

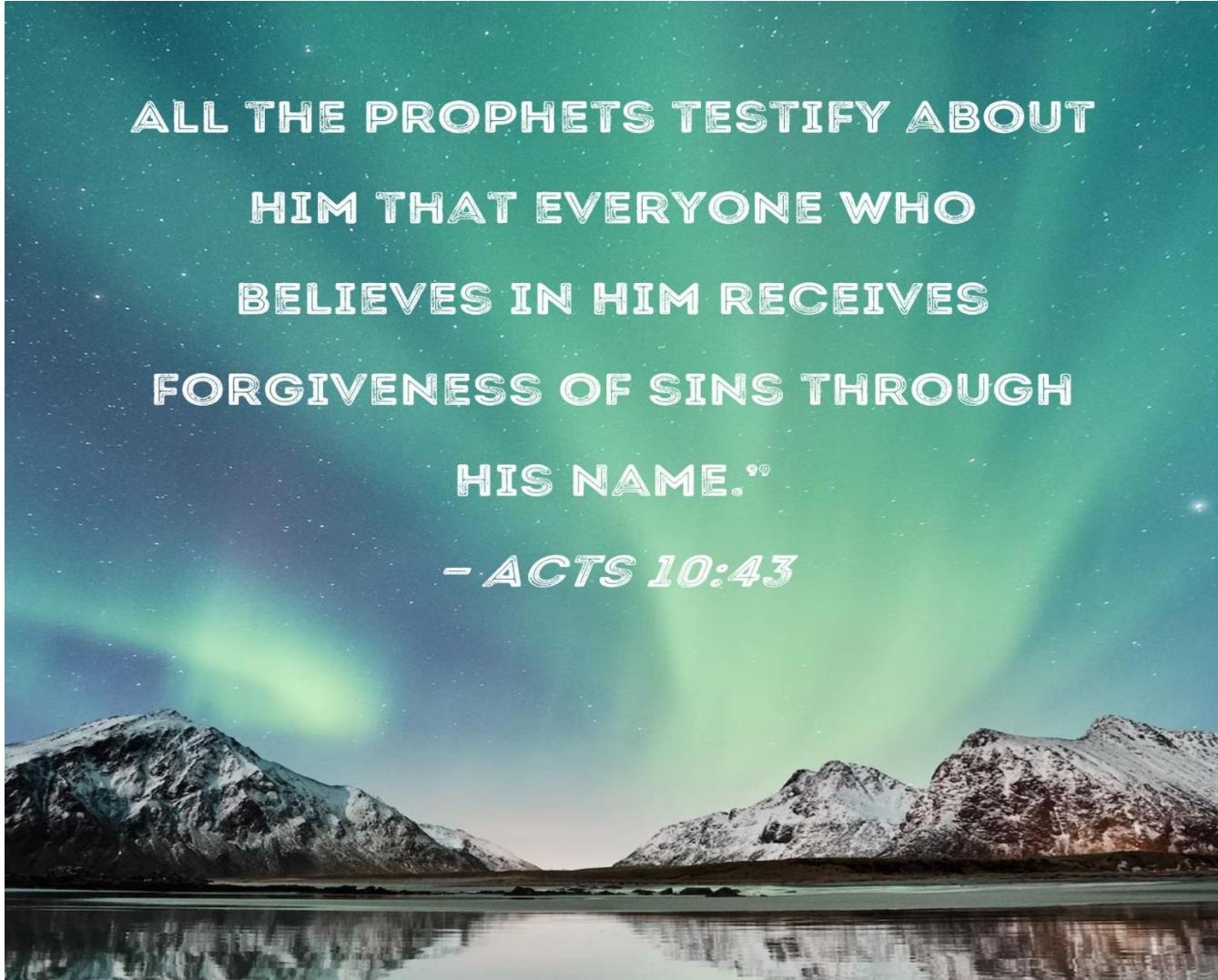
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Baptism of the Lord
January 11, 2026

<https://www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA>

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



ALL THE PROPHETS TESTIFY ABOUT
HIM THAT EVERYONE WHO
BELIEVES IN HIM RECEIVES
FORGIVENESS OF SINS THROUGH
HIS NAME.”

— ACTS 10:43

Sermon based upon Acts 10:34-43 and Matthew 3:13-17

Our Mission

“Share God’s love, embrace our neighbors, nurture each other.”

The Service for the Lord's Day
Baptism of the Lord

PRELUDE** *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor

MINUTE FOR MISSION Lone Linker, Rise Against Hunger

*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

One: In the beginning, darkness covered the deep, and God said: Let there be light.

All: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: Through the words of the prophet, the Lord said:

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

All: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: Do not fear, says the Lord; I am with you.

I have called you by name; you are mine.

All: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: When Jesus was baptized by John, suddenly the heavens were opened.

All: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: And as Jesus was coming out of the water,
the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.

All: **The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

One: And a voice said: You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.

All: **Keep us, your children born of water and the Spirit, faithful in your service,
that we may rejoice to be called children of God!**

*OPENING HYMN *Take My Life* GTG 697
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Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be ever, only,
all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Pastor

Merciful God,

In baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive.

In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in grace.

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

CONFESSORIAL RESPONSE Kyrie PH 572

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Pastor

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE Pastor

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus be with you all.

All: And also with you.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE We Are Forgiven GTG 447

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

(repeat once)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Liturgist

Matthew 3:13-17 (NT pg. 3)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES Pastor

To God be the glory; great things he has done!
 So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
 who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
 and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
 O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
 and give him the glory: great things he has done!*

Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
 and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
 but purer and higher and greater will be
 our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *[Refrain]*

Second Reading:

Acts 10:34-43

Pastor

(NT pg. 129)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pastor

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose.

