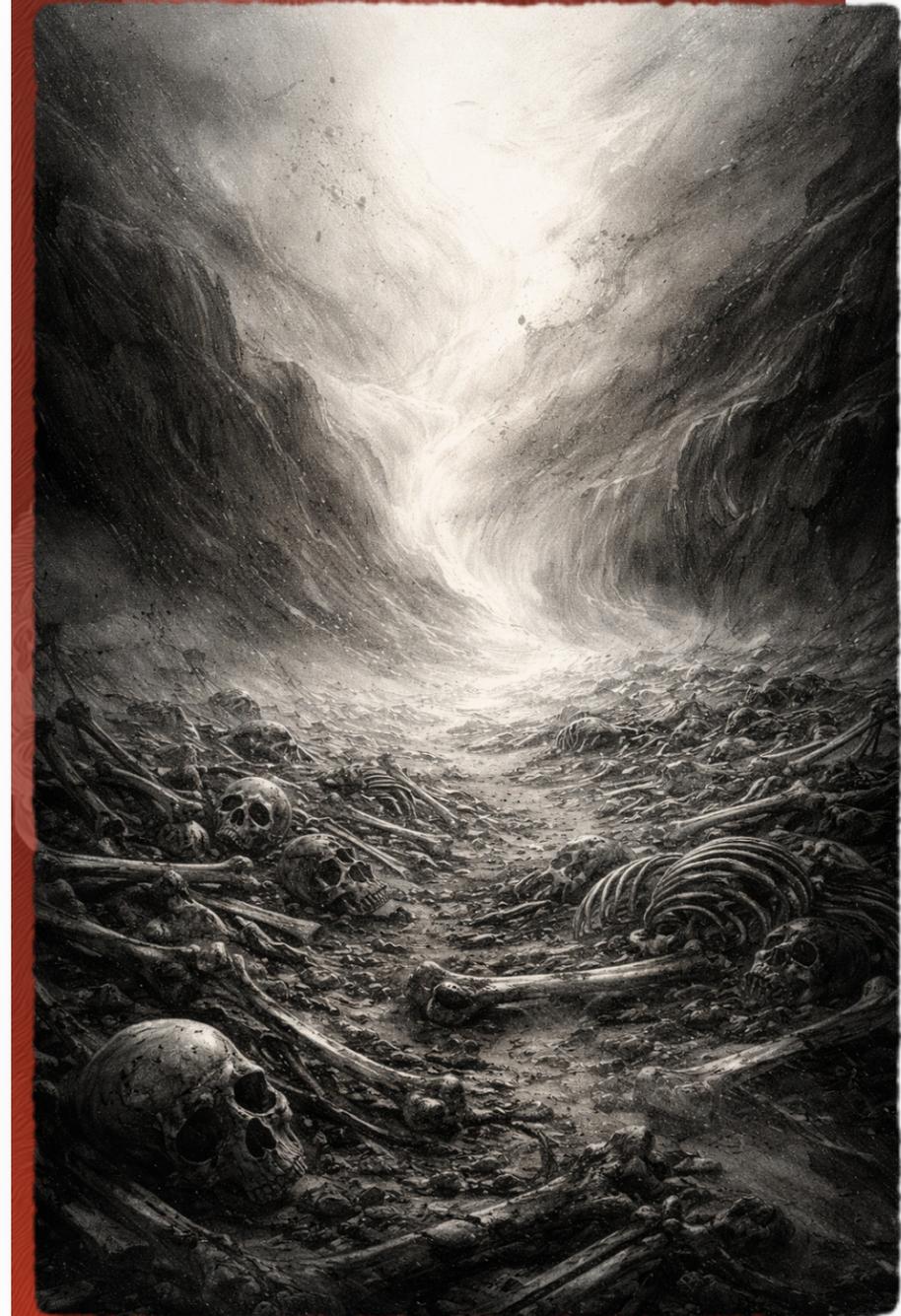
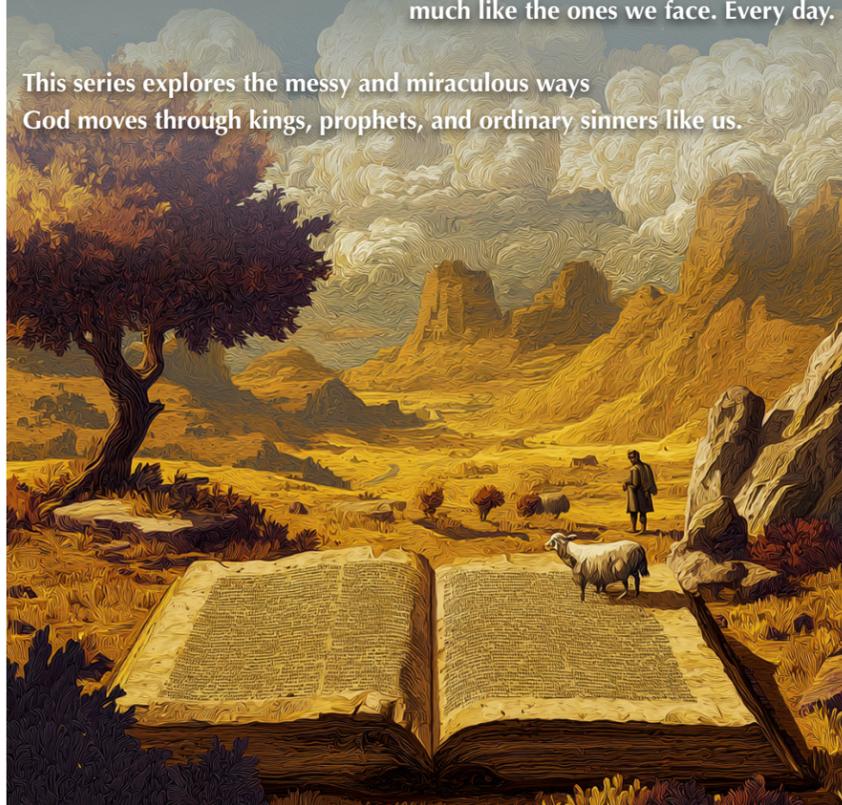
Worship Series January 4 – February 15, 2026

