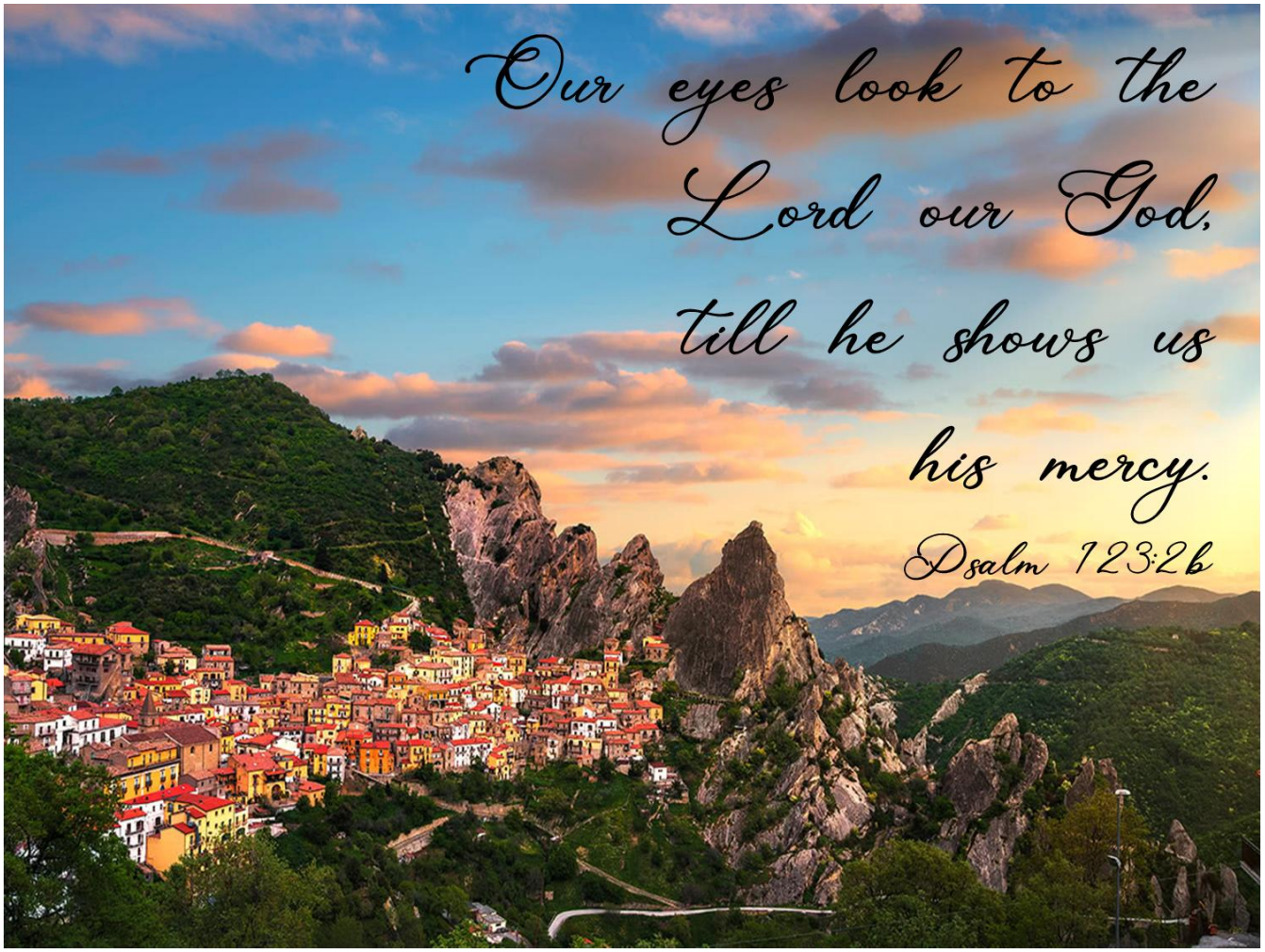
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026

https://www.facebook.com/FPCMartinsvilleVA

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation



Sermon based upon *Matthew 25:14-30* and *Psalm 123*

Our Mission

"Share God's love, embrace our neighbors, nurture each other."