We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

O God of Every Nation

GTG 756

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O God of every nation, of every race and land,
 redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand.
 Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled,
 in love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.

From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right,
 from trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night,
 from pride of race and station and blindness to your way,
 deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray.

Lord, strengthen those who labor that all may find release
from fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase;
when hope and courage falter, your still small voice be heard;
with faith that none can alter, your servants under-gird.

Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign
and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

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.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS & OURSELVES

Liturgist

Call to Offering

Offertory***

Beautiful Savior, Sicilian Folk Tune

Arr. Dale Wood

GTG 606

*The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. -Amen-

Prayer of Dedication

Liturgist

*SENDING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

GTG 321

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The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new creation by water and the word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore:
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor

POSTLUDE**

Celtic Alleluia

Celtic Mass, arr. Finian

*Please rise in body or in spirit

**Organ music pre-recorded by Becky Smith

***Organ music pre-recorded by Connie Burleson

Welcome to our visitors today!

We are glad you are here and we hope you will join us for worship again. If you are interested in joining our church, there are three ways you may do so. They are letter of transfer from your church of previous membership, reaffirmation of faith if you have already been baptized; and baptism and affirmation of faith if you have not been baptized. If you are interested in joining, please ask our pastor, or one of our elders, for more details.

Need help hearing the service? Receivers connected to the sound system are available in the Narthex. Just ask an usher.

Please use the friendship register located in the pew to indicate your presence in worship. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please include your address, telephone number, and e-mail.

Let the children come to me: Children & Youth of all ages are welcomed and encouraged to actively participate in worship. For those desiring supportive materials, "sermon notes" for young children through older youth are available in the narthex. Clipboards and crayons are also available to take to your pew. Please return them to the narthex after the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us for 2nd Cup following today's service where we will have an open conversation about incorporation.

Calling all cooks! Cooks Who Care will meet Tuesday, January 13th at 9:00 AM in the Marge Dunn kitchen to prepare a delicious meal for our shut-ins. Reach out to Liz Ferrell if you can help cook and/or deliver meals.



Our next Community Breakfast is Saturday, January 17th, serving from 8:00-9:30. Cooking needs to begin at 7:00. Mary Linker is team leader. Please call or text Mary at 919-548-2452 if you are available to cook, serve or clean up. Come join the fun!

The Session has called a congregational meeting for January 18th, 2026 (1) to consider and approve incorporation of the church as a Virginia non-stock corporation, (2) to approve transfer of real property, investment assets and office leases in the Community Office Wing to the new corporation, (3) to request Presbytery's approval of real property transfers, and (4) to approve Pastor Bea's terms of call for 2026.

Join us at Forest Hills Presbyterian on Sunday, February 1st at 11:00 AM for community worship and a celebration of Pastor Cheryl's retirement. A reception with sandwiches and other finger foods will follow the service.

Be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network (Creamed Corn 15 oz.)** (Other needs: toilet paper, deodorant, bath soap, toothpaste, feminine products, dish and laundry detergent) when you do your grocery shopping. Both agencies depend on us for assistance.



Registration begins Sunday, January 25th

PRAYER CONCERNS

Sue Benfield, Bud Buffkin, Evelyn Cannaday, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Marvin Hudson, Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Leslie Naradikian (Marion Miller's daughter), Maggie Pilson, Rusty Reaser, Cecil Robbins, Sandra Roberts (sister of Kat Walker), Susan Rosser, Becky Stone Sawyers (L. Pritchett), Dee Moore Smith, Laura Stevens, Scott Stevens, Bruce Thomas, Tammy Tucker Wardinski, persecuted Christians, military service men and women, missionaries, refugees and immigrants forced to flee their countries, and families and areas devastated by severe weather.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, January 11

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|------------------------------|---|
| 9:00 AM | Sunday School |
| 10:00 AM | Worship in Sanctuary |
| | ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall |
| Monday –Friday | Weekday School |
| 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM | School in Session |
| 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM | Lunch Buddies |
| Tuesday, January 13 | |
| 9:00 AM | Cooks Who Care |
| Wednesday, January 14 | |
| 2:00 PM | Worship Committee Meeting |
| Saturday, January 17 | |
| 8:00-9:30 AM | Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM) |
| Sunday, January 18 | |
| 9:00 AM | Sunday School |
| 10:00 AM | Worship in Sanctuary |
| | ~Congregational Meeting |
| | ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall |
| Monday, January 19 | |
| | Office Closed in Observance of MLK Jr. Day |
| Sunday, January 25 | |
| 9:00 AM | Sunday School |
| 10:00 AM | Worship in Sanctuary |
| | ~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall |
| Monday, January 26 | |
| 4:00 PM | Session Meeting |
| Sunday, February 1 | |
| 11:00 AM | Community Worship at Forest Hills |
| | ~Cheryl's Retirement Reception |

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS
January 11	Ione Linker	Bill and Suzan Kirby
January 18	Joe Williams	Joe and Jerri DeVault
January 25	Pearl Minter	Bob Wuestefeld, Barbara Duncan
February 1	Joe DeVault	Duke and Liz Ferrell
February 8	Barbara Duncan	Randy and Martha Rollins
February 15	Cindy Edgerton	Billy and Sharon Kirby
February 22	Janet Fentress	Monty and Joan Montgomery

**If you cannot serve on the Sunday scheduled, please find a substitute.
If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the church office.**

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday – 9:30 – 2:00 PM

If pastoral care is needed, please call 276-734-8830