

The Presbytery of the Peaks



A Service of Installation for the Reverend Doctor Bea Miller

On behalf of the Presbytery of the Peaks, the Commission named in this bulletin calls this congregation to the worship of God. We will, as we worship, "focus upon Christ and the joy and responsibility of serving him through the mission and ministry of the church" (*Book of Order*, W-4.00 1b). The commission counts it a privilege to lead you in worship and to install the one whom you have called to equip you for ministry. The entire presbytery rejoices with you upon this occasion, and pledges its prayers and support as you undertake this ministry together.

A Service of Installation
for the Reverend Doctor Bea Miller
First Presbyterian Church ♦ Martinsville, Virginia

~GATHERING~

*Please stand as you are able

PRELUDE Lord, You Give the Great Commission John F. Wilson
Chancel Choir

GREETING BY THE MODERATOR OF THE COMMISSION OF THE PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS Rev. Dr. Carl Utley

INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS AND GUESTS Rev. Dr. Carl Utley

PRESENTATION Rev. Dr. Carl Utley

One: As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

All: There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling.

One: In her baptism, Bea was clothed with Christ, and is now called by God through the voice of the church to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian, Martinsville.

All: We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ, and we celebrate God's particular call to our sister Bea.

* CALL TO WORSHIP Dr. Joan Montgomery

One: Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;

All: Let us exalt the name of the Lord together.

One: Come, let us sing to the Lord;

All: Let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation

* HYMN How Great Thou Art GTG 625

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON Billy Kirby

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith, we confess our sin before God and one another.

Almighty God,

By water and your Holy Spirit, you baptized us to be your own and called the Church into being. We confess that we hold back the love of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ.

Silence is kept for reflection

Have mercy on us, O God.

Transform our lives by the power of your Holy Spirit and make strong our common witness to our Lord, and Savior, Jesus Christ.

By grace we have been saved through faith, and this is not our own doing; it is a gift of God. Our Lord takes our sin as far away as the east is from the west. Know that we are forgiven and be at peace.

* GLORIA PATRI

GTG 581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

* SHARING THE PEACE

Dr. Denny Casey

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we share the blessings and gifts of God with one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please share Christ's peace with one another.

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE

We Are Forgiven

GTG 447

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
(sing twice)

~WORD~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kelvin Perry

God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out upon us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that, being taught by you in Holy Scripture, our hearts and minds may be opened to know the things that pertain to life and holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Psalm 139:1-18

Kelvin Perry

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and night wraps itself around me,"
even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.
For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 8:22-27

Dr. Denny Casey

We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope, we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words.

And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Here I Am, Lord
Chancel Choir

Craig Courtney

GOSPEL LESSON: John 5:1-9

Billy Kirby

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a Sabbath.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE: Acts 16:9-15

Rev. Cheryl Peeples

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

* PROFESSION OF FAITH

Kym Wiederholt

One: With the whole church, let us confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: I believe 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

One: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: 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 OF RESPONSE

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

GTG 300

OFFERING

Kelvin Perry

The loose offering this morning is designated to support Martinsville-Henry County Presbyterians Rise Against Hunger. Our third Rise Against Hunger event is scheduled for March 2026. Let us offer our gifts to God.

Offertory

* The Doxology

GTG 607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God who we adore. -Amen-

* Prayer of Dedication

Kelvin Perry

~INSTALLATION~

* HYMN OF PREPARATION

Will You Come and Follow Me

GTG 726

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Rev. Dr. Carl Utley

One: There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

All: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

One: God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

All: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

One: Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

STATEMENT ON THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Carl Utley

We are called by God to be the Church of Jesus Christ, a sign in the world today of the new life that God intends for all. In our life together we are to display a new reality that sin is forgiven, reconciliation accomplished, and the dividing walls of hostility torn down. As the living body of Christ, the church is called to proclaim the good news of salvation, to present the claims of the gospel on people's lives, and to demonstrate Christ's love in service to the world. We are called to undertake this mission even at the risk of life, trusting God in all things. In faith we embrace a new openness to what God is doing in our time, a renewed obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ, and a new joy in our common worship and work.