Kings, Prophets, and People Like Us

These stories shape us. The Old Testament is full of flawed heroes, dangerous power grabs, and glimpses of God’s justice and mercy.

The issues these biblical characters face are much like the ones we face. Every day.

This series explores the messy and miraculous ways God moves through kings, prophets, and ordinary sinners like us.



WE GATHER IN NEED OF THE RISEN CHRIST

Chiming

As the bells ring, we quiet our voices and focus our hearts.

Welcome

Preparing our Hearts for Worship

*Opening Prayer

Eternal God, we arrive carrying things we have already buried:
relationships, hopes, versions of ourselves we no longer recognize.
We confess we are not standing on the edge of possibility
but knee-deep in what looks finished.
If you are going to speak today,
let it be into what we have already given up on.
Amen.

*Passing the Peace

*Singing Our Faith Together

No. 529 "Gather Us In"
Verses 1, 3, and 4

*Confessing Our Sin

God of life, we confess that in many areas of our life we have made peace
with death, the quiet deaths of purpose, courage, and compassion.
We have said, "This is just how it is now."
Forgive us for calling resignation wisdom and despair realism. Amen.

(we listen to words of God's assurance)

I will give you rest for your weary soul.
If you only come to me, I will make you whole.

*Receiving Grace

The same Spirit who rattled bones into bodies
has not been exhausted by time or failure.
Grace does not wait for things to improve.
It arrives when there is nothing left to fix.
In Christ, you are forgiven, and already are being breathed into.
Thanks be to God.

WE HEAR THE WORD

Time of Discovery

Message

Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe

"Hope After the Autopsy"
Ezekiel 37:1–14

WE RESPOND IN HUMILITY

Meditating on our Faith

The Choir

"Ave Verum Corpus"
By W. A. Mozart

Mission and Ministry of the Church

Offering Gratitude

*What in your life have you already declared "past tense" or over—
not wounded, not struggling, but finished—and what would it mean
to stop protecting that conclusion?*

*Thank you for all of the ways you share your time, life, and finances
on behalf of the mission of this church family. Please feel free to financially support us
by sharing your gifts in the baskets up front.*

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayers of the People and 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 debts as we forgive
our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Words of Institution and Breaking of the Bread

Prayer Following Communion

*Singing Our Faith Together

No. 862 "Take Us as We Are, O God"
Verses 1, 3, and 4

WE DEPART IN JOY

*Benediction

Go now, not with easy hope, but with stubborn trust.
May you recognize God's voice,
even when it speaks into what you have buried.
And may the breath of God find you
exactly where you thought life had ended.
Amen.