The Service for the Lord's Day
Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

*Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE *March* William Walton

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor

MINUTE FOR MISSION Randy Rollins, Stewardship

*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

One: To you I lift up my eyes, O you, who are enthroned in the heavens!

All: So our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he has mercy upon us.

*OPENING HYMN *We Praise You, O God* GTG 612

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We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;
through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Pastor

One: Beloved, we are called to live in right relationship with God by loving one another.

All: Therefore, we confess our sins to the One who pardons our offenses.

Almighty God,
You have shown us the ways of justice and nurtured us with love. Even so, we have not lived according to your will. When we are oppressed or unjustly accused, we cling to fear and forget to trust in your deliverance. When we are giddy with power and abuse the rights of others, we hold tight to our privilege and forget your laws. Have mercy on us, Lord, for we are weak and prone to disobedience. Hear our confession, and respond to us with kindness, that we might turn to you again, walk in the light, and live in equity and peace; through Jesus Christ we pray.

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE *Kyrie* PH 572

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Pastor

One: Sisters and brothers, rejoice and be glad for God is mighty to save.
All: And God comes to us in peace to forgive, restore, and strengthen us eternally in Christ. Alleluia! Amen!

*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.* (x2)**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Liturgist

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Liturgist

Psalm 123 (OT pg. 572)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES Pastor

ANTHEM *How Brightly Sound the Chimes* L. Höllander
Sanctuary Ringers

Second Reading: Pastor

Matthew 25:14-30 (NT pg.28)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
***All: Thanks be to God*.**

SERMON Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Pastor

The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 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. 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 *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending* GTG 716

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God whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
Gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
All at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred;
Ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

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 A Solemn Song G. Young

***The Doxology** GTG 606

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 *Together We Serve* GTG 767

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Together we serve, united by love,
inviting God's world to the glorious feast.
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,
extending God's love to the last and the least.

We seek to become a beacon of hope,
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
until we see Christ in each person we meet.

We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.
We offer a home to those who will come,
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.

Together, by grace, we witness and work,
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,
remembering love is the strength of our song

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Pastor

One: May we practice humility,
All: Give thanks for the work we have to do,
One: Offer our voices on behalf of those whose needs we know,
All: Walk in peace with our neighbors,
One: And may God, who creates, redeems, and sustains,
All: Keep us fervent in faith, cheerful in hope, brimming in justice, and overflowing in love.
One: And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always.
All: Alleluia! Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *In My Life*

POSTLUDE *Gavotte* arr. Sharon E. Rogers
Sanctuary Ringers

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

The flowers at the pulpit are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Margaret and Robert Pannill by Margie Allen and family.

Today is Commitment Sunday when we offer our financial and discipleship gifts to God for the upcoming year. **Please join us for a Stewardship luncheon** following today's worship service as we gather in thanks and gratitude for God's provision and your continued generosity. As of November 12th, 39 pledge cards have been submitted totaling $263,765.

Our next Community Breakfast is Saturday, November 21st. Cooks arrive at 7:00 AM, servers and others about 7:30 AM. Contact Mary Linker at 919-548-2452 (text or call) to volunteer.



The Session will meet Monday, November 23rd at 4:00 PM in the session room.



The church office will be closed November 25th-27th for Thanksgiving. The Weekday School will be on fall break November 23rd-27th.



The Community Thanksgiving Table is November 25th from 1-4:00 PM at Albert Harris Elementary School. Registration through Harvest is an important part of this process, so please go to their site to register as soon as possible. *All volunteers must register with Harvest Youth Board* at the link https://theharvestfoundation.jotform.com/262773861253160 (even if you registered before with the Grace PC link.) If you experience any problems with registering, or need assistance with registering, please let Kelvin Perry know as soon as possible, at kgperry1988@gmail.com.



