

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1901 Patrick Henry Avenue
Martinsville, Virginia

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 26, 2025

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

We are a Matthew 25 Congregation 



Sermon based upon Psalm 84:1-7 and 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Our Mission

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

The Service for the Lord's Day
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE *Variation on "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"* L. Van Beethoven, Arr. M. Castello

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor

MINUTE FOR MISSION Monica Stevens, Christian Education

*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist

One: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

All: My soul longs for the courts of the Lord.

One: My flesh sings for joy to the living God.

All: Happy are those who live in the house of the Lord, ever singing God's praise.

*OPENING HYMN *For the Beauty of the Earth* GTG 14
Public Domain

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Pastor
Merciful God,

You are our hope in ever age. We confess that we have sinned against you. We have wandered from your pathways, turned toward idols, lived without compassion, and disregarded the well-being of creation.

Do not turn away from us, O Lord, but renew your covenant, for only in you will our lives be healed. Guide us and lead us in your ways, for happy are those who live in your house.

Silent prayers of confession may be offered.

CONFESSONAL 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

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

(NT pg.213)

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES ~ COMMISSIONING OF CHOIRS

Pastor

CHOIR ANTHEM

They Shall Soar Like Eagles

Laura Manzo

Chancel Choir

Kat Walker, flute solo

Second Reading:

Pastor

Psalms 84:1-7

(NT pg.543)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Bea Miller

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pastor

In life and in death we belong to God.

Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and live in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world

The Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
To witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
To unmask idolatries in church and culture,
To hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
And to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,

**Even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

GTG 727

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Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

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

***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**

Seek Ye First

GTG 175

Karen Lafferty © 1972 CCCM Music CCLI License # 2244459

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia!

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Peace I Leave With You

David H. Williams

POSTLUDE

Lift High the Cross

Sydney Nicholson, Arr. Don Busarow

*Please rise in body or in spirit

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

We welcome and thank Beth Chapman as our guest pianist this morning.

The session will meet Monday, October 27th at 4:00 PM in the session room.

Thank You! *I would like to express how grateful we are that we were able to park at your church for the past couple of months. Next week, we may have to move about 10 cars over there for a couple of days to finish the school's parking lot project. Thank you so much again. ~ Cameron Cooper, Principal at Patrick Henry Elementary School*

The FPC Women's Circle Meeting is Monday, November 3rd at King's Grant at 11:00 AM. Joan Montgomery will be leading lesson 3. If you are not a King's Grant resident, please sign in at the front desk and purchase your lunch ticket for \$12 upon arrival.

The Weekday School will be closed Tuesday, November 4th for Election Day.

Commitment Sunday is November 9th when we offer our financial and discipleship gifts to God for the upcoming year. Join us for a Brunswick Stew luncheon in the Fellowship Hall following the service.



November 16th is Laity Sunday when members of our congregation have an opportunity to lead us in worship. Our members will be reading Scripture, offering prayers, making announcements and conducting all parts of the service. Reach out to Judy King or Janet Fentress if you would like to participate in any way.



The Raleigh Ringers will be in Martinsville at First Baptist Church (23 Starling Ave) on Sunday, November 16th at 3:00 PM. The Raleigh Ringers is an internationally acclaimed, Emmy-nominated, advanced community handbell choir that dazzles concert audiences. Watch for more details soon. Ticket information is available at <https://rr.org/event/martinsville-va/>

Chancel Choir and Sanctuary Ringers rehearsals are Wednesdays in the Music Workshop room. Join the **Sanctuary Ringers rehearsals at 5:30 PM**, and the **Chancel Choir for rehearsal 6:30 PM**. Reach out to our new Interim Music Director, Craig Campeau, if you are interested in joining either, or both choirs.

Be sure to remember Southside Survivor Response Center (various household items and toiletries) and **Grace Network (Pork & Beans 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.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Doug Goldstein, Sue Benfield, Bud Buffkin, Anna Beth Burton (L. & D. Ferrell), Evelyn Cannaday, Hank Childress (Ford Childress' brother), Joel Christman (B. Stanley), April Cox (B. Tatum), Marge Dunn, Martin Ford, Marvin Hudson, Jamelle Waid Linker (Ed Linker's daughter-in-law), Mary Manning, Jackie McLachlan, Leslie Naradikian (Marion Miller's daughter), Maggie Pilson, Rusty Reaser, Richard Komorowski (M&N Davis), 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, Jodi White (sister of P. Marshall/G. Chaney), 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
October 26	Liz Ferrell	Monty and Joan Montgomery
November 2	Joan Montgomery	Johnny and Ashby Pinkard
November 9	Nancy Moore	Ron Rebman, Judy King
November 16	Susan Pilson	Bill and Suzan Kirby
November 23	Ashby Pinkard	Joe and Jerri DeVault
November 30	No liturgist needed	Bob Wuestefeld, Barbara Duncan

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, October 26

9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary
11:15 AM	Open House for Community Office Wing

Monday –Friday

Weekday School

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	School in Session
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch Buddies

Monday, October 27

4:00 PM	Session Meeting
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Wednesday October 29

5:30 PM	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, November 2

Communion/All Saints' Sunday

9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary

Wednesday November 5

5:30 PM	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, November 9

Commitment Sunday

9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary
	Brunswick Stew Luncheon following worship

Tuesday, November 11

9:00 AM	Cooks Who Care
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Wednesday November 12

5:30 PM	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, November 15

8:00-9:30 AM	Community Breakfast (cooking begins at 7:00 AM)
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Sunday, November 16

9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary
3:00 PM	Raleigh Ringers at First Baptist Church

Wednesday November 19

9:00 AM	Garden Club in FH
5:30 PM	Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 20

10:30 AM	Stewardship Meeting
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Sunday, November 23

9:00 AM	Sunday School
10:00 AM	Worship in Sanctuary