Today we reclaim our historic calling and remember the great ends of the church:

All: The proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

PRESENTATION OF THE PASTOR

Dr. Joan Montgomery

The ministry of the church is shared by pastor and people, so that all together may fulfill the mission to which we are called in Jesus Christ. The particular responsibility of the ministry of Word and Sacrament is to build up the church and serve the people of God, so that the Word may be rightly proclaimed and the sacraments rightly celebrated. The call to this ministry has been extended by the congregation, accepted by the candidate, and approved by the presbytery. Therefore, the Presbytery of the Peaks by means of this commission now installs Rev. Bea Miller as Pastor of First Presbyterian, Martinsville. In her baptism Bea was clothed with Christ. She was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament by the Presbytery of Atlanta almost 25 years ago, and is now called by God through this voice of the church to serve as Pastor, in this place and time.

All: We remember with joy our common calling to serve Christ, and we celebrate God's call to our sister, to serve among us as pastor.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATE

Kym Wiederholt

Do you trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit? **I do.**

Do you accept the Scripture of the Old and New Testament to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you? **I do.**

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and will you be led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? **I do and I will.**

Will you fulfill your office in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions? **I will.**

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit? **I will.**

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbor, and work for the reconciliation of the world? **I will.**

Do you promise to further peace, unity, and purity of the church? **I do.**

Will you seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? **I will.**

Will you be a faithful Minister of Word and Sacrament, proclaiming the good news in Word and Sacrament, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will, with God's help.**

*** CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE CONGREGATION**

Kym Wiederholt

These next questions are for First Martinsville. Please stand and answer the questions required by our constitution.

Do we, the members of First Presbyterian Martinsville, accept Bea as our pastor, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ? Do we? **We do.**

Do we agree to encourage her, to respect her decisions, and to follow as she guides us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church? Do we? **We do.**

Do we promise to pay her fairly, and provide for her welfare as she works among us; to stand by her in trouble and share her joys? Will we listen to the word she preaches, welcome her pastoral care, and honor her authority as she seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord. Do we, and will we? **We do and we will.**

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

Monica Stevens

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION AND WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Carl Utley

CHARGE TO THE PASTOR

Rev. Cheryl Peeples

CHARGE TO THE CONGREGATION

Rev. Dr. Carl Utley

*** HYMN**

May the God of Hope Go with Us
(sing twice)

GTG 765

*** BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

POSTLUDE

Postlude in C

Fenton Groden

Please stay and celebrate with us!
All are invited to a reception in the fellowship hall following the service.

Presbytery of the Peaks Commission to Install

Teaching Elders:

Rev. Dr. Carl Utley, General Presbytery, Moderator
Rev. John Wiederholt, Retired, Preacher
Rev. Chery Peeples, Forest Hills Presbyterian, Charge the Pastor
Rev. Dr. Maxine Edwards, Retired, Mother of the Pastor

Ruling Elders:

Kelvin Perry, Commissioned Pastor, Grace Presbyterian, Worship Leader
Monica Stevens, First Martinsville Transition Team, Prayer of Installation
Dr. Denny Casey, First Martinsville Transition Team, Worship Leader
Dr. Joan Montgomery, First Martinsville Transition Team, Worship Leader
Billy Kirby, First Martinsville Transition Team, Worship Leader
Kym Wiederholt, First Collinsville, Chair of Cabinet, Constitutional Questions

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Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the Reverend Doctor Bea Miller's installation as pastor of First Presbyterian Church.

~Community Worship Schedule~

Light refreshments will be served following each service.

August 10th - Forest Hills at 11:00 AM (725 Beechnut Lane, Martinsville)

September 14th - Grace at 11:00 AM (218 Fayette Street, Martinsville)

Our Free Community Breakfast is Saturday, July 19th. Cooking begins at 7:00 AM and breakfast is served from 8:00 - 9:30 AM. Brooke Cundiff and her family are our team leaders. Reach out to Brooke (276-340-6124) or Judy King (276-340-8101) if you are available to help cook, serve, or clean. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.