Advent Devotionals will soon be arriving in your email. This year's devo is entitled ***Night Watch***. Emails will arrive on the following schedule: Week 1 - November 28th, Week 2 – December 3rd, Week 4 – December 12th and Week4 – December 17th. Printed copies are available upon request.



Jack Kirby is offering technical support as part of his Sophomore service project and is available to assist any church member needing help with smartphones, tablets, laptops, smartwatches, and other devices. He is available by appointment and is able to make house calls. Please reach out to Jack directly by text at 276-734-7460 or email at kirbyjack@carlisleschool.org to schedule an appointment. When you contact him, please include a brief summary of the technical issue so he can come prepared.

When you do your grocery shopping be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (*various household items and toiletries*) and **Grace Network** (*Pancake Mix*). Other needs: toothpaste, toothbrush (individually wrapped), dish and laundry detergent, toilet paper, deodorant, bath soap, and feminine products. Both agencies depend on us for assistance.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Friday 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM
If you need to conduct office business outside these hours, please call to make an appointment.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Barbara Adams (Patsy Stanley), Ernest Bremner, Evelyn Cannaday, Smith Chaney, Joel Christman (B. Stanley), Bob Davis, Nancy Davis, Marge Dunn, Sandra Ford, Besty Ham, Michelle Handy (Pearl Minter's daughter), Jennifer Holland (M & N Davis), Elizabeth Jackman (M. & D. Davis), Randy Lawson (P. Stanley), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Marion Miller, Skyler Oaks (P. Minter), Maggie Pilson, Ann Reaser, Susan Rosser, Dee Moore Smith, Rebecca Smith (P. Stanley), 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.

DATE	LITURGIST	USHERS/GREETERS	2ND CUP
November 15	Lynn Pritchett	Bob Weutefeld, Barbara Duncan	Stewardship Luncheon
November 22	Martha Rollins	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard	Janet Fentress, Judy King
November 29	Ron Rebman	Bill and Susan Kirby	Joe and Jerri DeVault
December 6	Randy Rollins	Ron Rebman, Judy King	Joe and Susan Smith
December 13	Taylor Shank	Joe and Jerri DeVault	Ione and Mary Linker
December 20	Ashby Pinkard	Duke and Liz Ferrell	Gale and Christy Buck
December 24	TBD	TBD	N/A
December 27	Gale Buck	Randy and Martha Rollins	No Second Cup

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, November 15	**Commitment Sunday**
9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary
	~Stewardship Luncheon
Monday –Friday	**Weekday School**
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	School in Session
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch Buddies
Monday, November 16	
1:00-4:00 PM	Session Training
Wednesday, November 18	
2:00 PM	Worship Meeting in Session Room **(REVISED DATE)**
5:30 PM	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, November 21	
8:00-9:30 AM	Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)
Sunday, November 22	**2 Cents-a Meal Offering**
9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary
	~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall
Monday, November 23	
4:00 PM	Session Meeting
Wednesday November 25	Church Office Closed ~ Thanksgiving Holiday
1:00-4:00 PM	Community Thanksgiving Meal at Albert Harris
Thursday, November 26	Church Office Closed ~ Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday, November 27	Church Office Closed ~ Thanksgiving Holiday
Sunday, November 29	**1st Sunday of Advent/Music-fest**
9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary
	~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall
Sunday, December 6	**2nd Sunday of Advent/Communion**
9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary
	~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall
Monday, December 7	
11:00 AM	Presbyterian Women's Circle Meeting at KG
Tuesday, December 8	
9:00 AM	Cooks Who Care
Wednesday, December 9	
5:30 PM	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, December 13	**3rd Sunday of Advent**
9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary
	~Second Cup in Fellowship Hall